

A Gibbous Moon Joins the Pleiades & Jupiter

On the nights of **January 9-11**, the waxing gibbous Moon sails in front of the Pleiades star cluster and near to the largest planet in the solar system, Jupiter. This action takes place in the constellation Taurus, the Bull.

On Jan. 9th, the Moon will occult the Pleiades star cluster, familiarly known as the Seven Sisters, with maximum coverage occurring around 10:00 p.m. in the Asheville, NC region.

Use a pair of binoculars to enhance your enjoyment of the wonderful view of our Moon and the young stars that populate the Pleiades star cluster – 440 light years behind the Moon.

On Jan. 10, the Moon will appear above and to the left of Jupiter. To the lower right of Jupiter, notice the red giant star, Aldebaran, the fiery eye of the “Bull”. It is 44 times the diameter of our Sun and located some 66 light years away.

