

Total Solar Eclipse of 2012 November 13/14

The sky during totality as seen from Cairns, Australia. The brightest planet visible during the total eclipse is Venus $(m_v=-3.7)$ located 32° west of the Sun. Although Mercury $(m_v=3.2)$ is only 9° east of the Sun, it will be quite faint. Saturn $(m_v=+1.2)$ will also be difficult to spot 17° west of the Sun. Bright stars, which might also be visible, include Procyon $(m_v=+0.38)$, Sirius $(m_v=-1.44)$, Arcturus $(m_v=-0.04)$, Spica $(m_v=+1.04)$ and Canopus $(m_v=-0.72)$.

The geocentric ephemeris below (using Bretagnon and Simon, 1986) gives the apparent positions of the naked eye planets during the eclipse. *Delta* is the distance of the planet from Earth (A.U.'s), *App. Mag.* is the apparent visual magnitude of the planet, and *Solar Elong* gives the elongation or angle between the Sun and planet.

Ephemeris:	2012 Nov 1	L3 20:40 UT			Equino	ox = Mea	n Date
Planet	RA	Declination	Delta	App. Mag.	Apparent Diameter <i>arc-sec</i>	Phase	Solar Elong
Sun	15h17m51s	-18°14'03"	0.98940	-26.7	1939.9	-	-
Moon	15h13m49s	-18°27'36"	0.00239	11.0	2004.5	0.00	1.0W
Mercury	15h52m00s	-21°43'01"	0.69116	3.2	9.7	0.06	8.7E
Venus	13h15m55s	-06°22'08"	1.33021	-4.0	12.5	0.84	32.OW
Mars	17h49m12s	-25°14'16"	2.09696	1.2	4.5	0.96	35.7E
Jupiter	04h49m49s	+22°19'37"	4.11718	-2.8	47.9	1.00	158.1W
Saturn	14h12m10s	-11°21'30"	10.71984	1.3	15.5	1.00	17 . 3W