



The chart is oriented for  
 April 15 at 10 p.m. NZST  
 May 1 at 9 p.m. "  
 May 15 at 8 p.m. "  
 June 1 at 7 p.m. "

### Evening sky in May 2016

To use the chart, hold it up to the sky. Turn the chart so the direction you are looking is at the bottom of the chart. If you are looking to the south then have 'South horizon' at the lower edge. As the earth turns the sky appears to rotate clockwise around the south celestial pole (SCP on the chart). Stars rise in the east and set in the west, just like the sun. The sky makes a small extra westward shift each night as we orbit the sun.

Three bright planets are in the evening sky. Golden Jupiter appears in the north soon after sunset. Orange Mars is in the east with creamy-white Saturn below it. Sirius, the brightest true star, is midway down the western sky. Directly below it is Orion with bright stars Rigel and Betelgeuse and 'The Pot' between them. Canopus is southwest of overhead. Low in the northeast is Arcturus, often twinkling red and green. Crux, the Southern Cross, and the Pointers, Alpha and Beta Centauri, are southeast of the zenith. The Milky Way spans the sky from southeast to northwest.