

November 2014 Skies

- Thursday, November 6th: Hoku (Full Moon) at 12:23pm HST
- Friday, November 14th: Kāloakūkahi (Third Quarter Moon) at 5:16am HST
- Monday, November 17th: Leonids Meteor Shower
- Saturday, November 22nd: Muku (New Moon) at 2:33am HST
- Saturday, November 29th: Olekūkahi (First Quarter Moon) at 12:07am HST

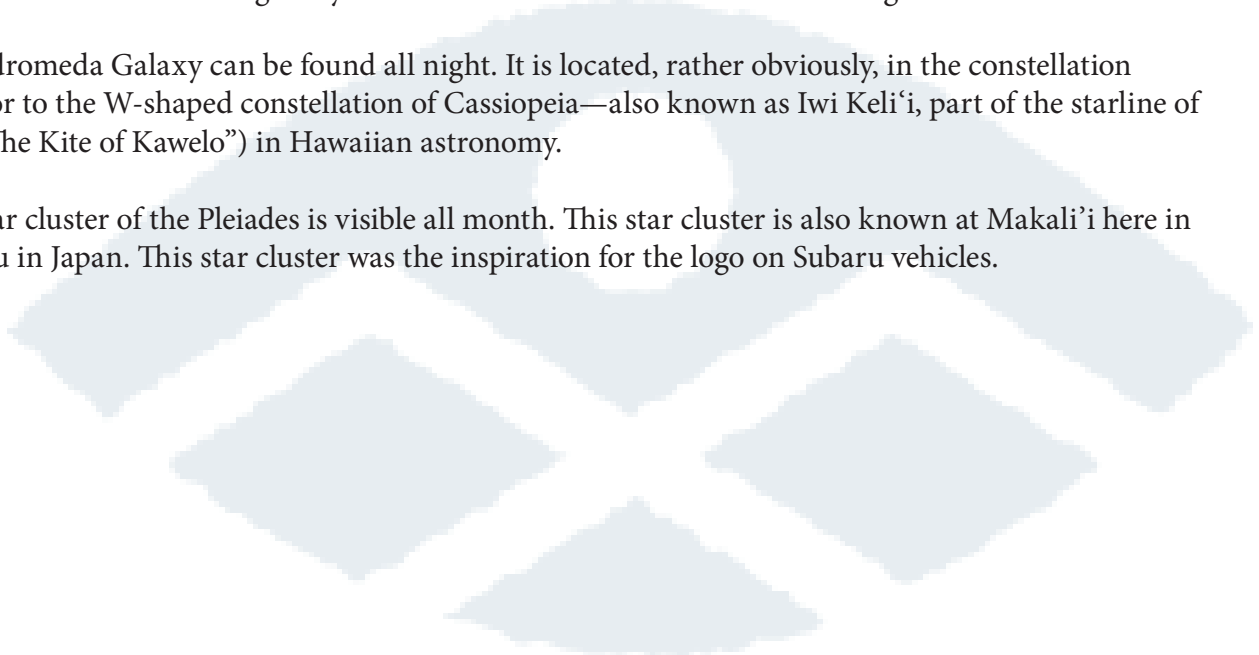
On November 1st, sunrise is at 6:22am and sunset is at 5:46pm. On November 30th, sunrise is at 6:38am with sunset occurring at 5:40pm. Daylight will lessen this month by about 22 minutes. It will go from 11 hours and 24 minutes on November 1st to 11 hours and 2 minutes on November 30th.

November 2014 Highlights

Far and away the premier astronomical event this month is the Leonids Meteor Shower. This shower is predicted to peak on the evening of November 17 and the morning of November 18 —though as with all meteor showers these are “best guess” dates. Meteors can often be observed for days on either side of the peak. The waning crescent moon won’t interfere with viewing to any significant degree. This year astronomers estimate a maximum meteor rate of around 10-15 meteors per hour. While, this number is not particularly impressive, the Leonids are famous for occasionally (every 33-34 years on average) producing “meteor storms.” In living memory, the most well known was the Leonid Meteor Storm of 1966. Observers say over a period of 15 minutes, meteors fell at a rate of 30-50 per second (1800-3000 per minute). As all meteors appear to radiate from the same place—the constellation Leo, hence the name—you can think of the “hyperspace” effect from the Star Wars movies for an idea of how this meteor storm must have looked—except the entire sky is the cockpit window. On that night it would have appeared that stars were falling like rain. In other news...Mars is visible in the early evening sky all month. You can find it low in the southwest after sunset. Jupiter is visible earlier and earlier each night. By the end of the month it rises before midnight.

In dark skies, the Andromeda Galaxy can be found all night. It is located, rather obviously, in the constellation Andromeda, next door to the W-shaped constellation of Cassiopeia—also known as Iwi Keli’i, part of the starline of Ka Lupe o Kawelo (“The Kite of Kawelo”) in Hawaiian astronomy.

The beautiful open star cluster of the Pleiades is visible all month. This star cluster is also known as Makali’i here in Hawai’i and as Subaru in Japan. This star cluster was the inspiration for the logo on Subaru vehicles.





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November Sky Chart

