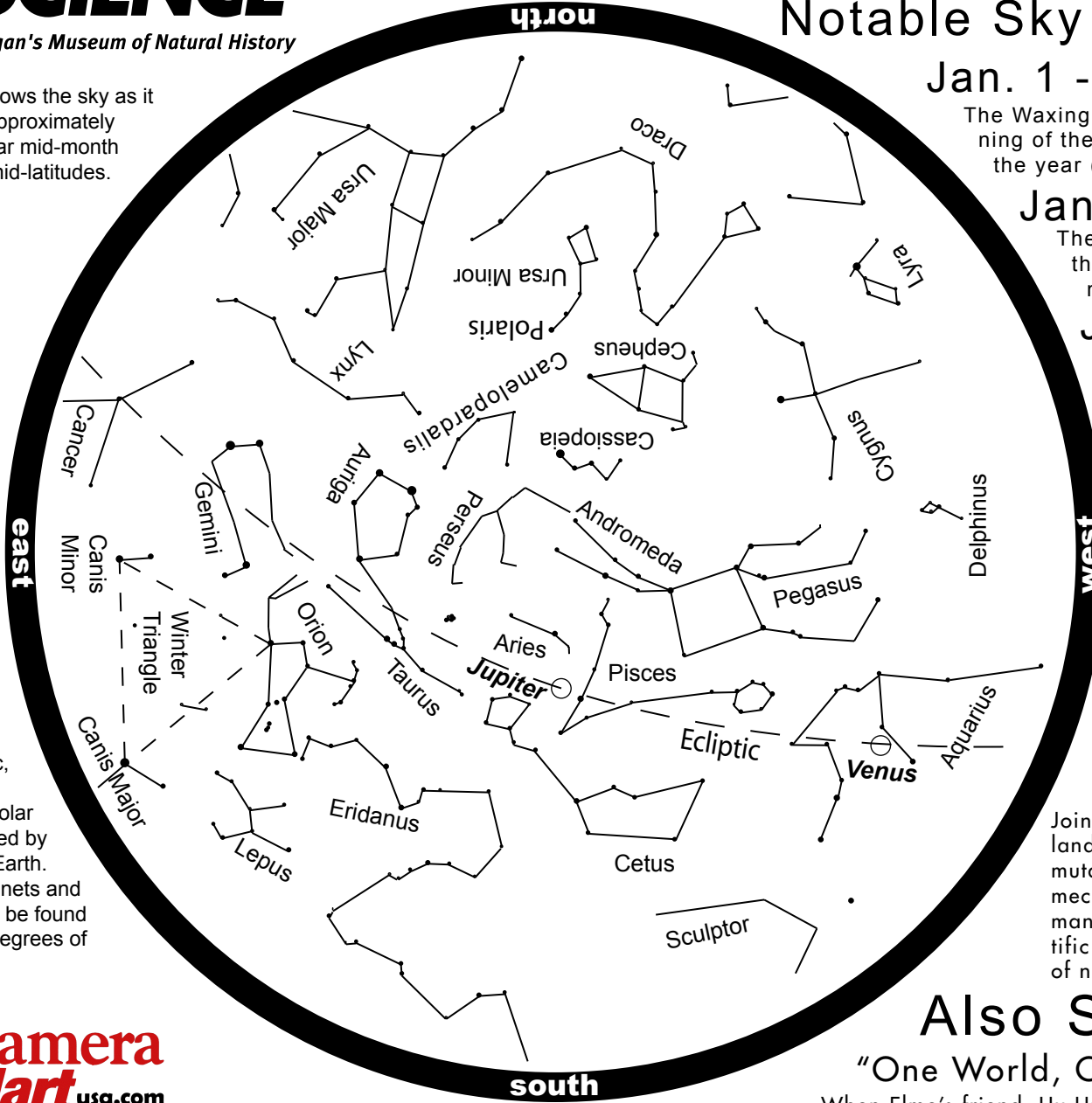


# JANUARY 2012

## Notable Sky Happenings



This chart shows the sky as it appears at approximately 7pm EST near mid-month at northern mid-latitudes.



What is that dashed line? It's the ecliptic, the reference plane of the solar system, defined by the Sun and Earth. The major planets and the Moon can be found within a few degrees of this plane.

### Jan. 1 - 7

The Waxing Gibbous Moon is above bright Jupiter on the evening of the 2nd. Earth is at its closest point to the Sun for the year (perihelion) on the 4th.

### Jan. 8 - 14

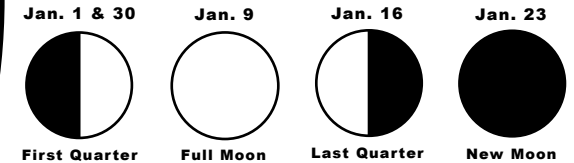
The red "star" above and to the left of the Moon in the pre-dawn sky on the 13th is Mars. The next morning the Moon has passed Mars.

### Jan. 15 - 21

The Moon is below Spica in the pre-dawn sky on the 16th. To the left is Saturn in Virgo.

### Jan. 22 - 31

The Waxing Crescent Moon is above brilliant Venus in the evening sky on the 26th. Notice bright Jupiter in the south. These are the 3 brightest objects in the evening sky.



## Now Showing

### "Natural Selection"

Join Charles Darwin on his voyage to the Galapagos Islands where he was inspired for his later theory of transmutation by natural selection. Darwin will explain the mechanism of natural selection and support it by showing many beautiful examples in nature. The thrill of a scientific discovery, the adventure of science and the beauty of nature are central in this show.

## Also Showing

### "One World, One Sky: Big Bird's Adventure"

When Elmo's friend, Hu Hu Zhu, visits from China. Big Bird, Elmo and Hu Hu Zhu take viewers on an exciting discovery of the Sun, Moon, and stars. They learn about the Big Dipper and the North Star and take an imaginary trip to the Moon where they learn that the Moon is a very different place.

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