



1
00:00:05,679 --> 00:00:01,680

[Music]

2
00:00:08,850 --> 00:00:05,689

what's up for May this month a special

3
00:00:11,259 --> 00:00:08,860

trip into the may sky at dusk and dawn

4
00:00:13,629 --> 00:00:11,269

many of us are staying home these days

5
00:00:15,909 --> 00:00:13,639

and it's normal to feel kind of cooped

6
00:00:18,370 --> 00:00:15,919

up yearning for wide open spaces and

7
00:00:20,170 --> 00:00:18,380

more distant horizons if you find

8
00:00:21,970 --> 00:00:20,180

yourself feeling like that this might be

9
00:00:24,370 --> 00:00:21,980

a good time to remember that we're in

10
00:00:26,310 --> 00:00:24,380

space cruising through the solar system

11
00:00:28,630 --> 00:00:26,320

on our pale blue dot with a vast

12
00:00:31,960 --> 00:00:28,640

three-dimensional universe all around us

13
00:00:33,729 --> 00:00:31,970

and we have an outstanding view now we

14

00:00:36,610 --> 00:00:33,739

often tend to look at the sky as a

15

00:00:38,380 --> 00:00:36,620

curved dome above our heads a sort of

16

00:00:40,959 --> 00:00:38,390

real-life version of a planetarium dome

17

00:00:43,119 --> 00:00:40,969

covered in a carpet of stars but

18

00:00:46,119 --> 00:00:43,129

remember in reality it's anything but

19

00:00:48,549 --> 00:00:46,129

flat the night sky is the deepest most

20

00:00:51,160 --> 00:00:48,559

open expanse of space you could possibly

21

00:00:53,220 --> 00:00:51,170

look into here's a look at what you're

22

00:00:55,479 --> 00:00:53,230

seeing when gazing at the sky in May

23

00:00:58,060 --> 00:00:55,489

looking toward the west in the hour

24

00:01:00,340 --> 00:00:58,070

after sunset here are the bright objects

25

00:01:02,229 --> 00:01:00,350

you'll most likely be able to see the

26

00:01:04,570 --> 00:01:02,239

closest of these objects is the planet

27

00:01:07,330 --> 00:01:04,580

Venus in our own solar system at about

28

00:01:10,240 --> 00:01:07,340

thirty-five million miles from Earth the

29

00:01:12,010 --> 00:01:10,250

next closest is the star Sirius it's the

30

00:01:13,810 --> 00:01:12,020

brightest star in our sky and also one

31

00:01:16,450 --> 00:01:13,820

of the most nearby at about 9 light

32

00:01:18,460 --> 00:01:16,460

years away several other bright stars in

33

00:01:21,520 --> 00:01:18,470

the May early evening sky are a couple

34

00:01:23,830 --> 00:01:21,530

to a few dozen light-years away much

35

00:01:26,650 --> 00:01:23,840

farther out is the red giant star that

36

00:01:29,500 --> 00:01:26,660

forms the shoulder of Orion Betelgeuse

37

00:01:32,170 --> 00:01:29,510

at around 500 light-years from Earth and

38

00:01:34,690 --> 00:01:32,180

although you might not be able to see it

39

00:01:37,510 --> 00:01:34,700

the faint band of the outer Milky Way

40

00:01:39,340 --> 00:01:37,520

stretches across the sky here so when

41

00:01:41,110 --> 00:01:39,350

you're looking westward in Mays early

42

00:01:43,270 --> 00:01:41,120

evening sky think about how you're

43

00:01:46,360 --> 00:01:43,280

looking outward through the disk of our

44

00:01:49,420 --> 00:01:46,370

galaxy toward its outer edges thousands

45

00:01:51,100 --> 00:01:49,430

of light-years away you'll get a

46

00:01:54,070 --> 00:01:51,110

different perspective looking into the

47

00:01:56,560 --> 00:01:54,080

sky in the hour before sunrise facing

48

00:02:00,160 --> 00:01:56,570

south the nearest objects are the moon

49

00:02:03,910 --> 00:02:00,170

at about 240 thousand miles away then

50

00:02:06,820 --> 00:02:03,920

Mars Jupiter and Saturn at hundreds of

51
00:02:09,609 --> 00:02:06,830
millions of miles the rapidly rotating

52
00:02:11,840 --> 00:02:09,619
star Altair and the star Fomalhaut with

53
00:02:14,600 --> 00:02:11,850
its debris disc and orbiting planet

54
00:02:16,580 --> 00:02:14,610
I'm much farther away at 17 and 25

55
00:02:18,740 --> 00:02:16,590
light-years from Earth and the may

56
00:02:22,640 --> 00:02:18,750
morning sky also has its own very

57
00:02:25,310 --> 00:02:22,650
distant red giant star Antares at 554

58
00:02:27,680 --> 00:02:25,320
light-years away and finally across the

59
00:02:30,410 --> 00:02:27,690
background visible under very dark skies

60
00:02:32,320 --> 00:02:30,420
is the Milky Way here you're looking

61
00:02:34,640 --> 00:02:32,330
into the center of the Milky Way galaxy

62
00:02:37,880 --> 00:02:34,650
densely packed with stars and a

63
00:02:40,280 --> 00:02:37,890

supermassive black hole some 27,000

64

00:02:42,470 --> 00:02:40,290

light-years from Earth the night sky

65

00:02:45,250 --> 00:02:42,480

that begins right above your own roof is

66

00:02:47,930 --> 00:02:45,260

really the shore of a deep cosmic ocean

67

00:02:54,100 --> 00:02:47,940

here's hoping this bring some comfort if

68

00:03:01,040 --> 00:02:56,480

here are the phases of the Moon for May

69

00:03:03,230 --> 00:03:01,050

you can catch up on NASA's mission to

70

00:03:06,140 --> 00:03:03,240

explore our solar system and beyond at

71

00:03:07,880 --> 00:03:06,150

nasa.gov I'm Preston dykes from NASA's

72

00:03:09,800 --> 00:03:07,890

Jet Propulsion Laboratory and that's