

## The Moon Joins Mars in the Constellation Taurus

On the nights of **April 15-17**, the waxing crescent Moon passes nearby the planet Mars. This action takes place in the zodiac constellation Taurus, the Bull. On these nights, Mars is some 177 million miles beyond our Moon!

As the Moon proceeds eastward along the ecliptic each night, watch its illuminated disk grow (wax), as it approaches the first-quarter phase on April 20<sup>th</sup>, and then onward, another week later, to the full Moon phase on April 26<sup>th</sup>.

The Moon moves eastward about 13° along the ecliptic from one night to the next, or about ½° per hour. Try following its movement during these early spring nights.

