

A Blue Moon in May 2026

- a May 2026 Sky Event from the [Astronomy Club of Asheville](#)

The modern definition of a “Blue Moon” is the occurrence of a 2nd full Moon in the same calendar month. The “synodic” lunar cycle (one Full Moon to the next), that appears on our calendars, is 29.53 days on average (~29.27 – 29.83 range). For that reason, a Blue Moon cannot occur in February. But it can occur in May, as it does in 2026.

The first Full Moon in May occurs on May 1st at 1:23 p.m. EDT, and the 2nd one (**the Blue Moon**) occurs on **May 31st** at 4:45 a.m. EDT.

With the occurrence of that 2nd Full Moon in May, this calendar year 2026 will contain 13 Full Moons!

There is nothing “blue” about a Blue Moon. It is called “blue” primarily to describe it as a rare event. Blue Moons occur about once every 2.7 calendar years, making them somewhat rare. ***

