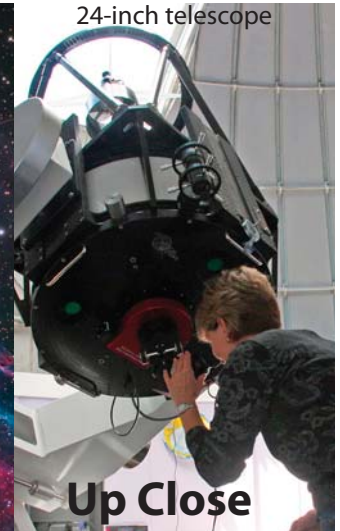
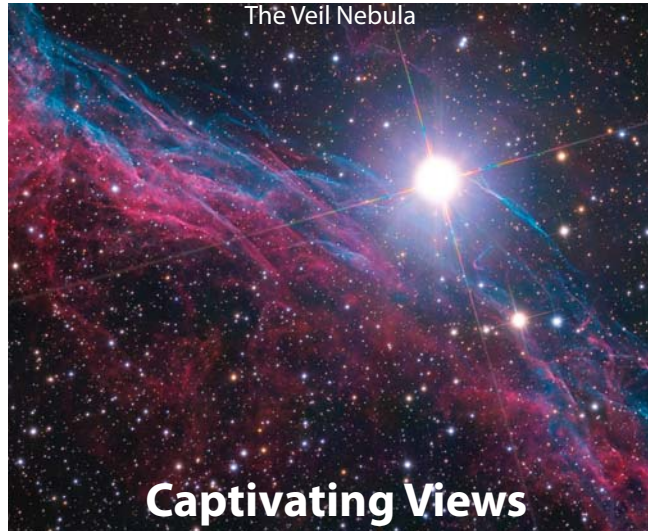


## A Cosmic Experience:

- Stunning Alpine Skies
- State-of-the-Art Telescope
- Gaze, Learn, Absorb

**V**iew and understand the night sky like never before as an expert astronomer guides you on a SkyNights adventure through the mysteries of the cosmos and gives you the skills needed to explore the universe on your own.



Photos by Adam Block

**Navigate the skies** — While gazing into the vast universe on a clear, cool evening, have you ever wanted to know more about what's out there? SkyNights, part of the Mt. Lemmon SkyCenter program, starts providing the answers even before the sun sets as an astronomer shows you how to navigate the night skies with a star chart and binoculars. Later in the evening, you'll use these simple tools to see wonders like the Whirlpool Galaxy, the moons of Jupiter, or the clouds of gas and dust in the Orion Nebula.

**Experience the mountain** — As the sun sets, you'll watch the mountain's shadow race across the valley. Overhead, you may see a hawk hovering while a Southwestern sunset paints its pastel backdrop. Then twilight descends and you're surrounded by a serene high-country evening.

**Access the universe** — When the skies darken and stars appear over Mt. Lemmon, you'll enter a telescope dome that was open only to professional astronomers until recently. Inside, you'll peer through a state-of-the-art, 24-inch reflecting telescope at celestial objects rarely seen by non-astronomers in this clarity and detail. Meanwhile an expert guide will help you appreciate and understand exactly what you're viewing.

## Here's how to get started on your Mt. Lemmon SkyNights adventure:

Reservations & info: [SkyCenter@as.arizona.edu](mailto:SkyCenter@as.arizona.edu) or 520-626-8122. Cost: \$48 per person (light dinner included). Group discounts available. Inquire about our one-on-one guest astronomer program.

## SkyNight Wonders

**C**elestial wonders that have fascinated humanity since the dawn of time spread across clear Southwestern skies each night, providing SkyNights participants with captivating views. Below are a few of the unforgettable sights waiting to be explored.

- **Clusters** of young, energetic stars in numbers that boggle the mind.
- **A Meteor's** fiery signature as it slams into Earth's atmosphere.
- **Mountains** and valleys of the Moon in amazing detail.
- **A Comet** on its journey into the inner solar system.
- **Rings**, moons, clouds and the unique features of the planets.
- **Gas and Dust** glowing softly around newly formed stars or the shock waves of stars that have died.
- **Distant Galaxies**, with billions of stars whose light left for Earth before dinosaurs roamed our planet.
- **A Satellite's** stately passage along its orbital path around the globe.

The Mt. Lemmon SkyCenter is operated under permit from the United States Forest Service