Meteor Shower Activity 2025-26

Orionids

Active*: October 2nd, 2025 to November 12th, 2025*

The Orionids are a medium strength shower that sometimes reaches high strength activity. In a normal year the Orionids produce 10-20 shower members at maximum.

Shower details - **Radiant:** 06:25 +15.8° - **Zenithal Hourly Rate:** 20 - **Velocity:** 41 miles/sec (swift - 66km/sec) - **Parent Object:** 1P/Halley

Next Peak - The Orionids will next peak on the Oct 22-23, 2025 night. On this night, the moon will be 2% full which good.

Southern Taurids

Active*: October 13th, 2025 to November 27th, 2025*

The Southern Taurids are a complex shower made up of two main components, the annual component which peaks on October 14th and the fireball swarm component which peaks on November 4th. Since 2025 is a swarm year, we will list November 4th as the peak. The Taurids (both branches) are rich in fireballs and are often responsible for increased number of fireball reports from September through November.

Shower details - **Radiant:** 03:34 +14.5° - **Zenithal Hourly Rate:** 5 - **Velocity:** 17.7 miles/sec (slow - 28.5km/sec) - **Parent Object:** 2P/Encke

Next Peak - The Southern Taurids will next peak on the Nov 3-4, 2025 night. On this night, the moon will be 96% full.

Northern Taurids

Active*: October 13th, 2025 to December 1st, 2025*

This shower is much like the Southern Taurids, just active a bit later in the year. When the two showers are active simultaneously in late October and early November, there is sometimes a notable increase in the fireball activity.

Shower details - **Radiant:** 03:53 +22.2° - **Zenithal Hourly Rate:** 5 - **Velocity:** 17.6 miles/sec (slow - 28.3km/sec) - **Parent Object:** 2P/Encke

Data credit: American Meteor Society

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Next Peak - The Northern Taurids will next peak on the Nov 8-9, 2025 night. On this night, the moon will be 83% full.

Leonids

Active*: November 3rd, 2025 to December 2nd, 2025*

The Leonids are best known for producing meteor storms in the years of 1833, 1866, 1966, 1999, 2001 and 2002.

Shower details - **Radiant:** 10:16 +21.8° - **Zenithal Hourly Rate:** 15 - **Velocity:** 43.5 miles/sec (swift - 69.7km/sec) - **Parent Object:** 55P/Tempel-Tuttle

Next Peak - The Leonids will next peak on the Nov 16-17, 2025 night. On this night, the moon will be 9% full.

Geminids

Active*: December 1st, 2025 to December 21st, 2025*

The Geminids are usually the strongest meteor shower of the year and meteor enthusiasts are certain to circle December 13 and 14 on their calendars. This is the one major shower that provides good activity prior to midnight as the constellation of Gemini is well placed from 22:00 onward. The Geminids are often bright and intensely coloured. Due to their medium-slow velocity, persistent trains are not usually seen. These meteors are also seen in the southern hemisphere, but only during the middle of the night and at a reduced rate. In 2025, the moon will have a waning crescent phase on December 13/14, which rises near 2am local standard time. Observations prior to this time will be moon-free. Observations after moon rise can still be successful by facing westward with the rising moon at your back.

Shower details - **Radiant:** 07:33 +32.4° - **Zenithal Hourly Rate:** 150 - **Velocity:** 21 miles/sec (medium - 33.8km/sec) - **Parent Object:** 3200 Phaethon (asteroid)

Next Peak - The Geminids will next peak on the Dec 13-14, 2025 night. On this night, the moon will be 30% full.

Ursids

Next period of activity: December 16th, 2025 to December 26th, 2025

Data credit: American Meteor Society

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The Ursids are often neglected due to the fact it peaks just before Christmas and the rates are much less than the Geminds, which peaks just a week before the Ursids. Observers will normally see 5-10 Ursids per hour during the late morning hours on the date of maximum activity. There have been occasional outbursts when rates have exceeded 25 per hour. These outbursts appear unrelated to the perihelion dates of comet 8P/Tuttle. This shower is strictly a northern hemisphere event as the radiant fails to clear the horizon or does so simultaneously with the start of morning twilight as seen from the southern tropics.

Shower details - **Radiant:** 14:38 +75.4° - **Zenithal Hourly Rate:** 10 - **Velocity:** 20.5 miles/sec (medium - 33.1km/sec) - **Parent Object:** 8P/Tuttle

Next Peak - The Ursids will next peak on the Dec 21-22, 2025 night. On this night, the moon will be 3% full.

Quadrantids

Active: December 26th, 2025 to January 16th, 2026

The Quadrantids have the potential to be the strongest shower of the year but usually fall short due to the short length of maximum activity (6 hours) and the poor weather experienced during early January. The average hourly rates one can expect under dark skies is 25. These meteors usually lack persistent trains but often produce bright fireballs. Due to the high northerly declination (celestial latitude) these meteors are not well seen from the southern hemisphere. Predictions for 2026 show a peak near 00:36 UT on January 4th. This timing favors Asia..Activity will be severely compromised in 2026 as a full moon occurs on January 3rd. The bright moonlight will obscure all but the brightest meteors therefore the best hourly rates are expected to be less than 10.

Shower details - **Radiant:** 15:20 +49.7° - **Zenithal Hourly Rate:** 120 - **Velocity:** 25 miles/sec (medium - 40.4km/sec) - **Parent Object:** 2003 EH (Asteroid)

Next Peak - The Quadrantids will next peak on the Jan 3-4, 2026 night. On this night, the moon will be 100% full.

Lyrids

Activity: April 17th, 2026 to April 26th, 2026

Data credit: American Meteor Society

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The Lyrids are a medium strength shower that usually produces good rates for three nights centered on the maximum. These meteors also usually lack persistent trains but can produce fireballs. These meteors are best seen from the northern hemisphere where the radiant is high in the sky at dawn. Activity from this shower can be seen from the southern hemisphere, but at a lower rate. Maximum is predicted to occur near 13UT on April 22nd. The waning crescent moon will slightly interfere with viewing these meteors in 2025.

Shower details - **Radiant:** 18:08 +33.3° - **Zenithal Hourly Rate:** 18 - **Velocity:** 29 miles/sec (medium - 46.6km/sec) - **Parent Object:** C/1861 G1 (Thatcher)

Next Peak - The Lyrids will next peak on the Apr 21-22, 2026 night. On this night, the moon will be 27% full.

Eta Aquariids

Activity: April 19th, 2026 to May 28th, 2026

The Eta Aquariids are a strong shower when viewed from the southern tropics. From the equator northward, they usually only produce medium rates of 10-30 per hour just before dawn. Activity is good for a week centered the night of maximum activity. These are swift meteors that produce a high percentage of persistent trains, but few fireballs. In 2025, a first quarter moon will set long before the radiant rises so circumstances are excellent for viewing this shower. No abnormal activity is expected in 2025.

Shower details - **Radiant:** 22:32 -1° - **ZHR:** 50 - **Velocity:** 40.7 miles/sec (swift - 65.4km/sec) - **Parent Object:** 1P/Halley

Next Peak - The eta Aquariids will next peak on the May 5-6, 2026 night. On this night, the moon will be 84% full.

Southern Delta Aquariids

Activity: July 18th, 2026 to August 12th, 2026

The Delta Aquariids are another strong shower best seen from the southern tropics. North of the equator the radiant is located lower in the southern sky and therefore rates are less than seen from further south. These meteors produce good rates for a week centered on the night of maximum. These are usually faint meteors that lack both persistent trains and fireballs. In 2025, a waxing crescent moon will set before the radiant is high in the sky. Therefore circumstances are favorable for viewing this shower during the morning hours..

Data credit: American Meteor Society

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Shower details - **Radiant:** 22:40 -16.4° - **ZHR:** 25 - **Velocity:** 25 miles/sec (medium - 40km/sec) - **Parent Object:** 96P/Machholz?

Next Peak - The Southern delta Aquariids will next peak on the Jul 29-30, 2026 night. On this night, the moon will be 100% full.

Alpha Capricornids

Activity: July 12th, 2026 to August 12th, 2026

The Alpha Capricornids are active from July 12 through August 12 with a "plateau-like" maximum centered on July 30th. This shower is not very strong and rarely produces in excess of 5 shower members per hour. What is notable about this shower is the number of bright fireballs produced during its activity period. This shower is seen equally well on either side of the equator.

Shower details - **Radiant:** 20:22 -9.3° - **ZHR:** 5 - **Velocity:** 14 miles/sec (slow - 22km/sec) - **Parent Object:** 169P/NEAT

Next Peak - The alpha Capricornids will next peak on the Jul 29-30, 2026 night. On this night, the moon will be 100% full.

Perseids

Activity: July 17th, 2026 to August 23rd, 2026

The Perseids are the most popular meteor shower as they peak on warm August nights as seen from the northern hemisphere. The Perseids are active from July 14 to September 1. They reach a strong maximum on August 12 or 13, depending on the year. Normal rates seen from rural locations range from 50-75 shower members per hour at maximum. The Perseids are particles released from comet 109P/Swift-Tuttle during its numerous returns to the inner solar system. They are called Perseids since the radiant (the area of the sky where the meteors seem to originate) is located near the prominent constellation of Perseus the hero when at maximum activity. In 2025, the waning gibbous moon will severely compromise this shower at the time of maximum activity. Such conditions will reduce activity by at least 75 percent as only the brighter meteors will be visible.

Shower details - **Radiant:** 03:17 +58.1° - **ZHR:** 100 - **Velocity:** 37 miles/sec (swift - 59km/sec) - **Parent Object:** 109P/Swift-Tuttle

Next Peak - The Perseids will next peak on the Aug 12-13, 2026 night. On this night, the moon will be 0% full.

Data credit: American Meteor Society