

# Perseids meteor shower meets supermoon

Stargazers are looking forward to the biggest and brightest full moon of the year, which coincides with Earth's brightest annual meteor shower

## PERSEIDS

■ **Aug 11-13:** Peak of Perseids encounter (active Jul 17-Aug 24)

### Perseid cloud:

Stream of debris trailing behind

**Comet Swift-Tuttle**

**Comet orbit:**  
133 years

Sun

Earth

## SUPERMOON

■ **Aug 10, 18:09 UTC:** Moon becomes full as it reaches point of orbit closest to Earth in 2014 – **356,897km**

**Perigee:** Point closest to Earth (average distance: 363,104km)

**Lunar orbit:** 27.32 days

Moon

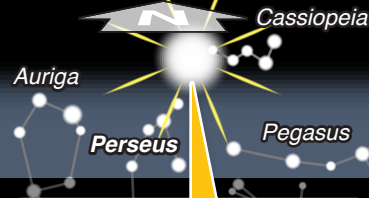
Earth

**Apogee:** Point furthest from Earth (average distance: 405,696km)

### Perigee moon

Size: Up **14%**  
Brightness: Up **30%**

## WHERE TO SEE METEORS (Northern hemisphere)



### Radiant centre of Perseids

Frequency: **100** meteors per hour  
Entry velocity: **58km/s**

*Larger fireball meteors are as bright as Jupiter or Venus, and will be visible despite lunar glare*

■ **Lunar illusion:** Moon appears larger when closer to horizon and objects like buildings and trees

**Apogee moon**