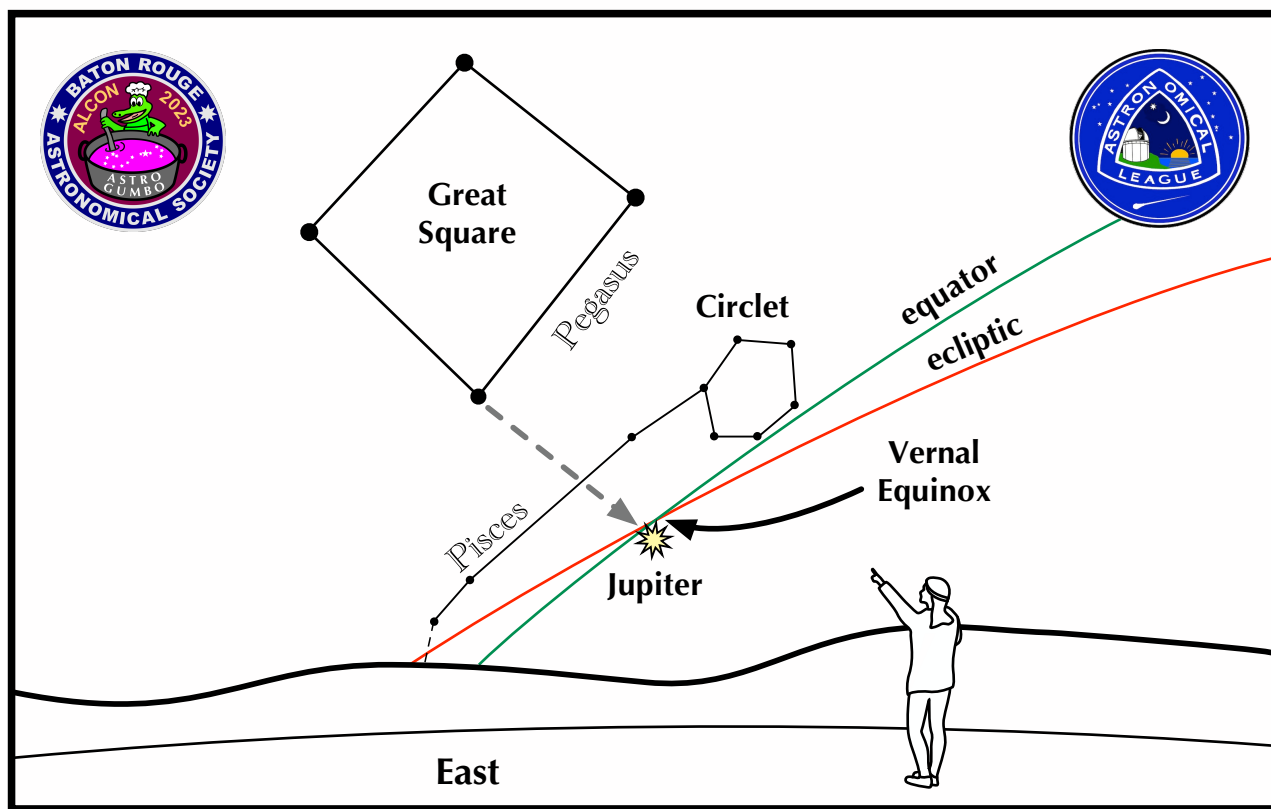


If you can see only one celestial event in the evening this October, see this one.



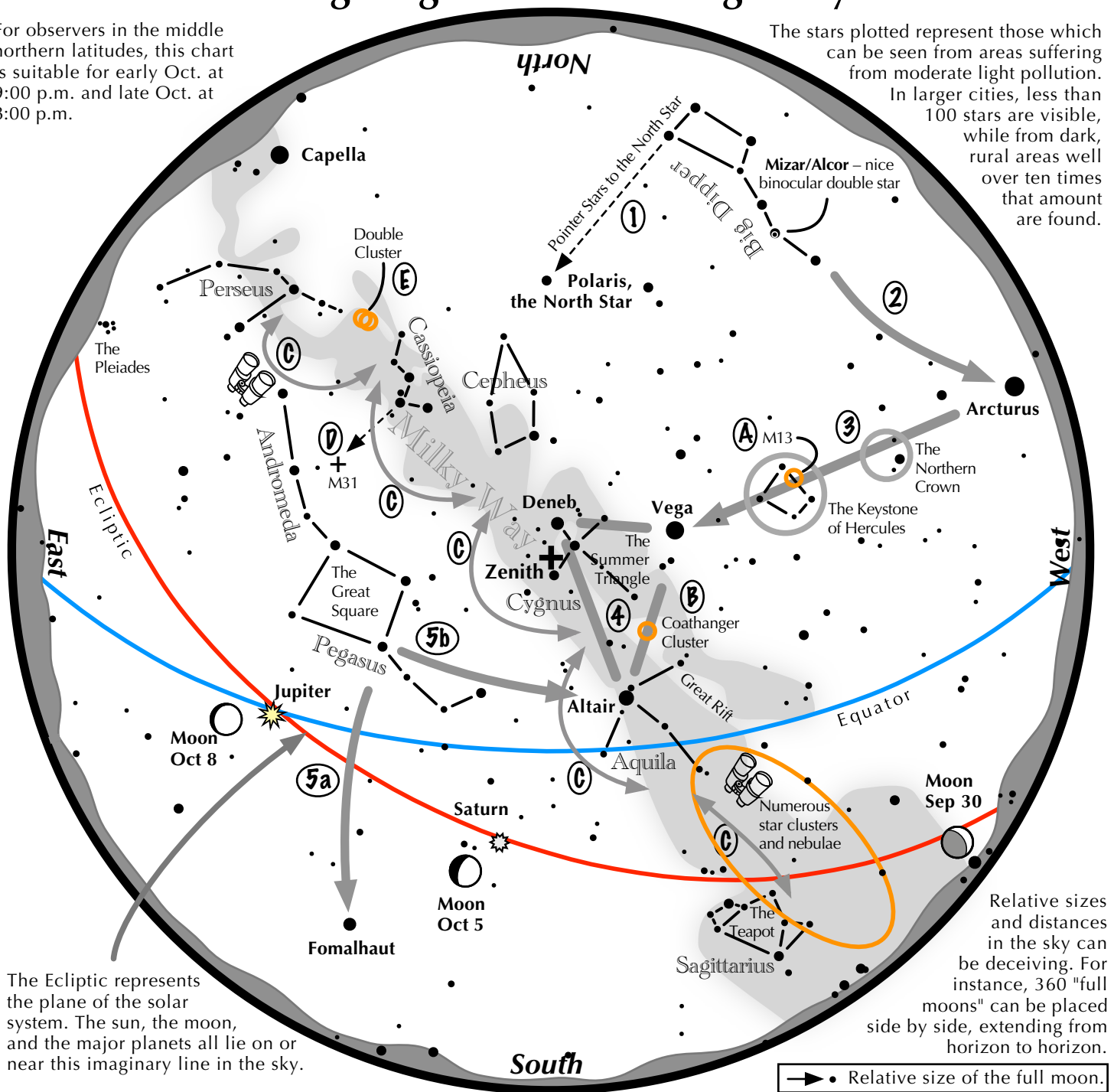
Jupiter lies at the Vernal Equinox

- Look in the east–southeast 90 minutes after sunset during October.
- Choose an evening when no bright moon is in the sky, such as one after October 12.
- Jupiter shines brightly above the horizon very near the location of the vernal equinox – the sun's position on March 21.
- Jupiter also acts as a good guide in finding the six dim stars of the "Circlet" of Pisces. This odd stellar grouping really does take on the shape of a flattened circle. Dark skies are needed to see this interesting asterism.
- Jupiter will not be in the same location next year, as it will have moved eastward approaching the Pleiades. However, the Circlet will always lie immediately south of the Great Square. So, once you meet it, these stars will be a celestial friend greeting you in the same sky location this time every year.

Navigating the October Night Sky

For observers in the middle northern latitudes, this chart is suitable for early Oct. at 9:00 p.m. and late Oct. at 8:00 p.m.

The stars plotted represent those which can be seen from areas suffering from moderate light pollution. In larger cities, less than 100 stars are visible, while from dark, rural areas well over ten times that amount are found.



The Ecliptic represents the plane of the solar system. The sun, the moon, and the major planets all lie on or near this imaginary line in the sky.

Relative sizes and distances in the sky can be deceiving. For instance, 360 "full moons" can be placed side by side, extending from horizon to horizon.

→ • Relative size of the full moon.

Navigating the October night sky: Simply start with what you know or with what you can easily find.

- 1 Extend a line north from the two stars at the tip of the Big Dipper's bowl. It passes by Polaris, the North Star.
- 2 Follow the arc of the Dipper's handle. It intersects Arcturus, the brightest star in the early October evening sky.
- 3 To the northeast of Arcturus shines another star of the same brightness, Vega. Draw a line from Arcturus to Vega. It first meets "The Northern Crown," then the "Keystone of Hercules." A dark sky is needed to see these two dim stellar configurations.
- 4 Nearly overhead lie the summer triangle stars of Vega, Altair, and Deneb.
- 5 High in the east are the four moderately bright stars of the Great Square. Its two southern stars point west to Altair. Its two western stars point south to Fomalhaut.

Binocular Highlights

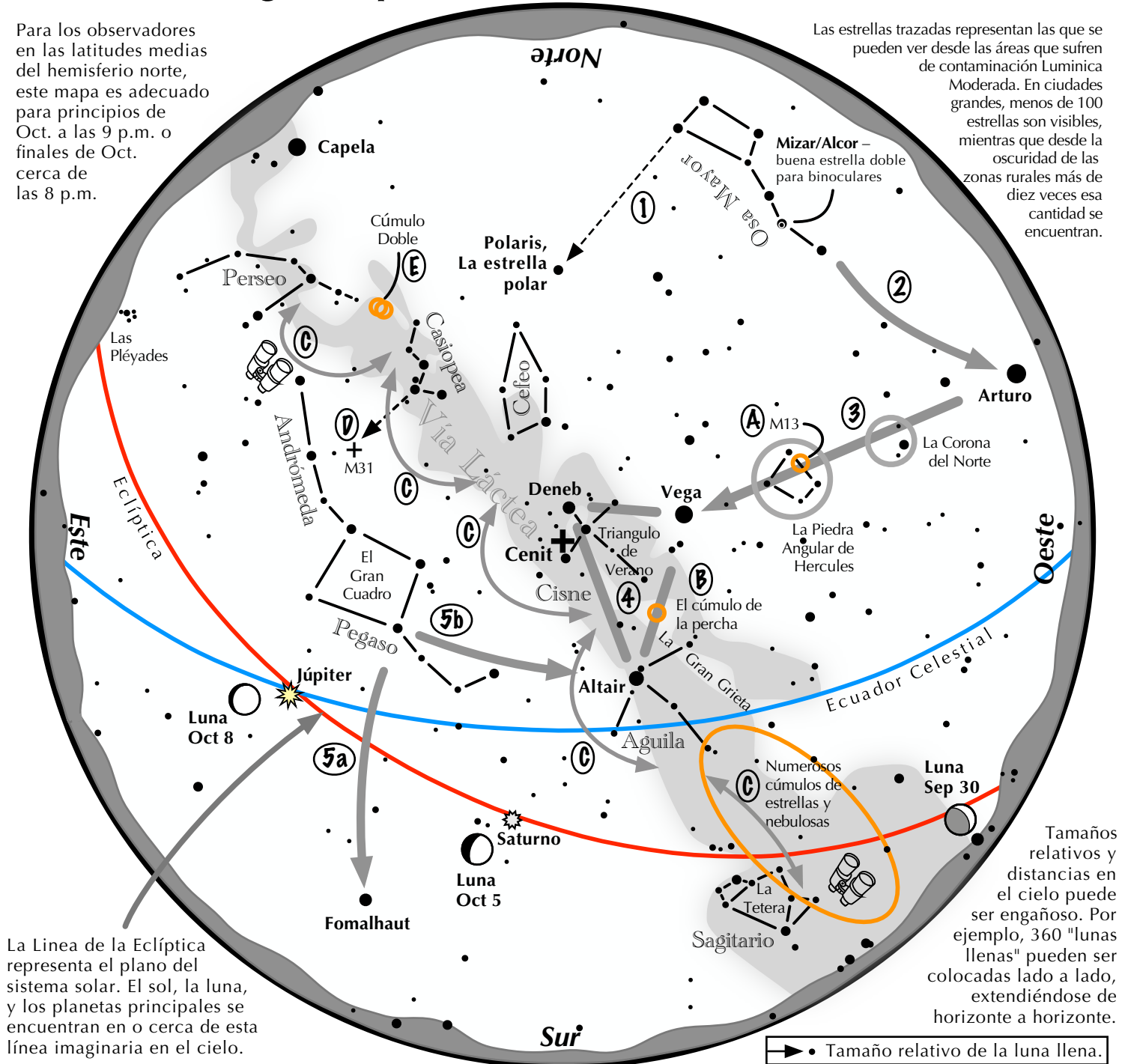
A: On the western side of the Keystone glows the Great Hercules Cluster, a ball of 500,000 stars. **B:** 40% of the way between Altair and Vega, twinkles the "Coathanger," a group of stars outlining a coathanger. **C:** Sweep along the Milky Way for an astounding number of fuzzy star clusters and nebulae amid many faint glows and dark bays, including the Great Rift. **D:** The three westernmost stars of Cassiopeia's "W" point south to M31, the Andromeda Galaxy, a "fuzzy" oval. **E:** Between the "W" of Cassiopeia and Perseus lies the Double Cluster.



Navegando por el cielo nocturno de Octubre

Para los observadores en las latitudes medias del hemisferio norte, este mapa es adecuado para principios de Oct. a las 9 p.m. o finales de Oct. cerca de las 8 p.m.

Las estrellas trazadas representan las que se pueden ver desde las áreas que sufren de contaminación Luminica Moderada. En ciudades grandes, menos de 100 estrellas son visibles, mientras que desde la oscuridad de las zonas rurales más de diez veces esa cantidad se encuentran.



La Línea de la Eclíptica representa el plano del sistema solar. El sol, la luna, y los planetas principales se encuentran en o cerca de esta línea imaginaria en el cielo.

Tamaños relativos y distancias en el cielo puede ser engañoso. Por ejemplo, 360 "Lunas llenas" pueden ser colocadas lado a lado, extendiéndose de horizonte a horizonte.

→ • Tamaño relativo de la luna llena.

Navegando por el cielo nocturno: simplemente comience con lo que sabe o con lo que puede encontrar fácilmente.

- 1 Haz una línea hacia el norte desde las dos estrellas en la punta de la Osa Mayor. Pasa por Polaris, la estrella polar.
- 2 Siga el arco del mango de la Osa Mayor. Se cruza con Arturo, la estrella más brillante en el cielo de la noche de octubre.
- 3 Dibuja una línea desde Arturo a Vega. Un tercio del camino se encuentra "La Corona del Norte". Dos tercios de esa distancia llevan a la "piedra angular de Hércules." Se necesita un cielo oscuro para ver estas dos configuraciones estelares tenues.
- 4 Las estrellas del Triángulo de verano, Vega, Altair y Deneb, brillan en el Cenit.
- 5 En lo alto del Este se encuentran las cuatro estrellas brillantes de la Gran Cuadro de Pegaso. (5a) Sus dos estrellas occidentales apuntan al Sur hacia Fomalhaut. (5b) Sus dos estrellas meridionales apuntan al Oeste hacia Altair.

Puntos destacados con binoculares

A: En el lado occidental de la Piedra Angular brilla el Gran Cúmulo de Hércules, un círculo borroso de 500,000 estrellas. **B:** Casi a la mitad de la distancia entre Altair y Vega, Brilla la "Percha," un grupo de estrellas que describe un perchero. **C:** Recorre la Vía Láctea en busca de un número asombroso de destellos tenues y bahías oscuras, incluido La Gran Grieta. **D:** Las tres estrellas más occidentales de las "W" de Casiopea apuntan hacia el sur hasta M31, la Galaxia de Andrómeda, un óvalo "borroso." **E:** Entre la "W" de Casiopea y Perseo se encuentra el Doble Cúmulo.



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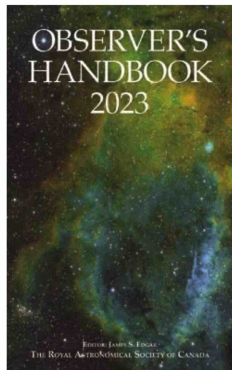
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