

# Constellation Guide

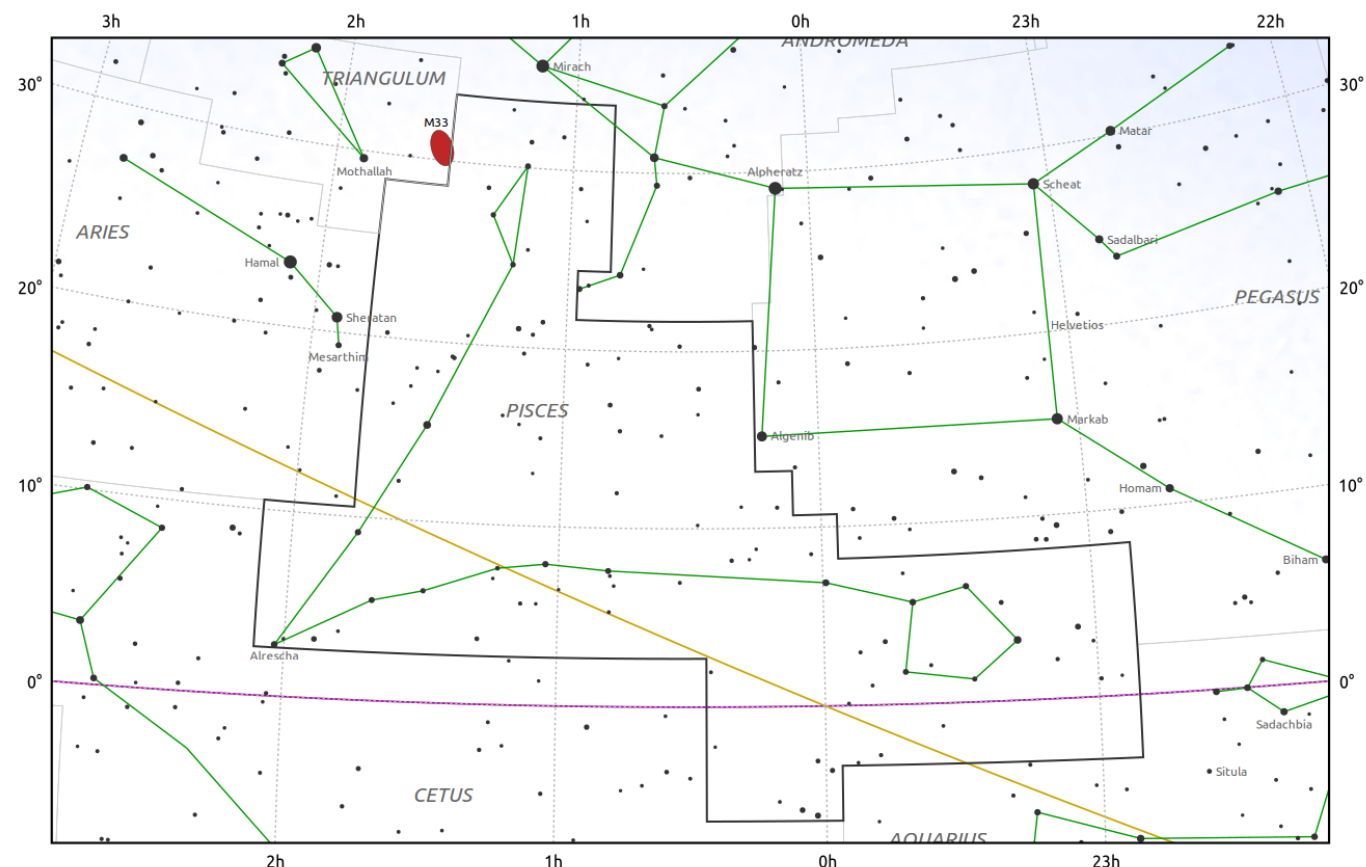
## Pisces (Psc)

Evening Visibility: **September - November**

Online Information: [Pisces](#)

More Online Information: [Alrescha](#), [Messier 74](#), [Psi 1 Psc](#), 55 Psc, [Zeta Psc](#),

[In-The-Sky.org](#) Constellation Map



© Dominic Ford 2011–2025. Downloaded from <https://in-the-sky.org>

Magnitude scale: • 6.0 • 5.0 • 4.0 • 3.0 • 2.0

— The Equator — Ecliptic Plane — Galactic Plane

● Galaxy ■ Bright nebula ● Open cluster ● Globular cluster ★ Planetary nebula

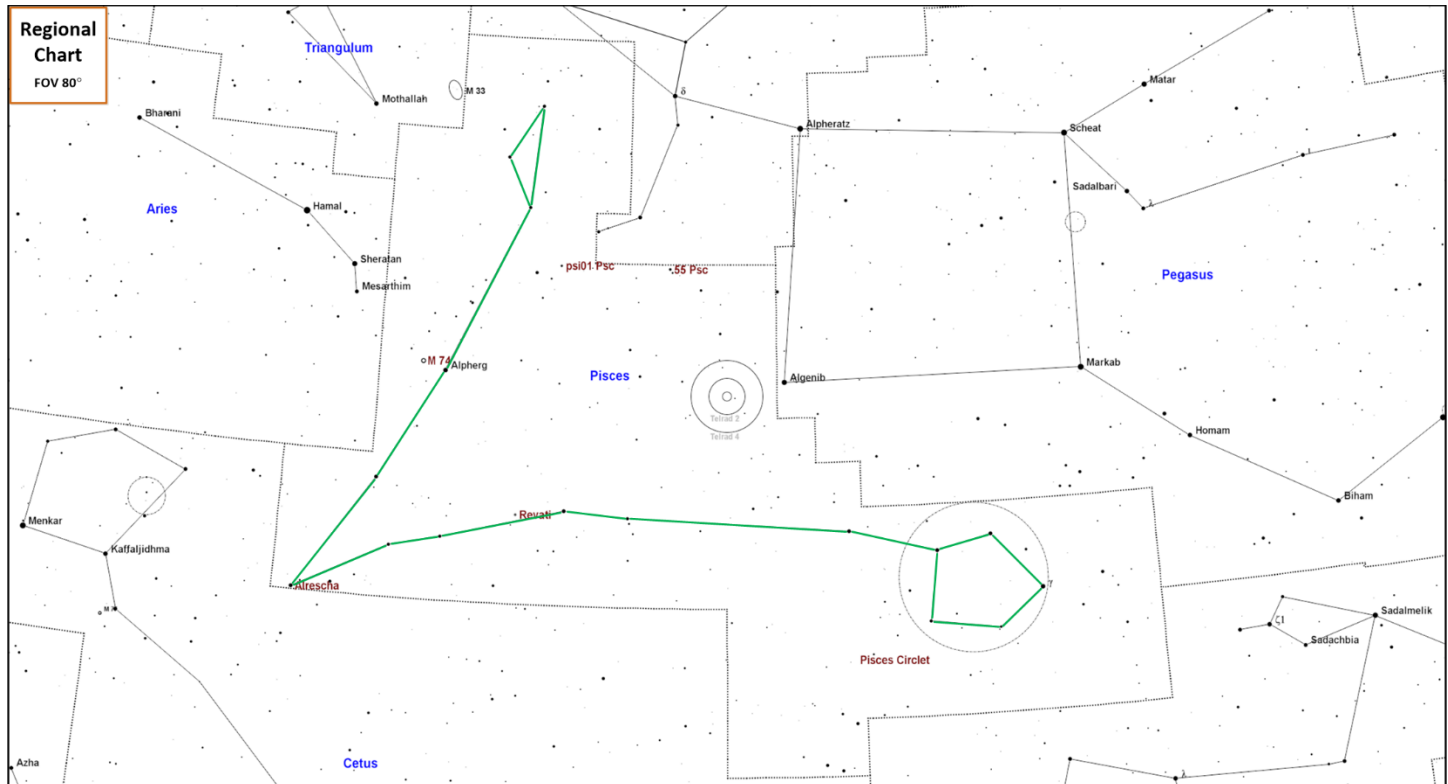
# Constellation Guide

Pisces is a dim constellation with no stars contained in it brighter than 3.6 magnitude. This constellation is suspected of having Babylonian origins and represents two fish tied together with a cord.

## Constellation Highlights

- **55 Psc (CS, DS)** – Nice orange/blue double pair.

## Constellation Targets Map

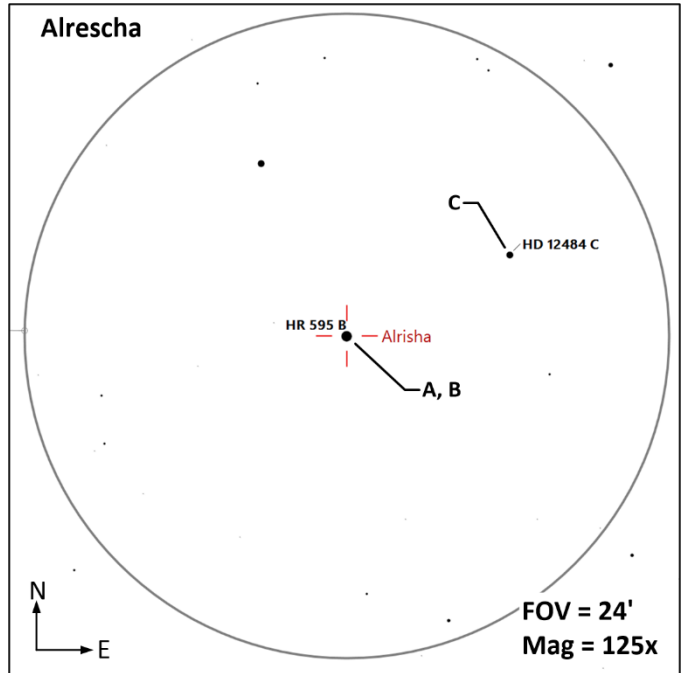
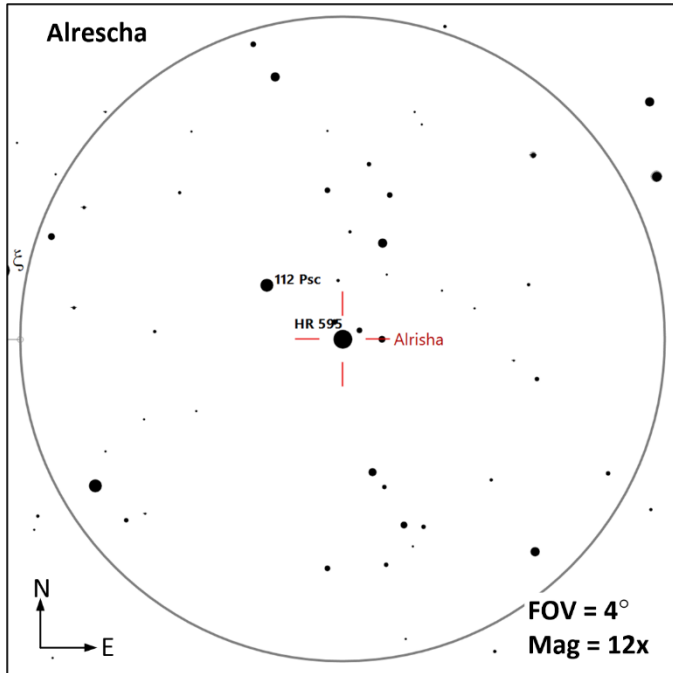


## Objects Summary

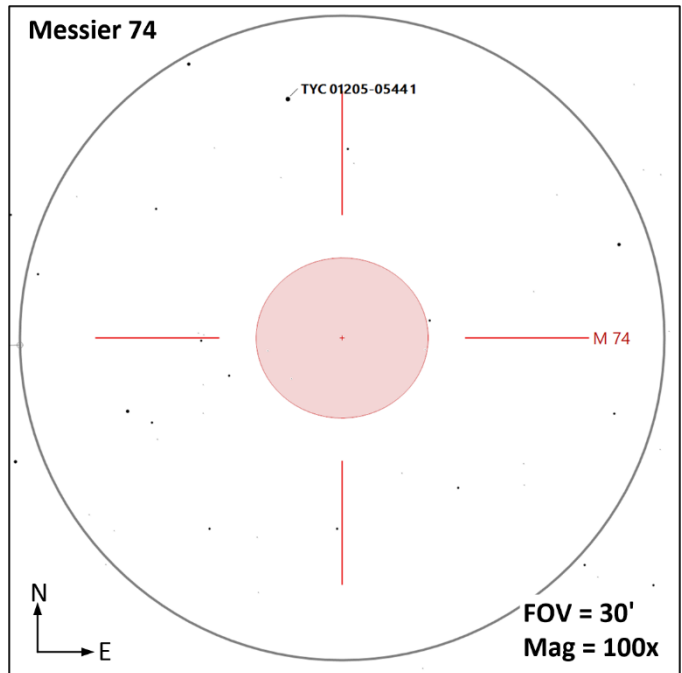
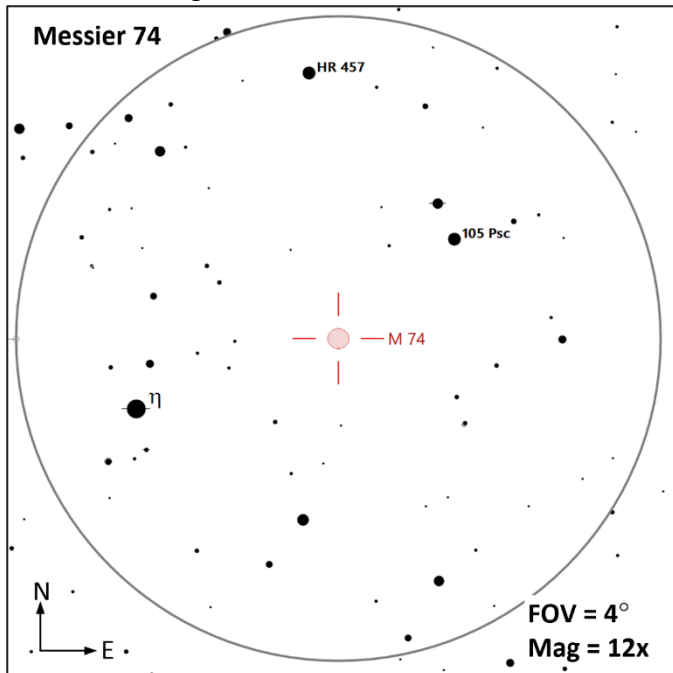
| Object (Type)          | Ref                                   | Aliases                                                                                               | Stats                                                                                                                                        |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Alrescha (MS-3)        | <a href="#">1</a> , <a href="#">2</a> | SAO-110291, HIP 9487, Alpha Psc, 113 Psc, HR 596, HD 12447, STF 202, ADS 1615, $\alpha$ Psc, Alrischa | <b>AB</b>   M= 4.1, 5.2   Sep=1.9"   PA=258°  <br><b>AC</b>   M 4.1, 8.3   Sep=405"   PA=63°                                                 |
| Messier 74 (G)         | <a href="#">1</a>                     | NGC 628, Phantom Galaxy, UGC 1149, PGC 5974                                                           | M=9.4   Size= 10.5' x 9.5'   SB = 23.0                                                                                                       |
| Psi-1 Psc (MS-3)       | <a href="#">1</a> , <a href="#">2</a> | SAO-074482, HIP 5131, HR 310, HD 6456, STF 88, ADS 899, 74 Psc, $\psi$ Psc                            | <b>AB</b>   M=5.3, 5.5   Sep=30"   PA=159°  <br><b>AC</b>   M=5.3, 10.7   Sep=90"   PA=124°  <br><b>BC</b>   M=5.5, 10.7   Sep=68"   PA=109° |
| 55 Psc (CS, DS)        | <a href="#">1</a>                     | SAO-74182, HIP 3138, HR 167, HD 3690, STF 46, ADS 558                                                 | <b>AB</b>   M=5.6, 8.5   Sep = 6.8"   PA=195°                                                                                                |
| Zeta Psc (MS-3)        | <a href="#">1</a> , <a href="#">2</a> | SAO-109739, HIP 5737, HR 361, HD 7344, STF 100, 88 Psc, ADS 996, Revati, $\zeta$ Psc                  | <b>AB</b>   M=5.2, 6.3   Sep=22.8"   PA=63°  <br><b>BC</b>   M=6.3, 12.2   Sep=2.0"   PA=75°                                                 |
| Circlet of Pisces (AS) |                                       |                                                                                                       | Size = 5°   Stars = 6  <br>Ref Star: SAO-128310 (Iota Psc)<br>Gamma, 7, kappa, lambda, iota, theta<br>(SAC Listing)                          |

# Constellation Guide

**Alrescha** (MS-3 **AB** | M= 4.1, 5.2 | Sep=1.9" | PA=258° || **AC** | M 4.1, 8.3 | Sep=405" | PA=63° ) – This star represents the knot in the cord that holds the two fish together in this constellation. This is a multiple star system located 150ly from earth. The AB component has an orbital period of about 720 years. The AB components can be challenging for small telescopes to resolve. The C component should be easy to resolve.

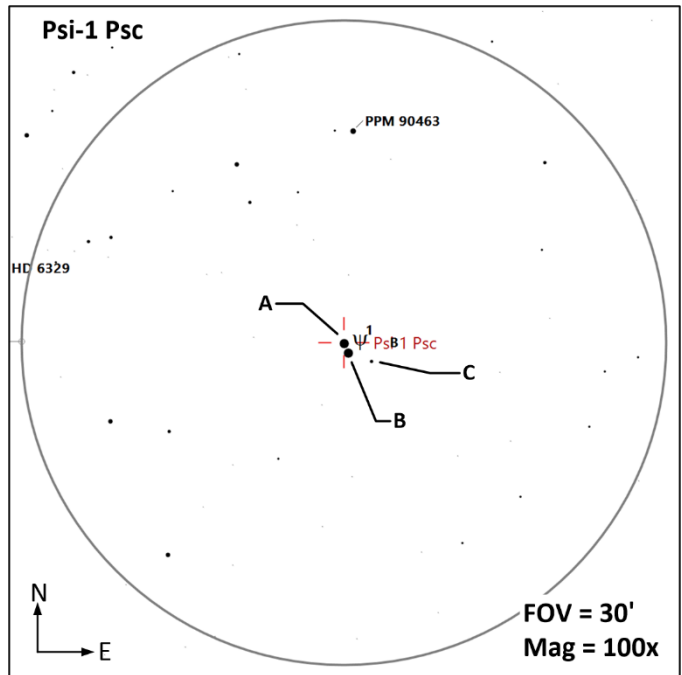
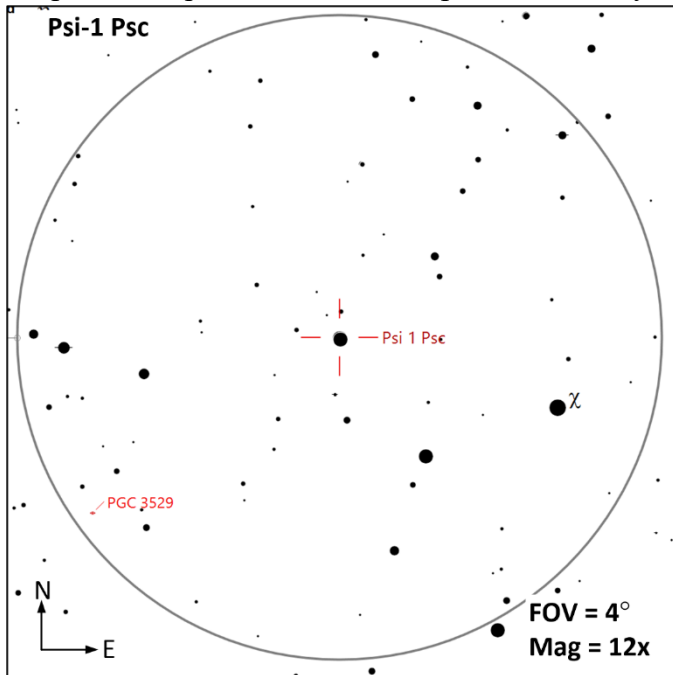


**Messier 74** (G | M=9.4 | Size= 10.5' x 9.5' | SB = 23.0 ) – The Phantom Galaxy is a face on galaxy located about 32 million ly from earth. This is considered one of the more difficult Messier objects to view due to it's low surface brightness.

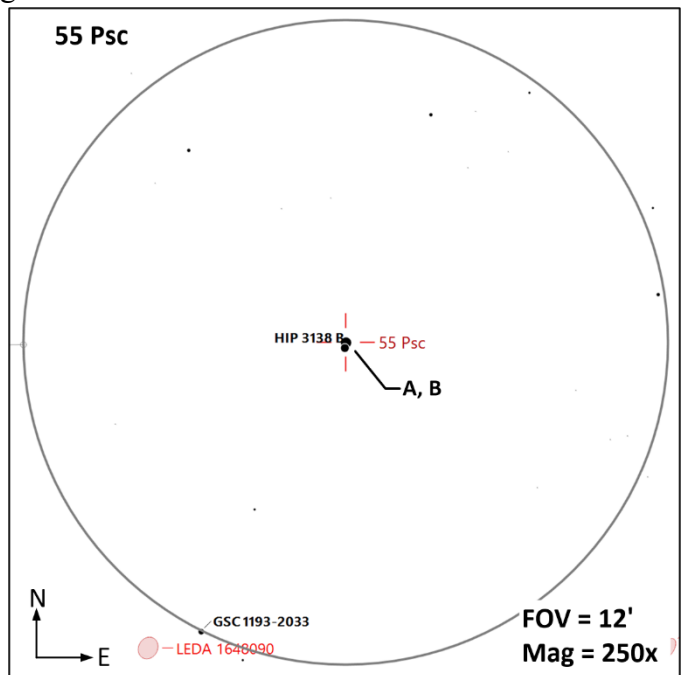
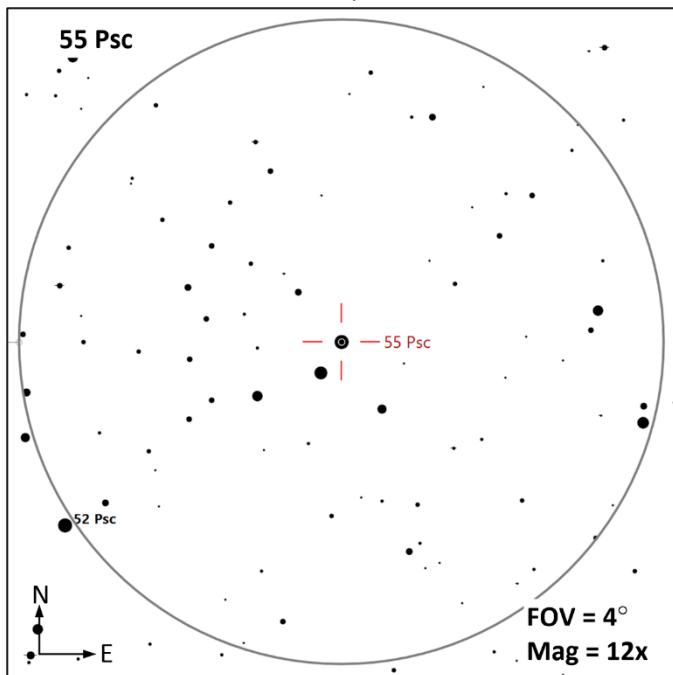


# Constellation Guide

**Psi-1 Psc** (MS-3 **AB** | M=5.3, 5.5 | Sep=30" | PA=159° || **AC** | M=5.3, 10.7 | Sep=90" | PA=124° || **BC** | M=5.5, 10.7 | Sep=68" | PA=109° ) – The AB components of this system are almost equal in brightness and have a good separation, so they should be able to be resolved in small telescopes and many binoculars. The C component is quite dim, but well-spaced, so it may be visible also.

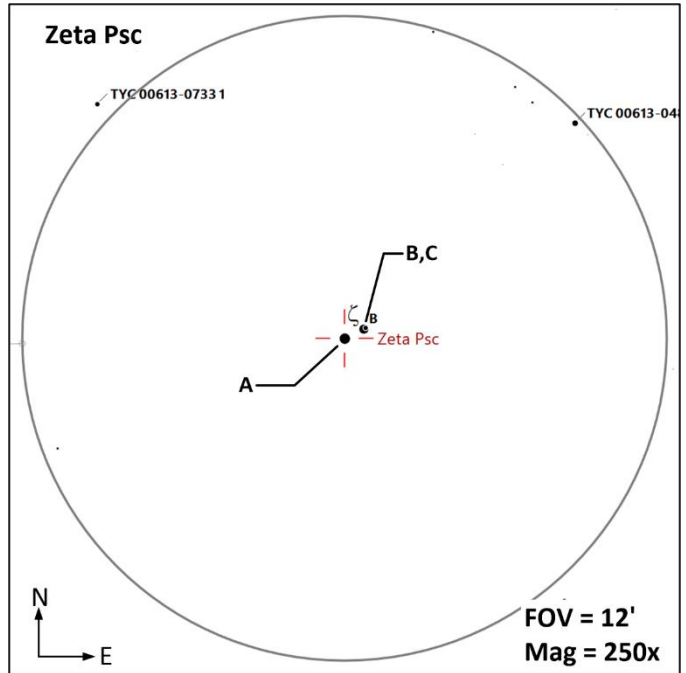
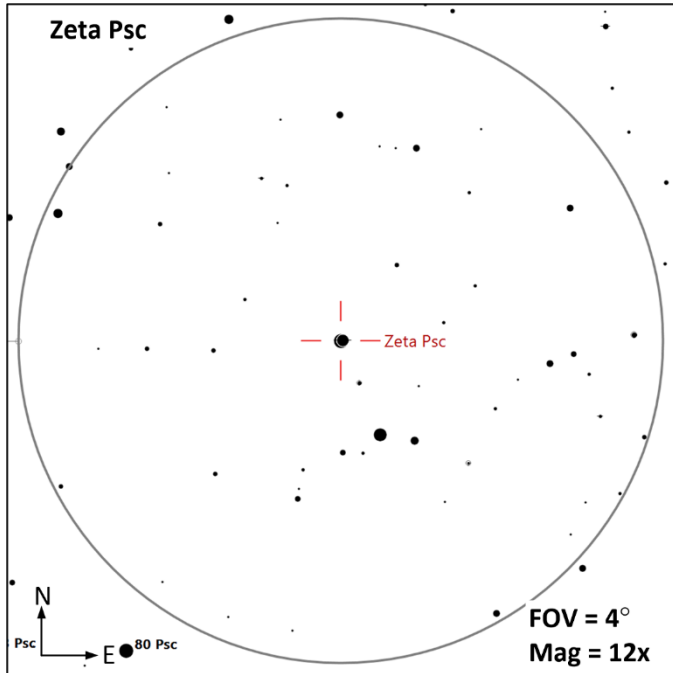


**55 Psc** (CS, DS **AB** | M=5.6, 8.5 | Sep = 6.8" | PA=195° ) – Not much information is provided for this star system, except that it has a nice color contrast of yellowish-orange and blue stars. This system does appear on a “most colorful doubles” list, so should be worth checking it out.

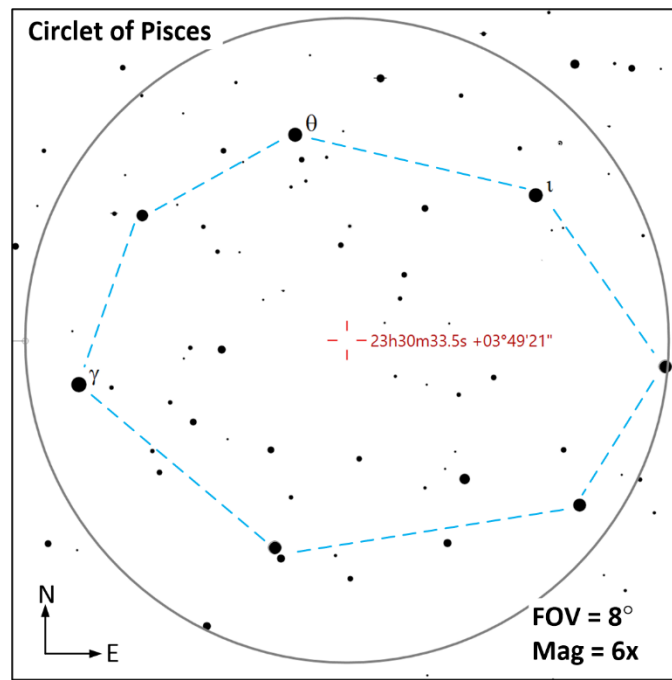


# Constellation Guide

**Zeta Psc** (MS-3 **AB** |  $M=5.2, 6.3$  |  $\text{Sep}=22.8''$  |  $\text{PA}=63^\circ$  || **BC** |  $M=6.3, 12.2$  |  $\text{Sep}=2.0''$  |  $\text{PA}=75^\circ$ ) – An interesting triple star system where the B component has its own companion star (C component) with a separation of  $2''$  between the B and C components. This system is 174 ly from earth.



**Circlet of Pisces** (AS | Size =  $5^\circ$  | Stars = 6) – This is part of the Pisces constellation and should be a nice view in wide-field binoculars.



# Constellation Guide

## References, Resources and Tools used to create this document

The resources listed below were utilized to generate this document.

### References

- Books
  - [Objects in the Heavens](#): Peter Birren
  - [Touring the Universe through Binoculars](#): Philip Harrington
  - [The Deep Sky](#): Philip Harrington
  - [Double and Multiple Stars and How to Observe Them](#): James Mullaney
  - [Sky Spot](#) Books
    - Bright Telescopic Objects: Brent Watson
    - Select Double Stars: Brent Watson
    - Overlooked Objects: Bret Watson
- Asterisms
  - Astronomical League: [Asterisms observing program](#) List
  - Asterisms: Demeiza Ramakers
  - [Pattern Asterisms](#): John Chiravalle
- [Saguaro Astronomy Club](#)
  - Asterisms List
  - [110 Best of the NGC](#)
  - Red Stars List
- Online
  - [Wikipedia](#)
  - The Garden Astronomer: [Double, Multiple, and Special Star Observations List](#)
  - Sky & Telescope: [Colored Double Stars, Real and Imagined](#)
  - [In-The-Sky.org](#)
  - [Constellation-guide.com](#)

### Applications

- [SkyTools](#) 4.1 Visual Professional
- [AstroPlanner](#) Version 2.4
- [Cartes du Ciel](#) Version 4.3
- [Sky Safari](#) Pro 7
- Microsoft Office Home and business 2021 - Word
- Microsoft Visio Professional 2010
- [IrfanView](#) Version 4.72