

# TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE

MONDAY,  
AUGUST 21, 2017

VISIBLE IN 48 STATES • LAST TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE FEB. 26, 1979

DURING A total solar eclipse, the Moon blocks the Sun's bright face — the photosphere — briefly revealing our star's outer atmosphere: the shimmering corona, or "crown." The corona is always there, but we usually can't see it because the photosphere is about a million times brighter and drowns it out. At the beginning and end of totality, the thin middle layer of the Sun's atmosphere, the chromosphere, blazes in an arc of ruby red. The sky darkens to a deep twilight blue, with yellow, orange, and pink sunrise/sunset colors on the horizon in all directions. Bright stars and planets shine forth, and the air temperature drops noticeably. Birds and farm animals, thinking dusk has settled, return to their nests and barns, and bats come out to feed.

Looking directly at the Sun is unsafe except during the brief total phase of a solar eclipse ("totality"), when the Moon entirely blocks the Sun's bright face, which will happen only within the narrow path of totality.

The only safe way to look directly at the uneclipsed or partially eclipsed Sun is through special purpose solar filters, such as "eclipse glasses" or hand-held solar viewers. Homemade filters or ordinary sunglasses, even very dark ones, are not safe for looking at the Sun.

• **Always inspect your solar filter before use;** if scratched or damaged, discard it.

Read and follow any instructions printed on or packaged with the filter. Always supervise children using solar filters.

• **Stand still and cover your eyes with your eclipse glasses or solar viewer before looking up at the bright Sun.** After glancing at the Sun, turn away and remove your filter — do not remove it while looking at the Sun.

• **Do not look at the uneclipsed or partially eclipsed Sun through an unfiltered camera, telescope, binoculars, or other optical device.**

Similarly, do not look at the Sun through a camera, a telescope, binoculars, or any other optical device while using your eclipse glasses or handheld solar viewer — the concentrated solar rays will damage the filter and

enter your eye(s), causing serious injury. Seek expert advice from an astronomer before using a solar filter with a camera, a telescope, binoculars, or any other optical device.

• If you are within the path of totality, **remove your solar filter only when the Moon completely covers the Sun's bright face and it suddenly gets quite dark.** Experience totality, then, as soon as the bright Sun begins to reappear, replace your solar viewer to glance at the remaining partial phases.

An alternative method for safe viewing of the partially eclipsed Sun is pinhole projection. For example, cross the outstretched, slightly open fingers of one



## JAMESTOWN AREA VIEW

### Partial Solar Eclipse

Begins: Mon. August 21, 2017 at 1:11 pm  
Maximum: Mon. August 21, 2017 at 2:33 pm  
Ends: Mon. August 21, 2017 at 3:51 pm

### STATES IN THE PATH OF TOTALITY

Georgia	Iowa	Missouri	North Carolina	Tennessee
Idaho	Kansas	Montana	Oregon	Wyoming
Illinois	Kentucky	Nebraska	South Carolina	

The next total solar eclipse in the United States: **April 8, 2024**

hand over the outstretched, slightly open fingers of the other. With your back to the Sun, look at your hands' shadow on the ground. The little spaces between your fingers will project a grid of small images on the ground, showing the Sun as a crescent during the partial phases of the eclipse.

A solar eclipse is one of nature's grandest spectacles. By following these simple rules, you can safely enjoy the view and be rewarded with memories to last a lifetime.

Courtesy: <https://eclipse.aas.org/>  
<https://eclipse.aas.org/>  
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## TOTAL ECLIPSE FAQ

**August** is an ideal month for a vacation; the weather is warm and the chance of summer storms has diminished in much of the nation. Most schools have not yet begun their fall session by August 21st and some schools near the path of totality are scheduling a late start.

**Social media** will have a huge impact on motivating eclipse visitors. The eclipse is exactly the type of event guaranteed to go viral on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and other social platforms. Many people will only make plans to go in the week before eclipse day.

**Leave your pets at home!** Animals will be scared senseless by the eclipse, and you will want to be enjoying it instead of trying to calm your crazed critters. Everyone around you will not want to be bothered by your animals either, so please leave them at home.

For so many **millions of Americans**, nature's grandest sight — a total eclipse of the Sun — can be seen by packing a tent and sleeping bags and taking a short road trip from home. The problem is that these millions of Americans will produce predictable traffic congestion. Large numbers of visitors will overwhelm lodging and other resources in the path of totality.

Unless you have **special solar filters for your camera and telescope**, you can't even set up for pictures of a total eclipse - the heat of the sun will melt your lenses (not to mention your eyes)! If you want to pull out a point and shoot during totality, be advised that your pictures will NOT be any good.

Content courtesy <https://www.greatamericaneclipse.com/statistics/>

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