

February 2019 Sky Events

Spot the Elusive Planet Mercury

From February 21st through March 2nd, find the elusive, speedy planet Mercury low in the west during evening twilight. Due to its proximity to the Sun, the solar system's smallest planet is never observed far from the horizon at dawn or dusk, and, consequentially, of the 5 naked-eye planets, Mercury is the one most folks have never spotted.

The planet Mercury reaches greatest elongation east of the Sun on February 26th.

On Nov. 11th of this year, Mercury will “transit” across the disk of the Sun – a rare 5^{1/2} hour event that, with clear skies, will be visible from the Asheville area in its entirety. [Find out more...](#)

The view at dusk on Feb. 26th
- about 7:07 p.m. from the Asheville area
or 45 minutes after sunset

