Geminid Meteor Shower 2026 Viewing Checklist

What to bring, what to do and the dates to mark

BRING

- [ ] Dress for winter weather — Clothes
- [ ] Sleeping bag, blanket or lawn chair — Seat

DO

- [ ] An area well away from city and street lights — Place
- [ ] Lie flat on your back with your feet facing south — Position
- [ ] Allow about 30 minutes in the dark for your eyes to adapt — Eyes
- [ ] After 10 p.m. local time, when the AMS says Gemini is well placed; the show lasts until dawn — Time

DATES

- [ ] Geminids become active (AMS, IMO, NASA) — Fri., Dec. 4
- [ ] New Moon at 7:52 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (USNO) — Tue., Dec. 8
- [ ] Peak night; no official peak hour published yet — Sun., Dec. 13 to Mon., Dec. 14
- [ ] Last day of the active period (AMS, IMO, NASA) — Thu., Dec. 17
- [ ] Full Moon at 8:28 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (USNO) — Wed., Dec. 23

My notes

Source: American Meteor Society and International Meteor Organization 2026/2027 Meteor Shower Calendars; NASA Science, Geminids; U.S. Naval Observatory. Moon times converted from Universal Time by Fresh Calendars.