



### Evening sky in JULY 2015

Overhead is a bright star with a reddish hue, known as Antares. It lies in the constellation of Scorpius (Scorpion) and marks the "heart" of the Scorpion. It is a system of two stars consisting of Antares A, a red supergiant, and the much smaller but hotter Antares B. Antares A is nearing the end of its lifetime and will explode as a supernova in the next million years. To the east of Scorpius is Sagittarius (Archer), pointing a bow and arrow at the close pair of stars in the Scorpion's "tail". To the north is the bright star Arcturus, indicating the position of Boötes (Herdsman). High in the south the two bright stars known as the Pointers are in line with the top star of the Southern Cross (Crux).

Planets Venus and Jupiter are low in the west, close to the bright star Regulus, the "heart" of Leo (Lion). Although planets, they appear as two bright "Evening Stars" in the early evening, setting before 9:00 by mid-month. Planet Saturn is in Libra (Scales).

The Moon is in the evening sky until 4 July and again from 19 July. There are two full moons in July. Nowadays the second full moon in a calendar month is often referred to as a "blue moon".