



SKY MAP February

Grey items will not be seen in light polluted cities

Magnitude (Brightness)

Stars ● 1 or brighter ● 2 ● 3 ● 4 ● 5 & dimmer

In cities you may not be able to see magnitude 3, 4 or 5 stars due to light pollution.

- Double Stars
- Variable Stars
- Open Cluster
- Bright Nebula

9:00pm: February 5

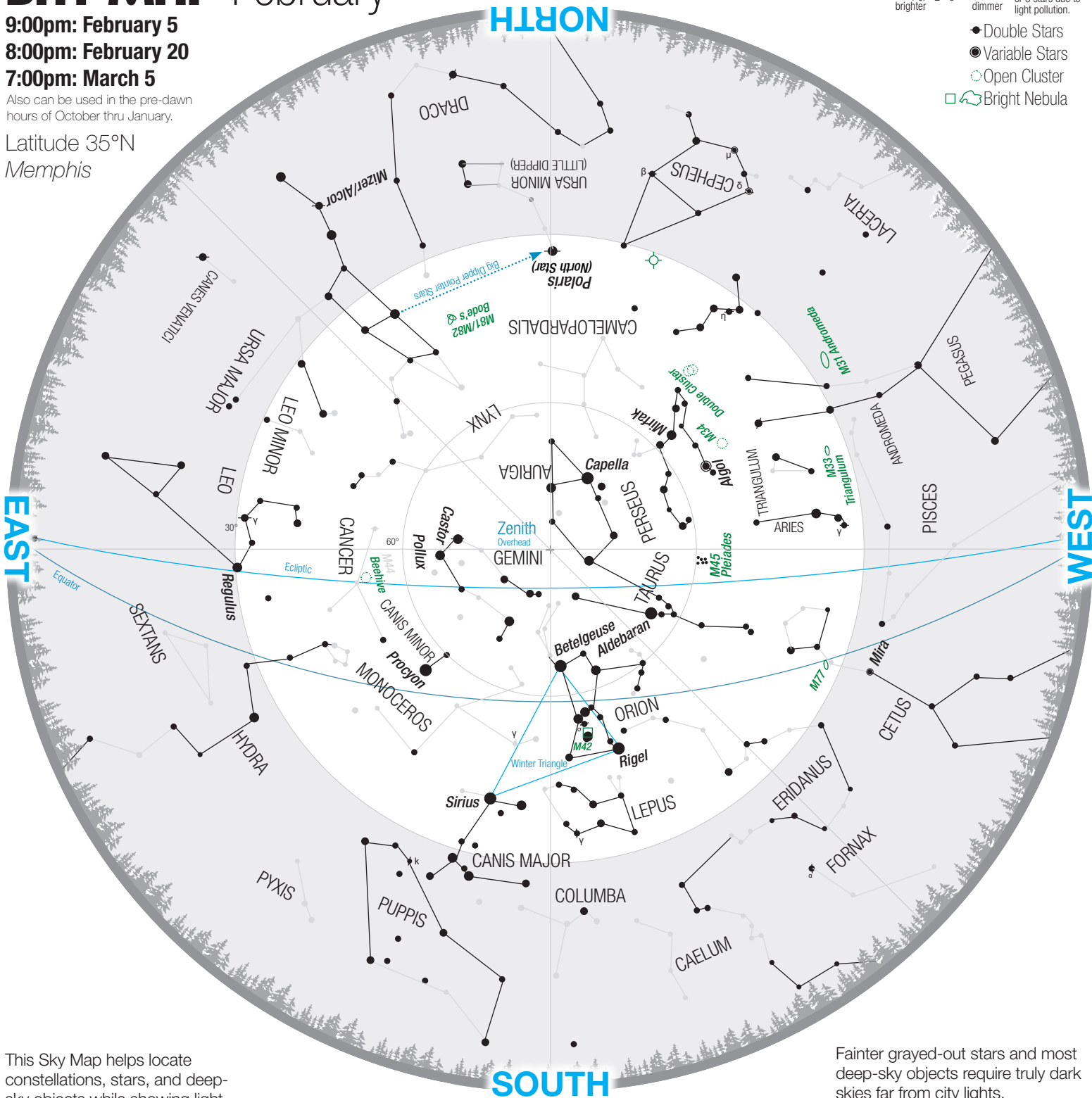
8:00pm: February 20

7:00pm: March 5

Also can be used in the pre-dawn hours of October thru January.

Latitude 35°N

Memphis



This Sky Map helps locate constellations, stars, and deep-sky objects while showing light pollution's impact. Trees mark the horizon; center is zenith (overhead). Three circles show horizon, 30° altitude, and 60° altitude—in cities, stars below 30° are usually hidden by haze and skyglow.

Rotate so the direction you face is at the bottom (e.g., North upright when facing north). Brighter stars are black; 5th-mag and fainter stars grayed out (invisible in city light). Overhead stars near center, low stars near edge.

Constellation names ALL CAPS. Star names bold italic lowercase. Deep-sky objects smaller/green (color prints). Moon/planets not shown—they move but stay near the ecliptic (blue arc) through the zodiac.

Fainter grayed-out stars and most deep-sky objects require truly dark skies far from city lights.

High-overhead objects are easiest to see, with less interference from trees, buildings, and light pollution.

Contact the Memphis Astronomical Society (M.A.S.) for more info on our sky maps and other outreach services (memphisastro.org).



Observing List February

Naked Eye Objects			Light Years*	
•	Capella	Auriga	Beautiful yellow star.	42
•	Sirius	Canis Major	The brightest star in night sky.	9
•	Procyon	Canis Minor	Greek translation "before the dog" because it rises before Sirius	11
•	Castor	Gemini	Multiple star system. 3 stars visible in telescopes.	52
•	Pollux	Gemini	Bright star (twin of Castor)	34
•	Regulus	Leo	Blue-white star with at least 1 companion in Leo.	77
•	Rigel	Orion	Blue supergiant star. Triple star system; two are visible with telescopes	770
•	Betelgeuse	Orion	Very large red star. Diameter is 300 times that of Sun.	430
•	Algol	Perseus	Eclipsing binary star. Magnitude varies between 2 & 3 over 3 days	90
•	TX Prescium	Pisces	Red Giant Carbon Star (reddest known star)	900
•	Aldebaran	Taurus	Arabic translation: "The Follower". Has massive planets	67
•	Pleiades	Taurus	M45: The Seven Sisters. Spectacular cluster. Many more stars visible in binoculars.	399
•	Hyades	Taurus	Large V-shaped star cluster. Binoculars reveal many more stars.	152
•	Polaris	Ursa Minor	The North Pole Star. A telescope reveals a mag 8 companion.	433

Binoculars Objects			Light Years*	
o	M31	Andromeda	The Great Andromeda Galaxy. Most distant object visible to naked eye.	2.5M
o	M38	Auriga	Stars appear arranged greek letter "π".	3.5k
o	M36	Auriga	Open cluster about half the size of M38.	4.1k
o	M37	Auriga	Bright cluster.	4.4k
o	M41	Canis Major	Discovered by Aristotle in 325 BC. Little Bee hive cluster.	2.3k
•	Mira	Cetus	Famous long period variable star. Mag varies between 3.0 & 10.1 over a year.	300
•	μ Cephei	Cepheus	Red supergiant. Herschel's Garnet Star. Long period variable (Mag 3.4 to 5.1.).	3.1k
o	M44	Cancer	Beehive Cluster. Visible to the naked eye.	610
o	M39	Cygnus	9° from Deneb.	1k
o	M35	Gemini	Open cluster near bottom of twin Castor.	2.9k
o	M48	Hydra	Visible to naked eye under dark sky and good atmospheric conditions.	2.5k
•	γ Leporis	Lepus	Visible with binoculars. Yellow & white stars. Mags 3.6 & 6.2.	30
•	M79	Lepus	Unusually globular on opposite of milky way.	42k
o	NGC 2232	Monoceros	Very near open cluster to Sun in comparison.	1.1k
o	NGC 2238/44	Monoceros	Star cluster surrounded by Rosette Nebula. Need telescope to see Rosette.	5.4k
o	M50	Monoceros	Heart shaped open cluster.	3k
□	M42/43	Orion	The Great Orion Nebula. Spectacular bright nebula. Best in telescope. NGC 1977 Running Man nearby.	1.3k
o	Double Cluster	Perseus	Double Cluster in Perseus. NGC 869 & 884. Excellent in binoculars.	7.3k
o	M34	Perseus	Many white dwarfs. Excellent in binoculars.	7.3k
•	Mizar & Alcor	Ursa Major	Quadruple star system. Good eyesight or binoculars reveals 2 stars.	82