

St Louis Astronomical Society

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Devoted to the Interest and Advancement of the Science of Astronomy

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Frequently asked questions – Oct. 14, 2023 Solar Eclipse

When is this eclipse visible from St. Louis?

The eclipse will begin at 10:30am with the Sun 33 degrees above the southeastern horizon. Maximum eclipse will occur at 11:56am with approximately 65% of the Sun covered by the Moon. The eclipse will end at 1:30pm with the Sun 43 degrees above the horizon. You must find an unobstructed location to view the eclipse.

Where is the best place to observe the eclipse?

The eclipse will be visible over most of the United States. From Missouri this will be a partial solar eclipse. The Moon will cover 67% of the Sun if you are in southwest Missouri and 53% if you are in northeast Missouri. In the St Louis area, about 54% will be covered. The "annular" phase of the eclipse, will only be viewable in a narrow path cutting through the following states: you must be in the following states: Oregon, California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, and Texas. See the following websites for more information about locations and exact timing for the Oct. 14th eclipse.

https://solarsystem.nasa.gov/eclipses/2023/oct-14-annular/overview/

http://xjubier.free.fr/en/site_pages/solar_eclipses/ASE_2023_GoogleMapFull.html

https://eclipsewise.com/solar/SEgmapx/2001-2100/SE2023Oct14Agmapx.html

https://www.timeanddate.com/eclipse/map/2023-october-14

https://www.greatamericaneclipse.com/october-14-2023

Can I safely view the eclipse?

There are several safe methods for viewing the Sun. These methods are described on the internet and found in books at your local library. Safe methods include: special "eclipse glasses"; and pin-hole projection. UNSAFE methods include: Sunglasses; Mylar Balloons or Food Wrappers; Smoked Glass; X-Ray Film; Film Negatives; and CDs. See the following NASA Websites for more safety information.

https://solarsystem.nasa.gov/eclipses/2023/oct-14-annular/safety/http://eclipse.gsfc.nasa.gov/SEhelp/safety2.html

Can I safely photograph the eclipse?

Still or video photography can be an enjoyable way to document the eclipse. Protect your camera the same as your eyes, use only special "solar filters" when photographing the Sun. Photography guidebooks can be found at your local library, camera shop, or on-line.

