

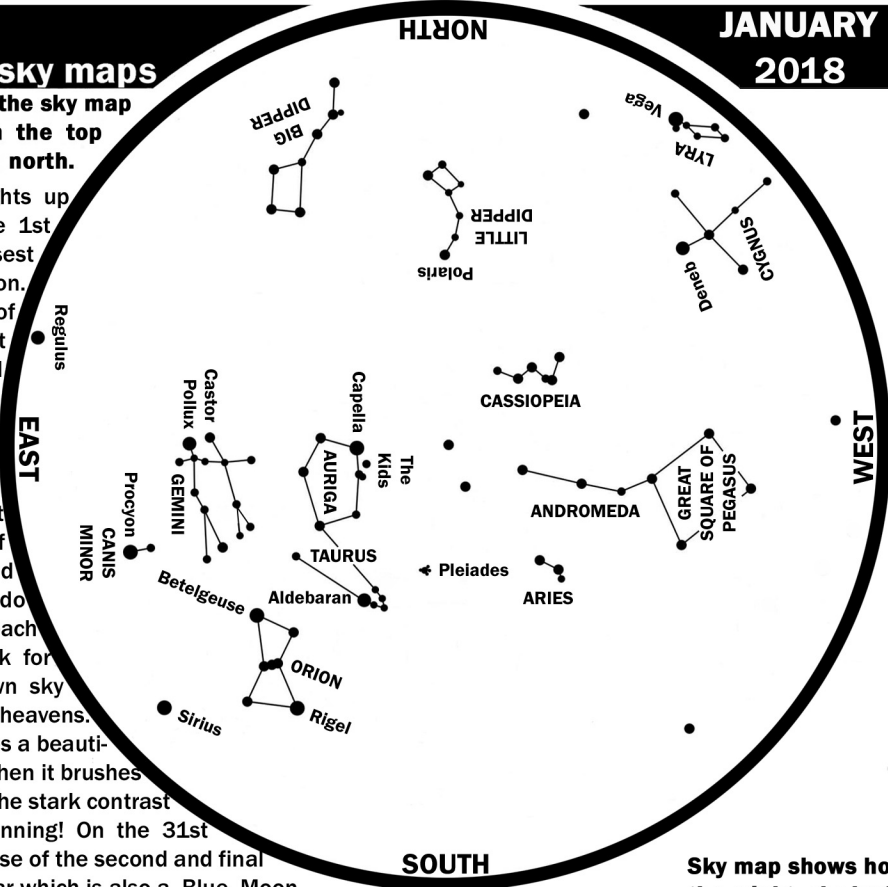
Prairiesky maps

Instructions : Hold the sky map over your head with the top of the map facing north.

The Full Moon that lights up the night sky on the 1st will be the year's closest and largest Supermoon. The first two weeks of the month has planet Mercury bright and well placed very low in the southeast sky just before sunup. On the 3rd the Earth will reach its closest point to the Sun for all of 2018. Ruddy Mars and giant yellow Jupiter do not stray far from each other all month. Look for the pair in the predawn sky low in the southern heavens. The Red Planet makes a beautiful sight on the 7th when it brushes closely past Jupiter. The stark contrast in colours will be stunning! On the 31st there will a total eclipse of the second and final Supermoon of the year which is also a Blue Moon. At 4:51 a.m. the eclipse begins as the Moon enters into the Earth's shadow. Watch for the Moon to go reddish at 5:48 a.m. and then turn completely red at 6:51 a.m. as the total eclipse phase starts. For Manitobans the Moon will be very low in the west during maximum eclipse at 7:29 a.m. and it will set at 8:04 a.m. Total eclipse ends at 10:08 a.m.

Jeffrey Britton

**JANUARY
2018**



Sky map shows how the night sky looks
Early Jan. 9 P.M.
Late Jan. 8 P.M.

