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South Taurid Meteors Cross Sky In 2020

Best Observable Time May be Varied Between Mid-October and Mid-November



"South Taurid meteor. Note the Pleiades star cluster above the meteor, and the bright star Aldebaran roughly midway between the Pleiades and the meteor. Image via Flickr user Rocky Raybell."

New York, NY: The South Taurid meteor shower is coming! From mid-October to mid-November, meteors can be seen near Taurid stars with a stable rate of 5 meteors per hour. Even though it is not a high frequency as we imagine a meteor shower should be, the Taurid meteors are still worth to be observed near the weeks of Halloween. The best way to watch meteors is to use telescopes and meteor cameras away from city lights. Moreover, it has chances to see fireballs with your naked eyes, even in cities. In 2015, there were a great number of fireballs crossed skies followed by Taurid meteors.

The Taurid meteors are often a long-running shower without definite peaks. Many institutions predicted peak dates of Taurid meteors early on, but these dates are varied differently. Actually, based on the Taurid meteors in previous years, the peak dates seem difficult to predict. Therefore, without a sharp peak, the moon phase may become the most substantial factor determining the dates you are out for this shower. "The annual Taurid meteor shower is going on right now, and we are seeing steady activity in our meteor cameras," said Bill Cooke in 2015, lead for the NASA Meteoroid Environments Office. If you want to have a look at a bright waning gibbous moon, you may want to have a watch from the evening from November 4 until the next early morning on November 5. If you would like to see



"A cool shot of a Taurid fireball from November 11, 2015, by Bill Allen. Thanks, Bill! By all reports, this shower was amazing in 2015."

the meteors in a dark sky, the weekend of October 16 and mid-November are the best choices.

The Taurid meteors stream consists of an extremely broad of debris left behind by comet 2P/Encke. When Earth crosses the belt of these pieces from September to November every year, the debris from 2P/Encke enters the upper atmosphere above Earth with a speed of 17miles per second. In addition, there will be North Taurid Meteors in November and December when a

different cluster of the comet pieces crash Earth. You can also prepare for North Taurid Meteors. I hope you have a great experience to catch these beautiful meteors.

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Work Cited

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