

World Asterisms Project

An Introduction to the Sky Cultures of the World



Volume Two, Appendix One:

Occurrence of Asterisms in Each IAU Constellation

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Asterisms in IAU Constellations:

From the beginning of this World Asterisms project, we've been keeping track of how many of the over 13,000 asterisms we've listed so far are associated with each of the 88 IAU constellations. This is recorded under each constellation listed in the Handbook, but we've also created the table below to show these statistics. In some cases, we know that a peoples had a particular asterism, but we do not yet know precisely where it was located in the sky: In this case they are listed under the "unknown" category at the bottom of the list. As research continues asterisms will hopefully get moved from this list to the appropriate constellation.

IAU Constellation	Abbreviation	Number of Asterisms
Andromeda, the Chained Maiden	And	252
Antlia, the Air Pump	Ant	42
Apus, Bird of Paradise	Aps	28
Aquarius, the Water Bearer	Aqr	305
Aquila, the Eagle	Aql	303
Ara, the Altar	Ara	82
Aries, the Ram	Ari	211
Auriga, the Charioteer	Aur	364
Boötes, the Herdsman	Boo	370
Caelum, the Engraving Tool	Cae	14
Camelopardalis, the Giraffe	Cam	98
Cancer, the Crab	Cnc	211
Canes Venatici, the Hunting Dogs	CVn	111
Canis Major, the Great Dog	CMA	415
Canis Minor, the Lesser Dog	CMi	136
Capricornus, the Sea Goat	Cap	189
Carina, the Keel	Car	268
Cassiopeia, the Seated Queen	Cas	316
Centaurus, the Centaur	Cen	377
Cepheus, the King	Cep	206
Cetus, the Sea Monster	Cet	240
Chamaeleon, the Chameleon	Cha	12
Circinus, the Compass	Cir	20
Columba, the Dove	Col	51
Coma Berenices, Berenices' Hair	Com	168
Corona Australis, the Southern Crown	CrA	78
Corona Borealis, the Northern Crown	CrB	173
Corvus, the Crow	Crv	107
Crater, the Cup	Crt	79
Crux, the Southern Cross	Cru	298
Cygnus, the Swan	Cyg	382
Delphinus, the Dolphin	Del	141

Dorado, the Swordfish	Dor	116
Draco, the Dragon	Dra	329
Equuleus, the Little Horse	Equ	42
Eridanus, the River	Eri	204
Fornax, the Furnace	For	52
Gemini, the Twins	Gem	420
Grus, the Crane	Gru	72
Hercules	Her	250
Horologium, the Clock	Hor	19
Hydra, the Female Water Snake	Hya	306
Hydrus, the Male Water Snake	Hyi	16
Indus, the Indian	Ind	31
Lacerta, the Lizard	Lac	59
Leo, the Lion	Leo	456
Leo Minor, the Lesser Lion	LMi	46
Lepus, the Hare	Lep	74
Libra, the Scales	Lib	192
Lupus, the Wolf	Lup	110
Lynx, the Lynx	Lyn	116
Lyra, the Lyre	Lyr	215
Mensa, the Table	Men	12
Microscopium, the Microscope	Mic	24
Monoceros, the Unicorn	Mon	97
Musca, the Fly	Mus	35
Norma, the Carpenter's Square	Nor	26
Octans, the Octant	Oct	23
Ophiuchus, the Serpent Bearer	Oph	253
Orion, the Hunter	Ori	1033
Pavo, the Peacock	Pav	63
Pegasus, the Winged Horse	Peg	324
Perseus, the Hero	Per	229
Phoenix, the Phoenix	Phe	45
Pictor, the Painter's Easel	Pic	12
Pisces, the Fishes	Psc	224
Piscis Austrinus, the Southern Fish	PsA	105
Puppis, the Stern	Pup	147
Pyxis, the Compass	Pyx	31
Reticulum, the Reticule	Ret	20
Sagitta, the Arrow	Sge	64
Sagittarius, the Archer	Sgr	396
Scorpius, the Scorpion	Sco	582
Sculptor, the Sculptor	Scl	49
Scutum, the Shield	Sct	35
Serpens, the Serpent	Ser	116
Sextans, the Sextant	Sex	39

Taurus, the Bull	Tau	1160
Telescopium, the Telescope	Tel	36
Triangulum, the Triangle	Tri	77
Triangulum Australe, the Southern Triangle	TrA	30
Tucana, the Toucan	Tuc	98
Ursa Major, the Great Bear	UMa	949
Ursa Minor, the Lesser Bear	UMi	402
Vela, the Sails	Vel	138
Virgo, the Maiden	Vir	478
Volans, the Flying Fish	Vol	21
Vulpecula, the Fox	Vul	55
Unknown		274