

This is NGC 281 also known as the Pacman Nebula. This object is located in Cassiopeia - about 9500 light years away and about 48 light years across. It is in a large area of space known as the HII region. An HII region is particularly rich in ionized hydrogen gas. These areas emit light in the Ha spectrum. This light is generally revealed as a rich pink although it is easy to push it to a dark red with processing software, most purists will keep it in the pink. All HII regions are fertile areas for star birth. A lot of my images are from this region because there are so many large emission nebulae there. and they make for great pictures. I've also attached a finder chart to show you exactly where it is. The finder chart is a cool little option that PixInsight provides. The details on this image are as follows:

Exposure

Blue 165 X 180 seconds

Green 157 X 180 seconds

Ha 165 X 180 seconds

Lum 164 X 180 seconds

Red 166 X 180 seconds

Total 41 hours

Scope: Skywatcher Esprit 150 F 7

Camera: ASI 2600 mm pro

Mount: 10 Micron GM 1000

Operating Software: Voyager

Processing Software: PixInsight

Location: PixelSkies Castillejar Spain (remotely operated)

Tom Engwall

Here is the finder chart:

