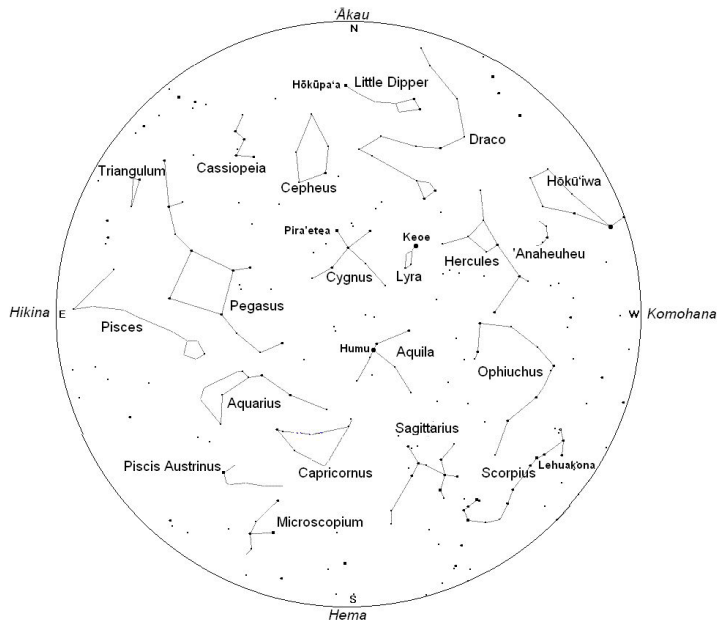


September 2011 Skies

Date	Event
Saturday, Sept 3	Ukialali'i (Mercury) at greatest elongation (18° W of Sun)
Sunday, Sept 4	Olekūkahi (First Quarter Moon) at 7:39 am HST
Sunday, Sept 11	Hoku (Full Moon) at 11:27 pm HST
Friday, Sept 16	Ka'āwela (Jupiter) 5° south of the Moon Ceres at opposition
Tuesday, Sept 20	Kāloakūkahi (Last Quarter Moon) at 3:39 am HST
Thursday, Sept 22	Autumnal Equinox (Fall Begins) at 11:05pm HST
Friday, Sept 23	Hökū'ulapina'au (Mars) 5° north of the Moon
Tuesday, Sept 27	Muku (New Moon) at 1:09 am HST



September 2011 Highlights

Mercury is best viewed the first week of September right before sunrise in the eastern sky. Look for it low on the horizon. It will reach its highest point above the horizon on Saturday, September 3rd when it is at greatest elongation.

Venus is in conjunction with the Sun and will not be visible this month.

Mars is visible in the morning sky in the east rising around 2 am and is in Gemini. It will be faint, but since it is the only reddish object in Gemini it is easy to identify.

Jupiter rises in the East around 10pm in September and is visible until sunrise. Look for the Galilean moons with a pair of binoculars.

Saturn will be in the western sky at sunset, setting about 1 hour after the Sun. Catch it early this month as by October it will be lost in the glare of sunset.

September is a good month to look for the Zodiacal Light an hour to two prior to sunrise. This is a faint glow caused by sunlight reflecting off dust particles in the plane of the solar system.

The Autumnal (Fall) Equinox occurs on the 22nd of the month. At the equinox we experience equal day and equal night (12 hours of each). The Fall and Spring Equinoxes are the only two days of the year when the Sun rises directly East and sets directly West. Both hemispheres of the Earth receive the same amount of sunlight. Equinoxes and solstices are celebrated by many cultures around the world as they mark critical times for agriculture.