

<u>Meeting Date</u>	April 14, 2024		
<u>Night Begins</u>	9:54 PM. EDT	<i>Note: Astronomical Twilight Ends</i>	
<u>Solar Noon / Midnight</u>	1:32 EDT	<i>Note: on Meeting Date</i>	
<u>Moon Quarters</u>	Last 04/01, New 04/08, First 04/15, Full 04/23		
<u>Darkest Evenings</u>	03/30 – 04/13	04/28-05/13	<i>Note: 2 days before Last thru 2 days before First</i>
<u>Viewing Resources</u>	Evening Sky Maps	http://skymaps.com/	
	Astronomy Forecasts	https://clearoutside.com/forecast/42.82/-83.14	
		http://oaklandastronomy.net/ambient_RH.html	
	Peter Birren's Deep-Sky Fieldbooks	http://www.birrendesign.com/astro.html	

Featured Constellation: Virgo

A selection from Peter Birren's excellent deep-sky fieldbook, *"Objects in the Heavens"*, pages 126-128

CONSTELLATION	COMMON NAME		SEASON,	ON MERIDIAN	ABBREVIATION	
ITEM IDENTIFIER	TYPE	DETAILS	☆☆ SEPARATION / SIZE	RA	DEC	MAG

Virgo the Virgin, the Maiden Spring May 25 VIR

"A constellation remarkable for the wonderful nebulous region, in which a far greater number are accumulated than in any other equal area of the heavens."

See Coma Berenices for other objects in this area.

☆☆ Spica	α	Eclipsing variable, 4 days	2.5'	13:26.2	-11°16'	.96/12
		Blue super giant; 262LY; 1,300x brighter than sun				
☆☆ Porrima	γ	Fine; .35" sep in 2004; 3.5" in 2020		12:42.7	-01°33'	3.5/3.5
☆☆ 51/Theta	θ	☆☆☆; white/violet/gray	7"/72"	13:11.0	-05°39'	4-10
☆☆ 93/Tau	τ	Optical double; easy	80"	14:02.6	01°27'	4/9.5
☆ SS®		! Carbon ☆; variable 355 days		12:26.2	00°40'	6.8
◯◯ M49 ⁴⁴⁷²	EG	E4; round; bright core; 74MLY 10'x9'		12:30.8	07°54'	8.4
◯ M58 ⁴⁵⁷⁹	SG	Sb; round; bright core; barred	6'x5'	12:38.7	11°43'	9.6
◯ M59 ⁴⁶²¹	EG	E3-E4; elongated; bright core	5'x4'	12:43.0	11°32'	9.7
◯ M60 ⁴⁶⁴⁹	EG	E1-E2; bright core; NGC4647 near	8'x6'	12:44.7	11°27'	8.8
◯ M61 ⁴³⁰³	SG	Sc; bright face-on; 60MLY	7'x6.6'	12:22.9	04°22'	9.6
◯ M84 ⁴³⁷⁴	EG	E1; face-on; bright core	7.4'x6.5'	12:26.1	12°47'	9.1
◯ M86 ⁴⁴⁰⁶	EG	E3; round; bright core	10'x6'	12:27.2	12°50'	8.9
◯ M87 ⁴⁴⁸⁶	EG	E0-1; <i>Virgo A/Smoking Gun</i> ;	9'x7'	12:31.8	12°17'	8.6
		54MLY; round; bright core; powerful radio source; center of ~3,000 galaxies				
◯ M89 ⁴⁵⁵²	EG	E0; round; bright core; 65MLY	5'x4'	12:36.7	12°27'	9.7
◯ M90 ⁴⁵⁶⁹	SG	Sb; oval; barred; bright core	9'x5'	12:37.8	13°03'	9.4
◯◯ M104 ⁴⁵⁹⁴	SG	! Sa; <i>Sombrero Galaxy</i> ; edge-on	9'x4'	12:41.0	-11°44'	8.2
		800M☆; 28MLY; larger scopes can see dust lane				

○ NGC4216	EG	Sb; edge-on; 4206/22 nearby	8'x2'	12:16.9	13°02'	10.0
○ NGC4261	EG	E2-3; "An average galaxy"	4'x3.5'	12:20.4	05°43'	10.3
		3 dim spirals nearby				
○ NGC4365	EG	E2-E3; in dim group WSW of M49	7'x5'	12:25.5	07°13'	9.5
○ NGC4429	SG	S0-Sa; large outer ring	6'x3'	12:28.4	11°00'	10.0
○ NGC4435/38	SG	Sa/p; <i>The Eyes</i> ; resolvable	9'x3'	12:28.8	12°54'	10.5
○ NGC4442	SG	SB0; oval halo magnifies well	4.5'x2'	12:29.1	09°42'	10.4
○ NGC4517	SG	Sc; narrow streak; m12 SG 20' N	10'x2'	12:33.8	00°00'	10.3
○ NGC4526	EG	E7-S0; edge-on	7'x2'	12:35.0	07°35'	9.6
		Very bright core; between 2 mag7 ☆				
○ NGC4527	SG	SBbc; edge-on; near stellar core	6'x2'	12:35.1	02°33'	10.4
○ NGC4535	SG	SBC; face-on; <i>The Lost Galaxy</i>	8'x7'	12:35.4	08°05'	9.9
○ NGC4536	SG	Sc/SBC; larger of pair with N4647	7'x2.6'	12:35.5	02°05'	10.5
○ NGC4546	EG	ES0; circular; stellar core	3'x1.8'	12:36.5	-03°54'	10.4
○ NGC4596	SG	SB0a; softly barred oval	4'x3.4'	12:40.9	10°04'	10.4
○ NGC4636	EG	E1; round; brighter core	6'x5'	12:43.8	02°35'	9.5
○ NGC4654	SG	SBC; bright, knotty arms	4.7'x2.5'	12:44.9	13°01'	10.4
○ NGC4697	EG	E5; elongated; bright core	6'x4.6'	12:49.6	-05°54'	9.3

CONSTELLATION	COMMON NAME	SEASON, ON MERIDIAN	ABBREVIATION
ITEM IDENTIFIER	TYPE DETAILS	☆☆ SEPARATION / SIZE RA DEC	MAG

Virgo CONTINUED

Spring May 25 VIR

○ NGC4698	SG	Sa/Sb; Saturn-like oval	4'x2'	12:48.9	08°26'	10.5
○ NGC4699	SG	Sa-Sb; elongated; bright core	4'x3'	12:49.6	-08°44'	9.5
○ NGC4753	EG	Ep; lenticular; bright core	6.7'x3'	12:53.4	-01°18'	9.9
○ NGC4754	SG	SB0; smooth oval	4.2'x2'	12:53.3	11°12'	10.5
○ NGC4762	SG	S0-SBa; flattest known spiral	8'x3'	12:53.9	11°07'	10.2
○ NGC4856	SG	SBa; brighter diffuse core	4.3'x1.6'	13:00.4	-15°09'	10.4
○ NGC5068	SG	SBC; coarse spiral, M33-like	7'x6.6'	13:20.0	-21°09'	10.0
○ NGC5084	SG	S0; edge-on; faint partner	10.2'x2'	13:21.4	-21°56'	10.5
○ NGC5247	SG	Sb-Sc; fine S-shape EW arm	5'x4'	13:39.1	-17°59'	9.9
○ NGC5363	EG	lrr-Ep; bright core; 11 SGs in 1°	4'x3'	13:57.1	05°10'	10.1
○ NGC5364	SG	Sbc/p; angled spiral, bright core	4'x2'	13:57.2	04°55'	10.4
○ NGC5566	SG	SB; 6 SGs mag 12-15 in <1°	5.2'x4'	14:21.3	03°51'	10.5
○ NGC5634	GC	Faint halo unresol.; only VIR GC	8.4'	14:30.7	-06°04'	9.5
○ NGC5746	SG	Sb; edge-on; faint; elusive	7'x1.1'	14:45.9	01°52'	10.4
○ NGC5813	EG	E; inside ☆ diamond, bright core	4'x3'	15:02.2	01°38'	10.5
○ NGC5846	EG	E0; brightest of dim group of 5	4'x4'	15:07.5	01°32'	10.0
○ Star 21	Ast	<i>Jaws</i>	15'	12:39.4	-11°37'	7.5