

The September 28th total eclipse of the Moon : up to scratch



Date de mise en ligne : jeudi 8 octobre 2015

Description :

Éclipse totale de Lune du 28 septembre : promesse tenue pour les astronomes de l'Observatoire de Paris

**Observatoire de Paris - PSL Centre de recherche en astronomie et
astrophysique**

The total eclipse of the Moon, which took place at perigee (the smallest distance from the Earth) and which spanned the period from Sunday September 27th to Monday September 28th, was observable with the Moon high in the sky, and under optimal meteorological conditions ... For nothing in the world would the Paris astronomers have missed this rare spectacle. Latest pictures.



Time-lapse de l'éclipse totale de Lune du lundi 28 septembre 2015. © Florent Reix / GEPI - Observatoire de Paris



Chapelet de l'éclipse totale de Lune du 28 septembre 2015 © Lucie Maquet / IMCCE / Observatoire de Paris



Eclipse de Lune prise depuis l'Observatoire de Paris dans la nuit de dimanche 27 au lundi 28 septembre 2015 à 3h22 (temps légal français) © J. Normand / IMCCE / Observatoire de Paris



Eclipse de Lune prise depuis l'Observatoire de Paris dans la nuit de dimanche 27 au lundi 28 septembre

2015 à 4h47 (temps légal français), au maximum de la totalité. © J. Normand / IMCCE / Observatoire de Paris

During the eclipse, the Moon took on a rusty colour, with a very dark central shadow, the external parts remaining lighter.

Astronomers at the Paris Observatory attributed to this eclipse a "brightness" of 2, on Danjon's eclipse scale which has 5 levels (ranging from 0 to 4).

As explained Pascal Descamps, astronomer at the Paris Observatory, at the Institute for Celestial Mechanics and Ephemeris Computation, « This eclipse enables one to gauge the quality of the terrestrial atmosphere. The brightness of the Moon this time showed that the atmosphere was neither specially bad nor specially good, but just about average », presumably due to the presence of dust at high altitudes »

The next good eclipses of the Moon

The next total lunar eclipse visible in France, identical to yesterday's, will happen again in just 54 years and 33 days, according to cycle known as the exelignos. See you then, on October 30th, 2069 !

But somewhat earlier, another total lunar eclipse visible in France and high in the sky, will take place on December 20th 2029.

And thus last night's spectacle was that much more exceptional...