



Moon Crescent Visibility

2020

The new crescent Moon can generally be seen only if it sets at least 46 minutes after the Sun has set**
 Astronomers at SA Astronomical Observatory have however sighted the Moon earlier – setting at least 33 min after sunset – from Signal Hill in Cape Town, but only if the age of the Moon is at least 24hr old at sunset. The table below gives “Moonset lag” values for each month.

All Times are given in South African Standard Time.

2020		Cape Town				Johannesburg			
New Moon	Date	Sunset	Moonset	Lag	Age at Sunset H:M	Sunset	Moonset	Lag	Age at Sunset H:M
Jan 24 23:42	Jan 24	19:57	19:54	--	--	19:03	18:57	--	--
	Jan 25	19:56	20:36	40 min	20:14	19:03	19:42	39 min	19:21
	Jan 26	19:56	21:13	77 min	44:14	19:03	20:22	79 min	43:21
Feb 23 17:32	Feb 23	19:30	19:47	17 min	01:58	18:45	18:57	12 min	01:13
	Feb 24	19:29	20:17	48 min	25:57	18:44	19:31	47 min	25:12
Mar 24 11:28	Mar 24	18:51	19:16	25 min	07:23	18:14	18:36	22 min	06:46
	Mar 25	18:50	19:43	53 min	31:22	18:13	19:07	54 min	30:45
Apr 23 04:26	Apr 23	18:13	18:44	31 min	13:47	17:44	18:13	29 min	13:18
	Apr 24	18:12	19:15	63 min	37:46	17:43	18:48	65 min	37:17
May 22 19:39	May 22	17:49	17:50	--	--	17:26	17:25	--	--
	May 23	17:48	18:29	41 min	22:09	17:26	18:07	41 min	21:47
	May 24	17:48	19:14	86 min	46:09	17:25	18:53	88 min	45:46
Jun 21 08:41	Jun 21	17:45	17:58	13 min	09:04	17:25	17:39	14 min	08:44
	Jun 22	17:45	18:54	69 min	33:04	17:25	18:34	69 min	32:44
Jul 20 19:33	Jul 20	17:59	17:43	--	--	17:36	17:22	--	--
	Jul 21	17:59	18:48	49 min	22:26	17:36	18:25	49 min	22:03
Aug 19 04:42	Aug 19	18:19	18:48	29 min	13:37	17:50	18:19	29 min	13:08
	Aug 20	18:20	19:58	98 min	37:38	17:51	19:24	93 min	37:09
Sep 17 13:00	Sep 17	18:39	18:46	7 min	05:39	18:02	18:10	8 min	05:02
	Sep 18	18:40	19:57	77 min	29:40	18:02	19:16	74 min	29:02
Oct 16 21:31	Oct 16	19:01	18:43	--	--	18:15	18:00	--	--
	Oct 17	19:02	19:56	54 min	21:31	18:16	19:08	52 min	20:45
Nov 15 07:07	Nov 15	19:28	19:55	27 min	12:21	18:35	19:00	25 min	11:28
	Nov 16	19:29	21:08	99 min	36:22	18:36	20:10	94 min	35:29
Dec 14 18:17	Dec 14	19:53	19:53	0 min	01:36	18:56	18:53	--	00:39
	Dec 15	19:54	20:59	65 min	25:37	18:56	19:58	62 min	24:39

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** For S African latitudes, and according to Mohammad Ilyas, writing in Quarterly Journal of the Royal Astronomical Society v35 p425 (1994).