

# Comet ISON and meteor showers light up November sky

If you've already started your Christmas shopping, the heavens will light up the evening sky between store visits.

November usually features two meteor showers within the span of a week around the middle of the month. However, Comet ISON, dubbed the comet of the century, will make its debut later this month.

The Leonids meteor shower, which peaks on the night of Saturday, Nov. 16 until dawn Nov. 17, has produced some of the greatest meteor storms in history. However, the full moon will dramatically reduce the visible fireballs.

The Southern Taurids peaks overnight Monday, Nov. 11-12 and will be offset until the moon sets just after 1 a.m. to view the seven meteors per hour predicted.



**Neel Roberts**  
The Sky's the Limit

Lastly, you can start to look for Comet ISON after about mid-November, close to the setting sun for about a month. If it gets as bright as predicted, you'll not only be able to see it with the naked eye, but it's also possible even in daylight!

## **Sky watch for the next month**

The Leonid Meteor Shower peaks on Saturday, Nov. 16 after night fall until dawn. Look towards the constellation of Leo. It should produce meteors at the rate of 10-15 per hour.

## **Public events for the next month**

The monthly public stargazing session at the Vulcan Tourism and Trek Station takes place Friday, Nov. 8 starting at 7:30 p.m. A short indoor presentation will be followed by stargazing through the 11-inch Celestron telescope. Treats and refreshments are provided free of charge, and everyone is welcome. Experts are on hand every second Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. to explain the heavens, teach telescoping skills and help you develop your knowledge of our sky. For more information, contact the Trek Station at 403-485-2994, or visit [www.vulcantourism.com](http://www.vulcantourism.com).

The Saturday Observer's Night at the Telescope Farm, which is hosted by All Star Telescope (<http://www.all-startelescope.com/>) just outside Dids-

bury, takes place this Saturday, starting at 7 p.m. and lasting until midnight. This telescope dealer has a heated showroom with washrooms. Everything is provided free of charge. I am planning to attend, and you are welcome to caravan with a group I am assembling. We leave at about 3:30 p.m., weather permitting. We stop for a Chinese buffet before heading to the farm for the evening and we stop at Tim Hortons on the way back. For more information, contact Ken From at 866-310-8844, or visit [www.all-startelescope.com/pages/observer-nights](http://www.all-startelescope.com/pages/observer-nights).

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