

A Full Moon Encounters Mars in Gemini

On the nights of **January 12-13**, a full Moon will pass through the constellation Gemini, the Twins, and occult the planet Mars on its journey along the ecliptic. For more on this Jan. 13th lunar occultation of Mars, [follow this link](#).

The planet Mars is at “opposition” (opposite the Sun from the Earth) on the night of January 15/16. This put Mars in great viewing position for observing with a small telescope. [Follow this link](#) to find out more about this 2025 Martian opposition.

Mars reaches a bright magnitude of -1.4 this month – equaling the magnitude of the brightest star visible from Earth – Sirius.

The twin stars of Gemini, Pollux and Castor, are not only different in visible color (yellowish-orange and bluish-white, respectively), but they also lie at disparate distances behind Mars of 34 and 51 light years, respectively

