

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	217
Antlia, the Air Pump	Ant	24
Apus, Bird of Paradise	Aps	25
Aquarius, the Water Bearer	Aqr	275
Aquila, the Eagle	Aql	288
Ara, the Altar	Ara	76
Aries, the Ram	Ari	187
Auriga, the Charioteer	Aur	346
Boötes, the Herdsman	Boo	325
Caelum, the Engraving Tool	Cae	10
Camelopardalis, the Giraffe	Cam	73
Cancer, the Crab	Cnc	198
Canes Venatici, the Hunting Dogs	CVn	66
Canis Major, the Great Dog	CMa	392
Canis Minor, the Lesser Dog	CMi	130
Capricornus, the Sea Goat	Cap	173
Carina, the Keel	Car	262
Cassiopeia, the Seated Queen	Cas	280
Centaurus, the Centaur	Cen	342
Cepheus, the King	Cep	178
Cetus, the Sea Monster	Cet	168
Chamaeleon, the Chameleon	Cha	11
Circinus, the Compass	Cir	17
Columba, the Dove	Col	43
Coma Berenices, Berenices' Hair	Com	123
Corona Australis, the Southern Crown	CrA	77
Corona Borealis, the Northern Crown	CrB	165
Corvus, the Crow	Crv	91
Crater, the Cup	Crt	64
Crux, the Southern Cross	Cru	293
Cygnus, the Swan	Cyg	338
Delphinus, the Dolphin	Del	136

Dorado, the Swordfish	Dor	105
Draco, the Dragon	Dra	267
Equuleus, the Little Horse	Equ	38
Eridanus, the River	Eri	156
Fornax, the Furnace	For	24
Gemini, the Twins	Gem	401
Grus, the Crane	Gru	54
Hercules	Her	228
Horologium, the Clock	Hor	8
Hydra, the Female Water Snake	Hya	241
Hydrus, the Male Water Snake	Hyi	15
Indus, the Indian	Ind	19
Lacerta, the Lizard	Lac	52
Leo, the Lion	Leo	381
Leo Minor, the Lesser Lion	LMi	33
Lepus, the Hare	Lep	60
Libra, the Scales	Lib	176
Lupus, the Wolf	Lup	101
Lynx, the Lynx	Lyn	95
Lyra, the Lyre	Lyr	200
Mensa, the Table	Men	11
Microscopium, the Microscope	Mic	17
Monoceros, the Unicorn	Mon	86
Musca, the Fly	Mus	35
Norma, the Carpenter's Square	Nor	22
Octans, the Octant	Oct	21
Ophiuchus, the Serpent Bearer	Oph	228
Orion, the Hunter	Ori	995
Pavo, the Peacock	Pav	45
Pegasus, the Winged Horse	Peg	280
Perseus, the Hero	Per	199
Phoenix, the Phoenix	Phe	33
Pictor, the Painter's Easel	Pic	11
Pisces, the Fishes	Psc	190
Piscis Austrinus, the Southern Fish	PsA	93
Puppis, the Stern	Pup	130
Pyxis, the Compass	Pyx	27
Reticulum, the Reticule	Ret	16
Sagitta, the Arrow	Sge	59
Sagittarius, the Archer	Sgr	355
Scorpius, the Scorpion	Sco	556
Sculptor, the Sculptor	Scl	30
Scutum, the Shield	Sct	30
Serpens, the Serpent	Ser	100
Sextans, the Sextant	Sex	25

Taurus, the Bull	Tau	1103
Telescopium, the Telescope	Tel	29
Triangulum, the Triangle	Tri	65
Triangulum Australe, the Southern Triangle	TrA	28
Tucana, the Toucan	Tuc	92
Ursa Major, the Great Bear	UMa	812
Ursa Minor, the Lesser Bear	UMi	383
Vela, the Sails	Vel	130
Virgo, the Maiden	Vir	344
Volans, the Flying Fish	Vol	18
Vulpecula, the Fox	Vul	49
Unknown		274