

This is NGC 2403 - a face on spiral galaxy in Camelopardalis. It is an outlying member of the M81 group - about 8 million light years away and 60,000 light years in diameter. Many of the comments on NGC 2403 note its similarity to M33 and they definitely appear to be quite similar. This galaxy has many active star forming regions in it which appear as red. Unfortunately, I did not shoot any Ha for this image, which would have captured that - I guess I will have to go back and add that at another date. NGC 2403 was discovered by William Herschel in 1789. It is one of the largest galaxies in the northern hemisphere that was not included in the Messier catalog.

I'm generally pleased with this image but suspect it could have used a little more exposure time to go a bit deeper and, as I mentioned, some Ha - still it is a very pretty wispy galaxy that is pleasing to look at. Hope you enjoy it.

Captured on my remote setup at PixelSkies in southern Spain

Filters:

Blue 68 x 180

Green 74 x 180

Red 72 x 180

Lum 80 x 180

Total 14.7 hours

Tom Engwall

Finder chart for NGC 2403:

