

November 2024 Meteor Showers

The normally reliable and wonderful **Leonid Meteor shower** peaks on the mornings of November 17 & 18. Unfortunately, the Beaver Moon is just past full on those dates, and it will seriously diminish viewing this spectacle. Read the article below from [SKY & TELESCOPE](#) magazine about the November Taurid meteors.

November Fireballs

Nightfall comes early this month and with it the opportunity to see slow fireballs from a reliable **pair of sparse meteor showers, the Southern and Northern Taurids**. The **first of these peaks on November 5th** with a *zenithal hourly rate* (ZHR) of 5–10 meteors per hour. The ZHR is an idealized number based on what an experienced observer would see under pristine, moonless skies with the shower radiant overhead. **The Northern Taurids climax a week later** with a broad maximum centered on the 12th and a rate of 5 meteors per hour. Both showers stream from oval regions approximately 20° long by 10° wide near the Pleiades, and their radiants culminate around midnight local time.

During the Southern Taurids the Moon will be a waxing crescent that sets early. Although it grows to gibbous phase by the time the Northern Taurids peak, moonlight will inflict only modest damage. Moonset occurs around 2:30 a.m. local time with the radiant still high in the southwest. The shower has a broad maximum with a steady output the first two weeks of the month, so you have some play in selecting the best viewing date. Both streams are related to **Comet 2P/Encke**, which next returns to Earth's vicinity in late 2026.

[Find out more about meteor showers at this link.](#)