

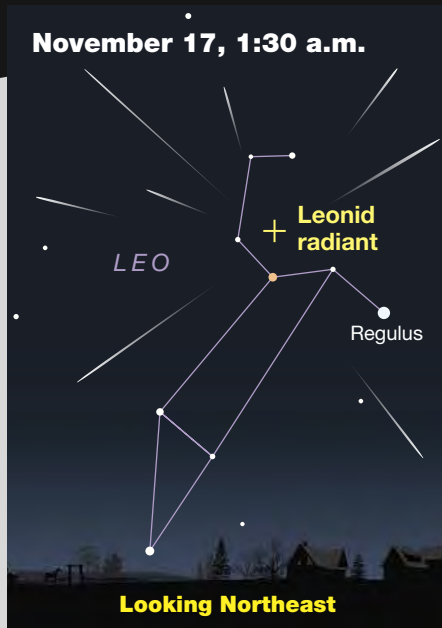
NOVEMBER 2025 OBSERVING Celestial Calendar

Promising Leonids

CIRCUMSTANCES ARE FAVORABLE

for the Leonid meteor shower this year. Famous for its rare, spectacular outbursts, this normally modest display **reaches maximum around 18:00 UT on November 17th**, making that morning best for observers in the Americas. The Moon is just three days from new and won't interfere. Best viewing begins around 1 a.m. local time and continues to the start of dawn. In a typical year, the Leonids produce 10 to 15 swift meteors per hour.

Leonids originate from particles shed by **Comet 55P/Tempel-Tuttle** and appear to dart from the Sickle asterism in Leo, the Lion. This year there may be enhanced activity on the 17th around 19:00 UT and again at 22:30 UT from a dust trail laid down by the comet in 1699. Additional dust streams from 1167 and 1633 may stir up some early Leonids around 22:00 UT on the 9th



(Asia and Australia are favored) and the 15th at around 3:00 UT for European and African skywatchers.

November also features **the Northern Taurid and Southern Taurid meteor showers. They peak on the nights of the 5th and 12th, respectively.** While those dates coincide with the full and last-quarter Moon, the showers are rich in fireballs, giving observers a fighting chance at seeing a few meteors from both displays. The showers stream from radiants in central Taurus, south of the Pleiades. ***