



### Evening sky in April 2011

Orion, the Hunter still dominates the western skies, the three stars forming his belt almost perpendicular to the horizon. Follow the line of the Belt stars upwards to find Sirius, the brightest star as seen from Earth, in Canis Major, the Big Dog. A little further to the North is Procyon, the bright star in the Little Dog. Below Canis Minor we find the bright stars Castor and Pollux, in Gemini, the Twins. In the North is the sickle-shaped asterism in the head of Leo, the Lion, with the bright star, Regulus, as his heart. Don't be confused by the three crosses visible high in the night sky. Corvus lies directly above East while the Southern Cross (Crux) is southeast with the False Cross, most southerly and largest of the three. Alpha and Beta Centauri, the Pointers, are two bright stars close to Crux, making it easy to identify. Close to the False Cross is Canopus, the second brightest star in the night sky. In Xhosa it is known as u-Canzibe, the harbinger of Winter.

Planet Saturn is in the constellation of Virgo.

The Moon is in the evening sky after 8 April until 21 April..