Ursid Meteor Shower 2026 Moonset Sheet

Peak night Dec. 21-22, moonset and sunrise for 10 U.S. cities

Peak night Dec. 21–22

97%–98% Moonlight on the peak night

10 cities with local moonset and sunrise times

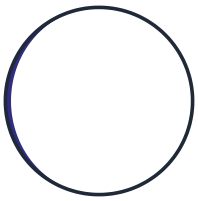
Peak window

The Ursid meteor shower peaks the night of Mon., Dec. 21 into Tue., Dec. 22. Watch after the Moon has set; the sky starts to brighten well before sunrise.

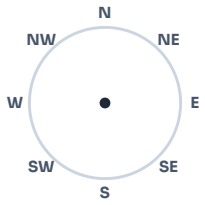
LOCAL MOONSET AND SUNRISE TIMES

CITY	MOONSET	NEXT SUNRISE	MOON LIT
New York	**5:53 a.m.**	**7:17 a.m.**	97%
Boston	**5:47 a.m.**	**7:11 a.m.**	97%
Washington, D.C.	**5:58 a.m.**	**7:24 a.m.**	97%
Atlanta	**6:11 a.m.**	**7:39 a.m.**	97%
Chicago	**5:55 a.m.**	**7:15 a.m.**	97%
Dallas	**6 a.m.**	**7:26 a.m.**	97%
Denver	**5:59 a.m.**	**7:18 a.m.**	97%
Phoenix	**6:07 a.m.**	**7:29 a.m.**	97%
Los Angeles	**5:35 a.m.**	**6:55 a.m.**	98%
Seattle	**6:49 a.m.**	**7:55 a.m.**	98%

Moonset, sunrise and Moon illumination: U.S. Naval Observatory, local clock time. Times are read from saved USNO data, not converted.



Waxing Gibbous, about 97% lit on the peak night



Meteors can streak across any part of the sky. Face away from lights and take in as much sky as you can.

Before you go

- [ ] Check the forecast for clear skies
- [ ] Pick a dark spot away from streetlights
- [ ] Set an alarm for moonset (see the table)
- [ ] Dress in warm layers; bring a hot drink
- [ ] Lie back on a reclining chair or blanket
- [ ] Let your eyes adjust in the dark, no phone screen
- [ ] Face the radiant and look about two-thirds up the sky
- [ ] Count for 15 minutes at a time (tally at right)

My count (15-minute blocks)

Start	+15 min	+30 min	+45 min
+60 min	**+75 min**	**+90 min**	**Best one**

My notes

Source: American Meteor Society, 2026/2027 Meteor Shower Calendar; U.S. Naval Observatory rise and set data, local standard time, Dec. 22, 2026.