

Beginners Guide to Small Telescopes – Labs

Exercise: The Moon

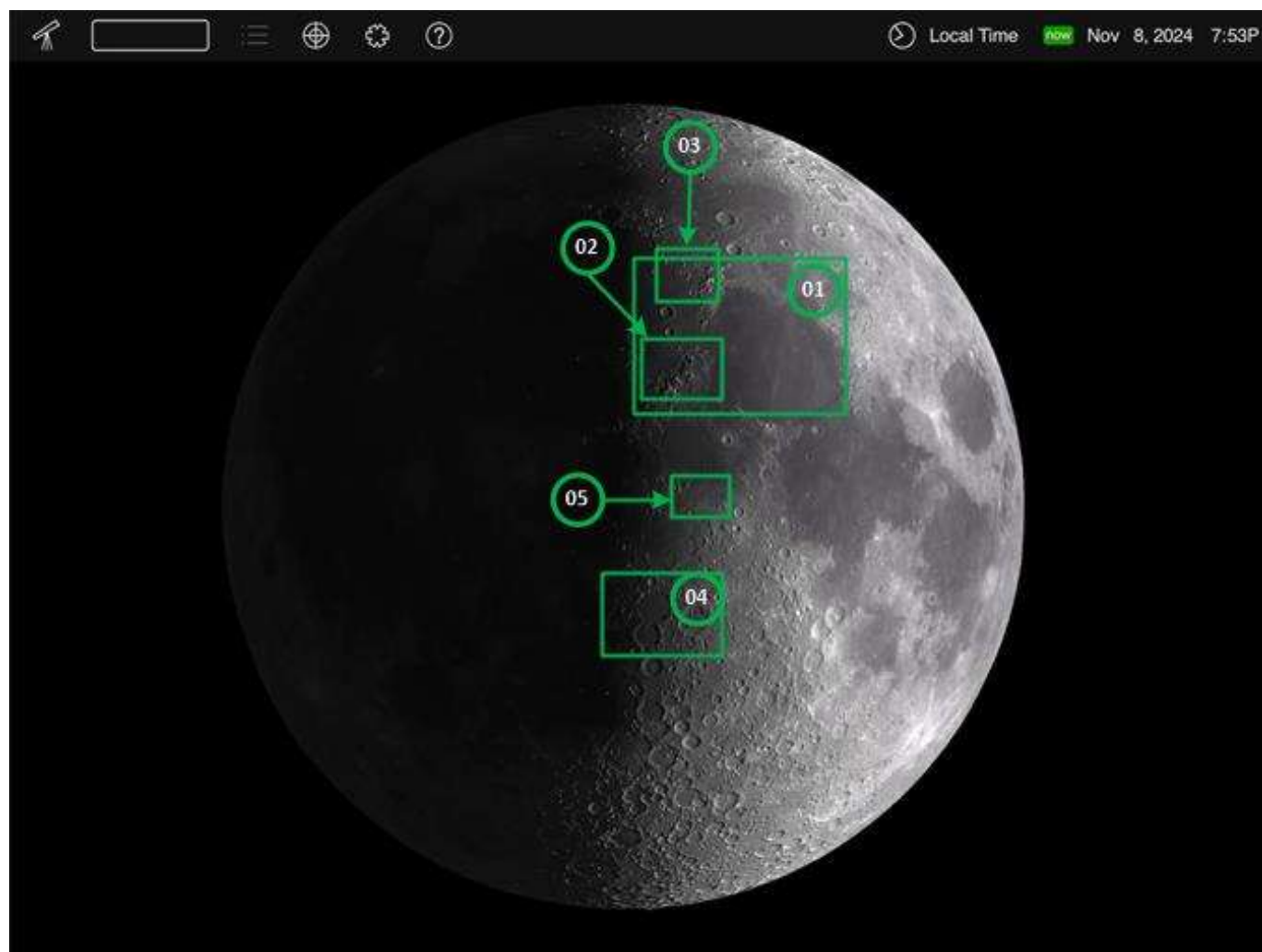
What objects of interest to view on the moon is highly dependent on the phase of the moon when you observe it. This is because features close to the terminator since shadows are more pronounced and highlights features better.

First, we need to determine the phase of the moon for our observation session. A great online resource for this is the NASA website [NASA Moon Phase and Libration, 2024](#). You can also purchase moon atlases or download an application for exploring the moon. The [Moon Globe HD](#) (iOS, \$1.00) is a great application for this. A [PDF map of the moon](#) showing many features can be downloaded from the USGS website.

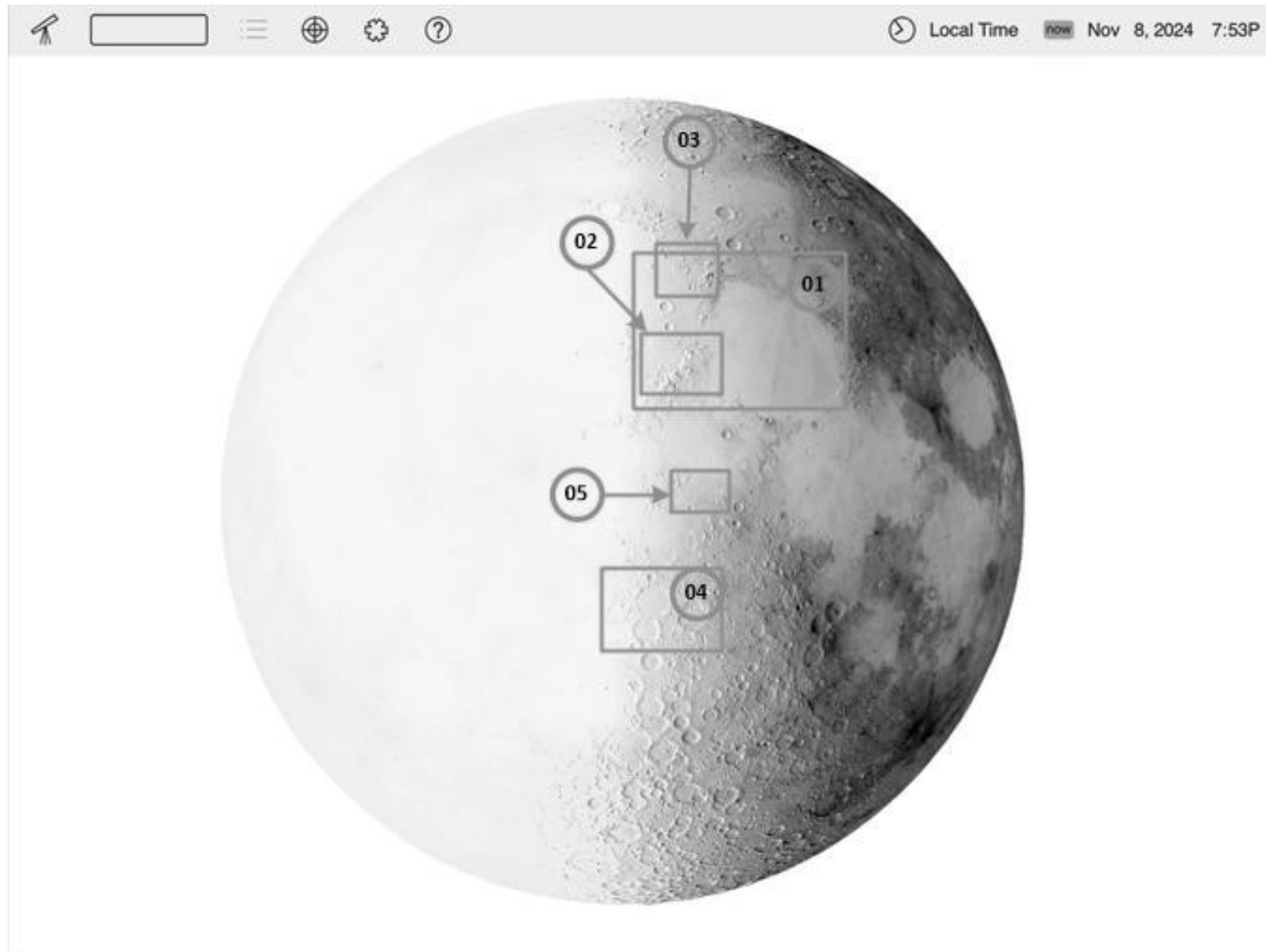
Using your references and knowledge of where the terminator will be for the lab, locate a few objects you would like to observed along the terminator line area. Make note of where the targeted item is in reference to one of the easily identified landmarks on the moon.

Reference	Targets	
Area 1 – Mare Serenitatis	A – Aristillus Crater	Diameter = 34 miles. In the middle three clustered peaks rise to a height of about ½ mile.
	B – Mountain Range	See what details you can identify on this rang that divides the Mare Imbrium from the Mare Serenitatis
Area 2 – Rimae Fresnel	A – Apollo 15	Apollo 15 landing site
	B - Fissure	Expected to be caused by tectonic stress
Area 3 - Cassini	A - Crater	Note the various other craters within this crater
Area 4 - Ptolemaeus	A – Line of Craters	Note the line of craters. Was this caused by a series of meteors impact or from cavern cave-ins?
	B – Albategnius Crater	Examine the crater and center mountain
Area 5 - Hyginus	A - Fissure	Note the craters along the fissure expected to be cave-ins

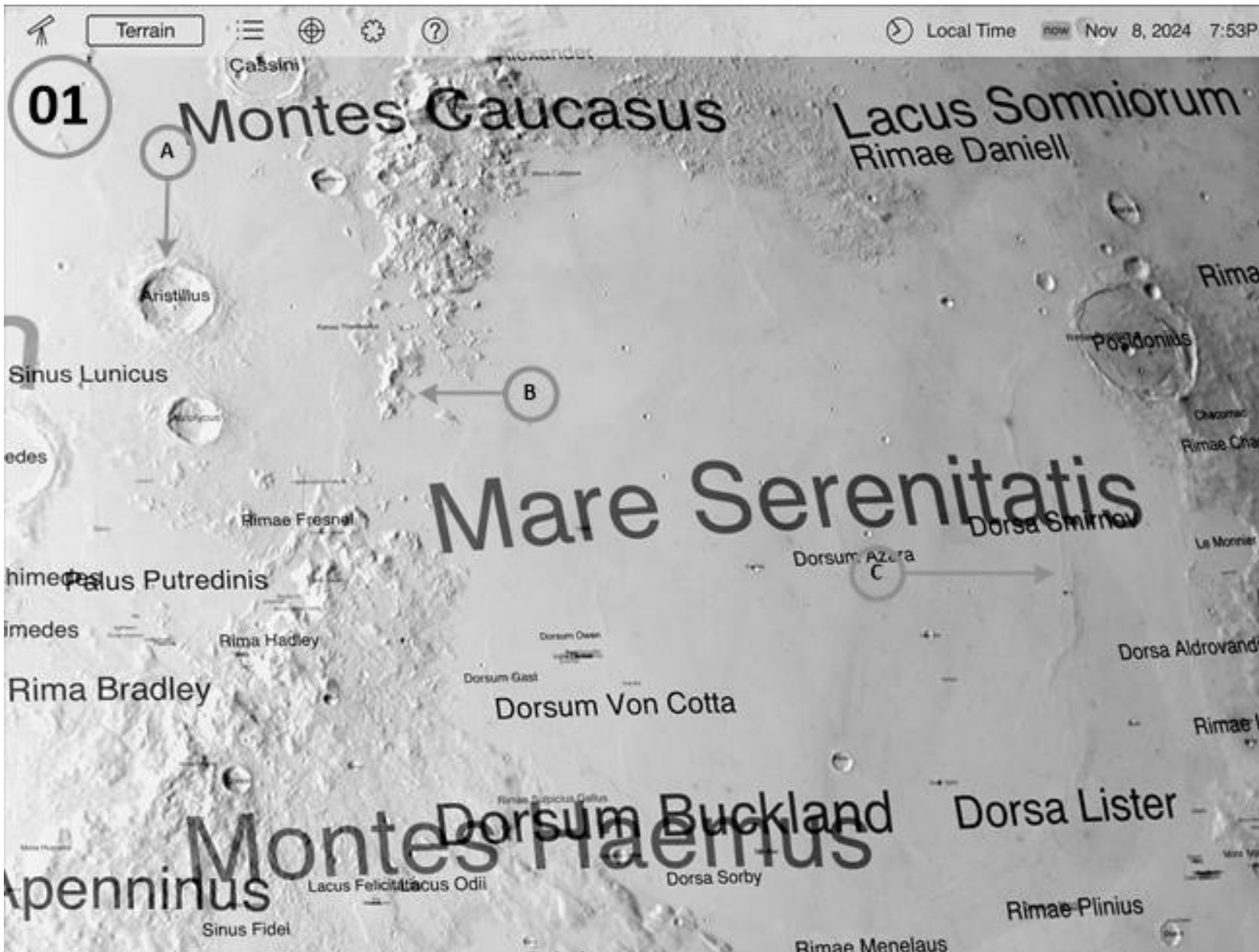
Beginners Guide to Small Telescopes – Labs



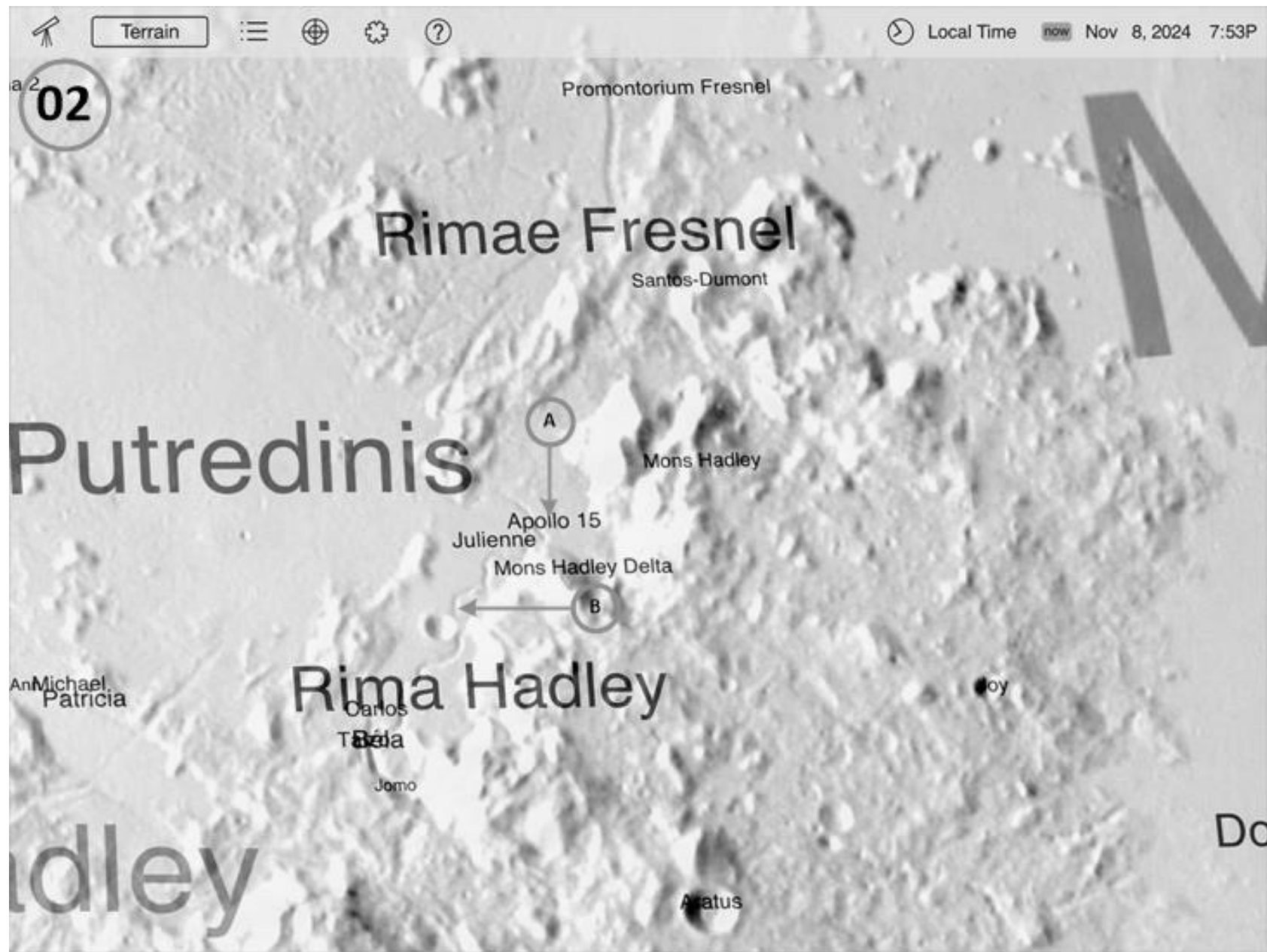
Beginners Guide to Small Telescopes – Labs



Beginners Guide to Small Telescopes – Labs



Beginners Guide to Small Telescopes – Labs



Beginners Guide to Small Telescopes – Labs



Beginners Guide to Small Telescopes – Labs

