

40 DEEP-SKY TARGETS IN SAGITTARIUS

The Archer contains a dizzying variety of dazzling objects. **by Michael E. Bakich**

The constellation Sagittarius the Archer ranks 15th in size and 35th in overall brightness (the number of visible stars per unit area) out of the sky's 88 star patterns. But many observers would rank it at the top of the heap with regard to fascinating deep-sky treats. You'll find no fewer than 15 Messier objects here — four more than in any other star figure. And that's just the beginning. You also will find many standouts from the NGC, IC, and Barnard catalogs. Here are 40 of my favorites.

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MITCH AND MICHAEL DYE/ADAM BLOCK/NOAO/AURA/NSF (NGC 6818); ANTHONY AYIOMAMITIS (M18); BOB FERA (M17); DEAN SALMAN (M24); MICHAEL SIDONIO (NGC 6589); ADAM BLOCK/MOUNT LEMMON SKYCENTER/UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA (NGC 6590); ADAM BLOCK/NOAO/AURA/NSF (NGC 6537); ANTHONY AYIOMAMITIS (M23); LISA DOMBROW/PHIL TERRY/ADAM BLOCK/NOAO/AURA/NSF (NGC 6445); ANTHONY AYIOMAMITIS (M21); DANIEL VERSCHATSE/ANTILHUE OBSERVATORY (M20); ADAM BLOCK/MOUNT LEMMON SKYCENTER/UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA (IC 1274); R. JAY GABANY (M8); AL KELLY (NGC 6520); ADAM BLOCK/MOUNT LEMMON SKYCENTER/UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA (NGC 6522); ADAM BLOCK/MOUNT LEMMON SKYCENTER/UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA (NGC 6553); HAREL BOREN (M28); BERNHARD HUBL (M22); DANIEL VERSCHATSE (M55); CHUCK KIMBALL (NGC 6822); ASTRONOMY: RICHARD TALCOTT AND ROEN KELLY (FINDER CHART)

