

EXISTING ASTRO SPOTS AT SOUTH ANDAMAN

1. SCIENCE CENTRE (PORT BLAIR)

The Science Centre, Port Blair, A Society under A & N Administration was established in the year 2003 with the assistance of the National Council of Science Museum, Kolkata, Govt. of India. There are a total of three galleries namely Fun Science Gallery, Andaman & Nicobar Gallery & Modern Science & Biotechnology Gallery. More than 100 exhibits/working models were displayed in the galleries besides a good number of outside garden exhibits. Other than this the Science Centre has a Mobile Science Exhibition Bus fitted with 24 exhibits, a 45 seater 3D theatre, Jurassic Park Light & Sound Show and an Amphibious Air Craft displayed in the garden.

Besides, the Science Centre conducts many educational programmes throughout the year for visitors and school students in particular such as the Science Magic Show, Bubble Show, Fun Science Show, Fun Chemistry Show, Super Cold Snow, Nature Study Tour, Bird Watching Programme etc.

Basic amenities & facilities available nearby the spot:

- Clean washroom for both women & men is available.
- Fresh water supply is also there.

Other attractions:

- Sky observation programme is one of the unique programmes conducting for visitors and students in evening hours through powerful telescope. Programmes include description & identification of celestial bodies – Constellations, Zodiac Sign, transit of Venus, Mars, Jupiter & its four large satellites, Saturn & its ring
- structure etc.
- Facility for sky show – Science Centre have two numbers Celestial Telescope of 6 inch & 8 inch each. Out of which one is manually operated while the other one is GPS based. The programme is conducted in open space of 10 mtr × 10 mtr dimension free from all direction in evening hours.

How to reach:

- This place is about 3 kms away from Govt. Bus Stand, Port Blair. One can reach here from the govt. transport GoGo or taxi/auto, which will lead straight to Science Centre in 15 mins.

LOCATION OF SCIENCE CENTRE IN GOOGLE MAPS



2. BEDONABAD (WHISTLINGWOODS)

Bedonabad village at South Andaman is 17 km from Port Blair. It is in the way of Chidiyatapu which is a popular tourist destination among tourists and locals for the weekend picnic. Whistlingwoods farm-lounge is located 14 kms from Port Blair Airport en route Chidiyatapu, overlooking the Andaman Sea. All celestial bodies can be seen rising from the horizon (subject to weather conditions).

Basic amenities & facilities available nearby the spot

- Clean washrooms with shower facilities for both women & men.
- Basic refreshments and eatables on a pre-order basis.
- Tent with a bonfire for stargazers intending to do stargazing for the whole night.
- Open-air screening of videos on various stars, planets, constellations, galaxies & nebulae. (Or pre-arranged personalized video screening)

Other attractions

- Panoramic view of Surrounding area, plantation etc.
- Sunset view

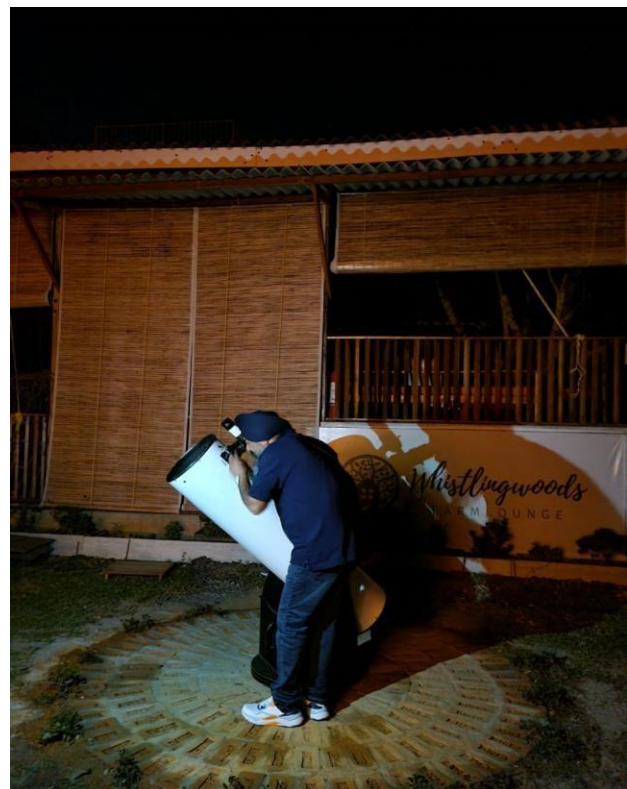
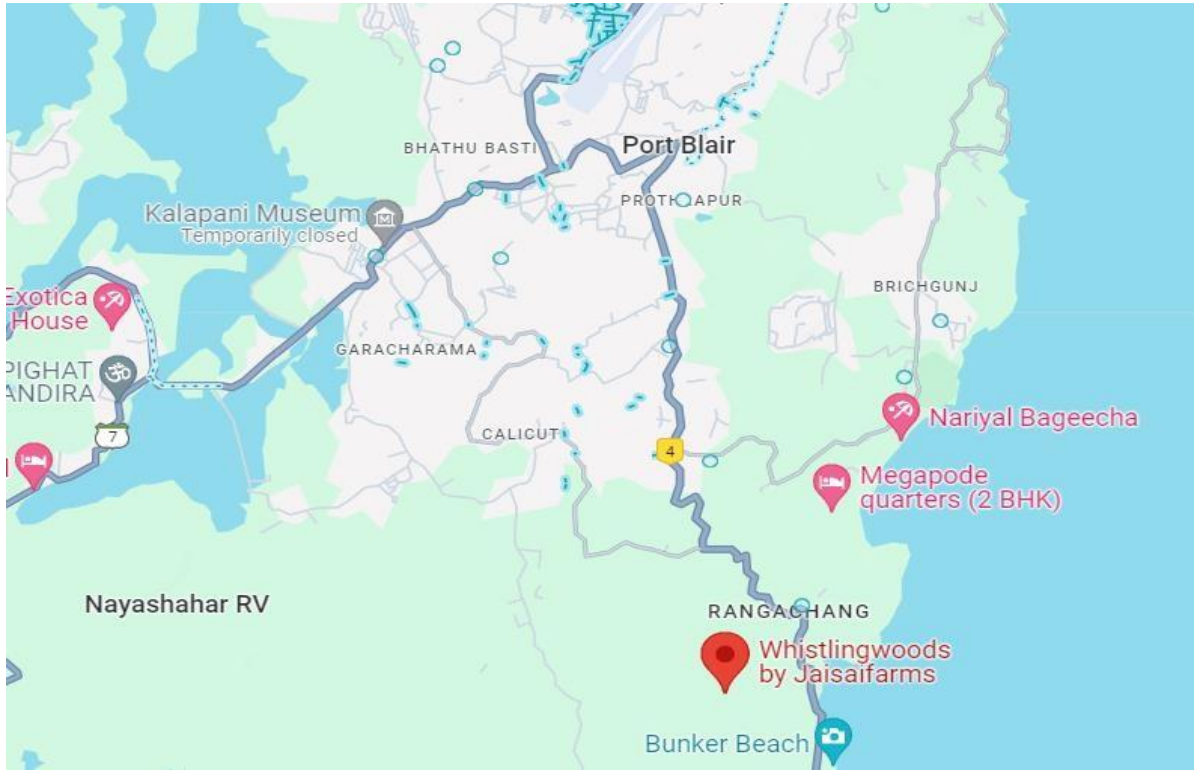
How to Reach

- Whistlingwoods Andaman is about 14 km away from Veer Sawarkar International Airport en-route to Chidiyatapu.

Equipment for stargazing at Whistlingwoods starlounge:

- 12-inch manually operated professional Newtonian telescope.
- 8-inch GPS-based professional goto telescope
- 8-inch Dobsonian telescope with starsense technology.
- Professional deep-sky telescope for astrophotography.
- Professional binoculars for sky observation.
- Camera tracker for astrophotography.

LOCATION OF KODIYAGHAT ASTRO SPOT IN GOOGLE MAPS



3. KODIYAGHAT

Kodiyaghat en route Chidiyatapu which is 20 km far from Port Blair city.

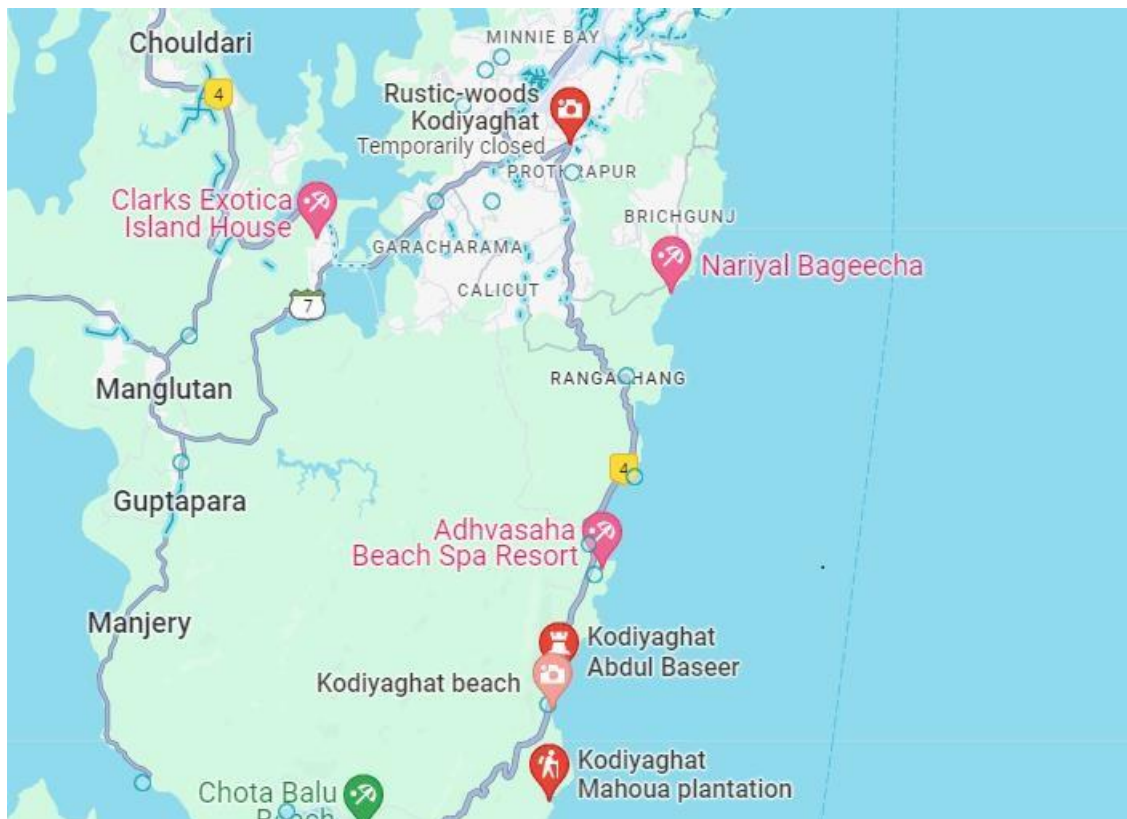
Basic amenities & facilities available nearby the spot:

- Accommodation: Hotel Idhaya at Barmanallah Market (Around 3km Distance).
- Parking facilities are available near the road roadside.

How to Reach

- By Road (30 - 40 minutes)
- Location: Opposite to Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Aquiculture.

LOCATION OF KODIYAGHAT ASTRO SPOT IN GOOGLE MAPS



PROPOSED ASTRO SPOTS

1. MOUNT MANIPUR PARVAT

Mount Manipur National Park, located on the South Andaman Islands in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, India, is the most beautiful of the nine national parks in the Andaman Islands. It is the third peak of Andaman, standing at 383 meters (1,257 feet) and easily accessible. The park offers stunning views of azure blues and fascinating sunset and sunrise experiences. Stargazing is made possible by its high elevation and low levels of light pollution. Spread out a blanket, take a seat on the grass, and look up at the sky will see a plethora of stars twinkle overhead. Access to the park is via a ferry from Chatham to Bambooflat, which runs every 15-20 minutes and can accommodate buses and cars.

Visitors can explore the plateau garden and historical remnants from the British and Japanese eras. The park features two elevated viewpoints, the "Emerald View Viewpoint", where visitors can use binoculars to admire North Bay Island and Subhash Chandra Bose (Ross) Island, both of which are worth a visit.

Historical Remnants: The Park houses certain historical remnants from the British and Japanese eras of Andaman rule. Will see a turret of World War II-era anti-aircraft gun used by the Japanese after capturing the Andaman Islands from the British.

Basic amenities & facilities available nearby the spot:

- Forest Guest House, tent rooms
- Public Convenience/ Toilets

Other attractions:

- View of North Bay Island and NSCB Island.
- Trekking to Mount Manipur around 2 km long.
- Japanese anti-aircraft gun

How to reach:

- By vehicle ferry services from Chatham jetty to the Bambooflat (which runs every 15-20 minutes) and accommodates bus or auto to reach the park.

LOCATION OF MOUNT MANIPUR ASTRO SPOT IN GOOGLE MAPS



2. WANDOOR BEACH

One of the most beautiful and famous beaches in Port Blair, South Andaman. Wandoor Beach is located to the south-west of Port Blair. Because of the presence of colourful corals on the beach, tourists find it attractive and catchy. It is situated at the entrance of Mahatma Gandhi Marine National Park and is known for its pristine waters and scenic beauty. Ideal for swimming and sunbathing, the beach's clear blue waters against the dried trees and fishermen's boats at the shore make for a beautiful sight. It's also known for its coral sightings, stunning sunsets and a cave formed by high tides surrounding the beach.

Basic amenities & facilities available nearby the spot:

- Public Convenience/ Toilets
- Local shops are available for food and drinks

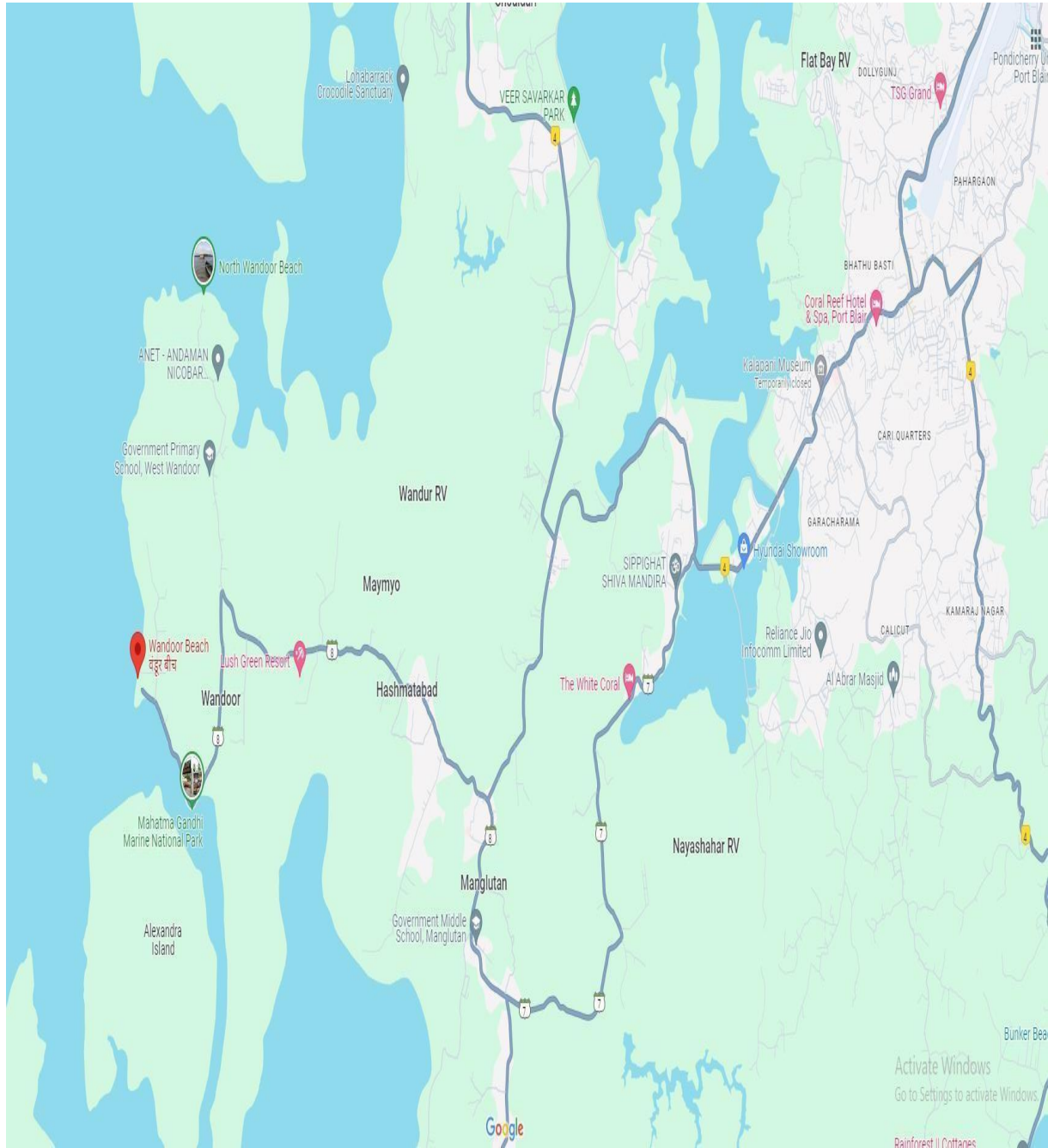
Other attractions:

- Mahatma Gandhi Marine National Park to witness the vibrant marine life of the Andaman Islands. The man-made park boasts a number of flora and fauna ranging from saltwater crocodiles to turtles and starfishes and a variety of birds like White-Bellied Sea Eagle, herons and parakeets.
- Jolly Buoy Island for its coral reefs and underwater marine life indulge in snorkeling and scuba diving.
- Red Skin Island sight of red coral that adorns the coastline during low tides. Swimming and Snorkeling is also an option there.

How to reach:

- The distance between Bus terminals Aberdeen Bazaar, to Wandoor Beach is about 25 kms.
- Besides regular Govt. & private buses, one can reach Wandoor Beach by hiring a vehicle.

LOCATION OF WANDOOR BEACH IN GOOGLE MAPS



3. JOGGER'S PARK

Jogger's Park is a place where one can experience peace, serenity, and tranquility. This park in Port Blair is a lovely spot for nature lovers who are seeking peace in the lap of natural beauty. One can include this place in their Andaman itinerary if having enough time in hand. Jogger's Park is one of the cleanest parks in Port Blair and it offers a nice space for relaxation to residents as well as travelers. It is situated on pinnacle of a hill. Here, one can get close with nature and cherish gorgeous vistas of the blue ocean along with the nearby Ross Island and North Bay Island. For a refreshing morning jog, the trails of the park are ideal. But the most sought-after feature of this park is that it offers a clear view of the runway of Veer Savarkar International Airport in Port Blair. Looking at huge flight landing and taking off is a memory to rejoice.

Basic amenities & facilities available nearby the spot:

- Public washrooms are available in nearby areas.
- Snacks and drinks are easily available by the shops nearby.

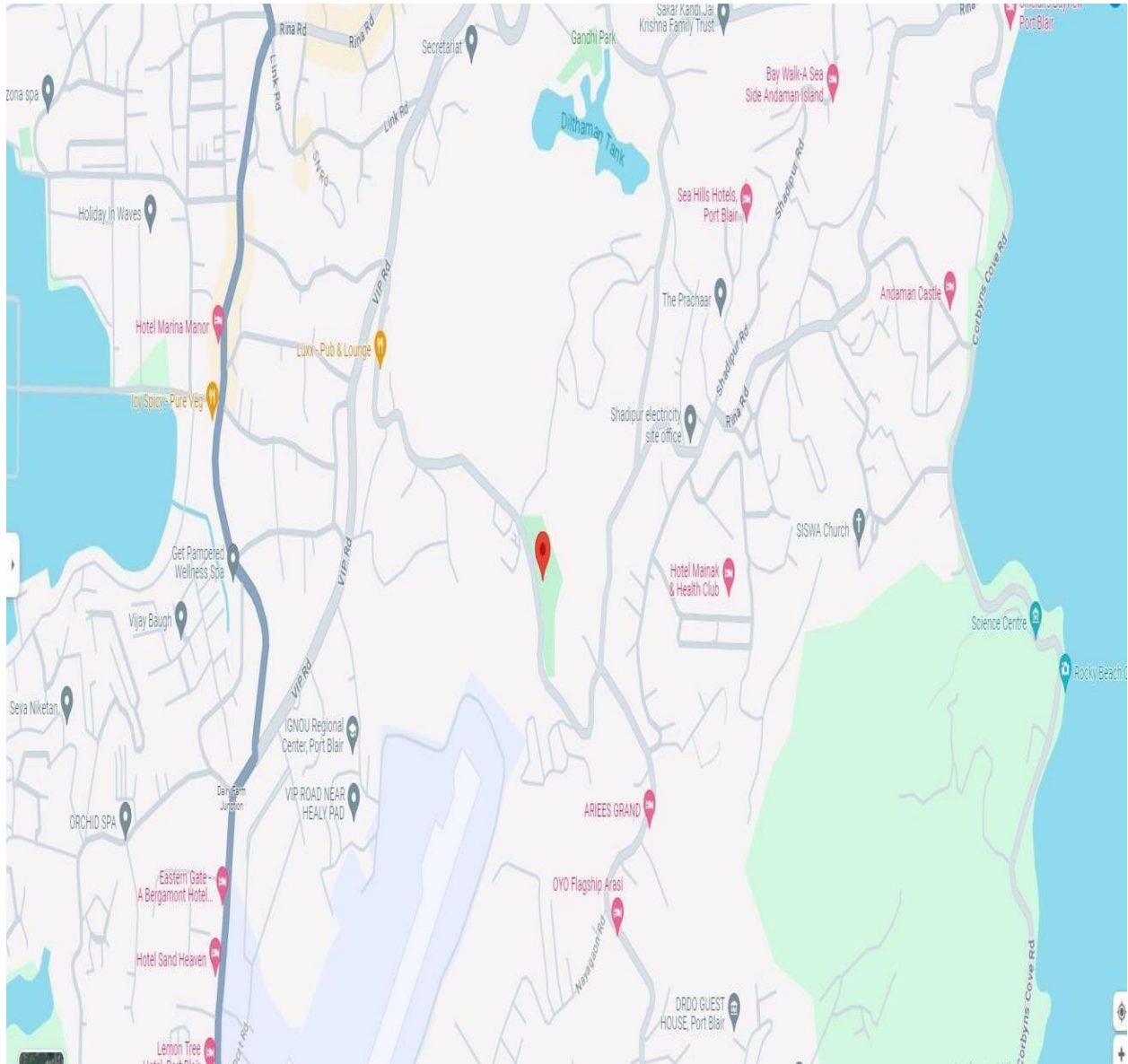
Other attractions:

- Jogger's Park is nestled near VIP road, at one of the highest points in Port Blair.
- Jogger's Park is one of the cleanest parks in Port Blair and it offers a nice space for relaxation to residents as well as travelers.

How to reach:

- One can easily reach by hiring a cab, auto, or two-wheeler. The park has proper parking space as well.

LOCATION OF JOGGER'S PARK IN GOGLE MAPS



4. SHAHEED DWEEP (LAXMANPUR BEACH)

Laxmanpur Beach is a picturesque white sandy beach located on Neil Island, now known as Shaheed Dweep, in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. It's a broad spur of white shell sand with shallow water offering snorkeling opportunities. The beach is known for its coral reefs and clear aqua-green sea water, which is ideal for water sports like swimming and snorkeling. A natural rock formation locally known as Howrah Bridge is a major attraction here. The enchanting sunset views at Laxmanpur Beach are a highlight for visitors. Surrounded by tropical forests and a diversity of coral species, the beach allows tourists to relax and enjoy the serene beauty of nature. With its laid-back charm and relatively fewer crowds compared to other popular beaches, Laxmanpur offers a peaceful retreat to nature lovers. The close proximity of the beach to the market and other attractions of Neil Island makes it an easily accessible and must-visit destination.

Basic amenities & facilities available nearby the spot:

- A number of eating places ranging from cute cafes to lavish restaurants.
- Public washrooms, medical facility, indoor games, parking are available.

Other attractions:

- It is the perfect spot for relaxation and chilling. There are eco-friendly huts and seating made of straw and wood.
- Inside the immediate jungles, there are a few hidden sitting areas that offer a mesmerizing view. Another extraordinary feature of this beach is its gorgeous sunset. Its location is perfect as it offers an unobstructed view of the horizon.

How to reach:

- Travelling from Port Blair to Neil Island via government or private ferries is the most economical way. The beach is nearly hours from Port Blair.
- Private companies like Mackruzz and Ocean Green operate ferries from Port Blair to Neil Island. You can hire a vehicle for the beach once you have reached the island.

LOCATION OF SHAHEED DWEEP (LAXMANPUR BEACH) IN GOOGLE MAPS



5. SWARAJ DWEEP (RADHANAGAR BEACH)

Radhanagar Beach is regarded as the best beach in India. It is a pristine stretch of sand backed by turquoise water and lush forest. Radhanagar Beach is commonly called Beach No. 7 and it looks straight out of the postcard. Times Magazine has awarded it the title of the '7th best beach in the world'. Radhanagar Beach is one of the many highlights, not only in Swaraj Dweep but also in the Andaman Islands. Dotted with palm trees, the beach offers tourists a tranquil ambience to relax and unwind amidst nature. Another attraction of Radhanagar Beach is Neil's Cove. A 10 minutes walk along the beach will take you to this spot. Neil's Cove is a pristine lagoon and also one of the lesser-known spots. This attraction also offers immense photography opportunities.

Basic amenities & facilities available near the spot:

- Freshwater washrooms are also available for a nominal charge. One can keep their valuables in the lockers.
- Roadside vendors sell snacks, fresh fruit salads, and beverages near the beach.

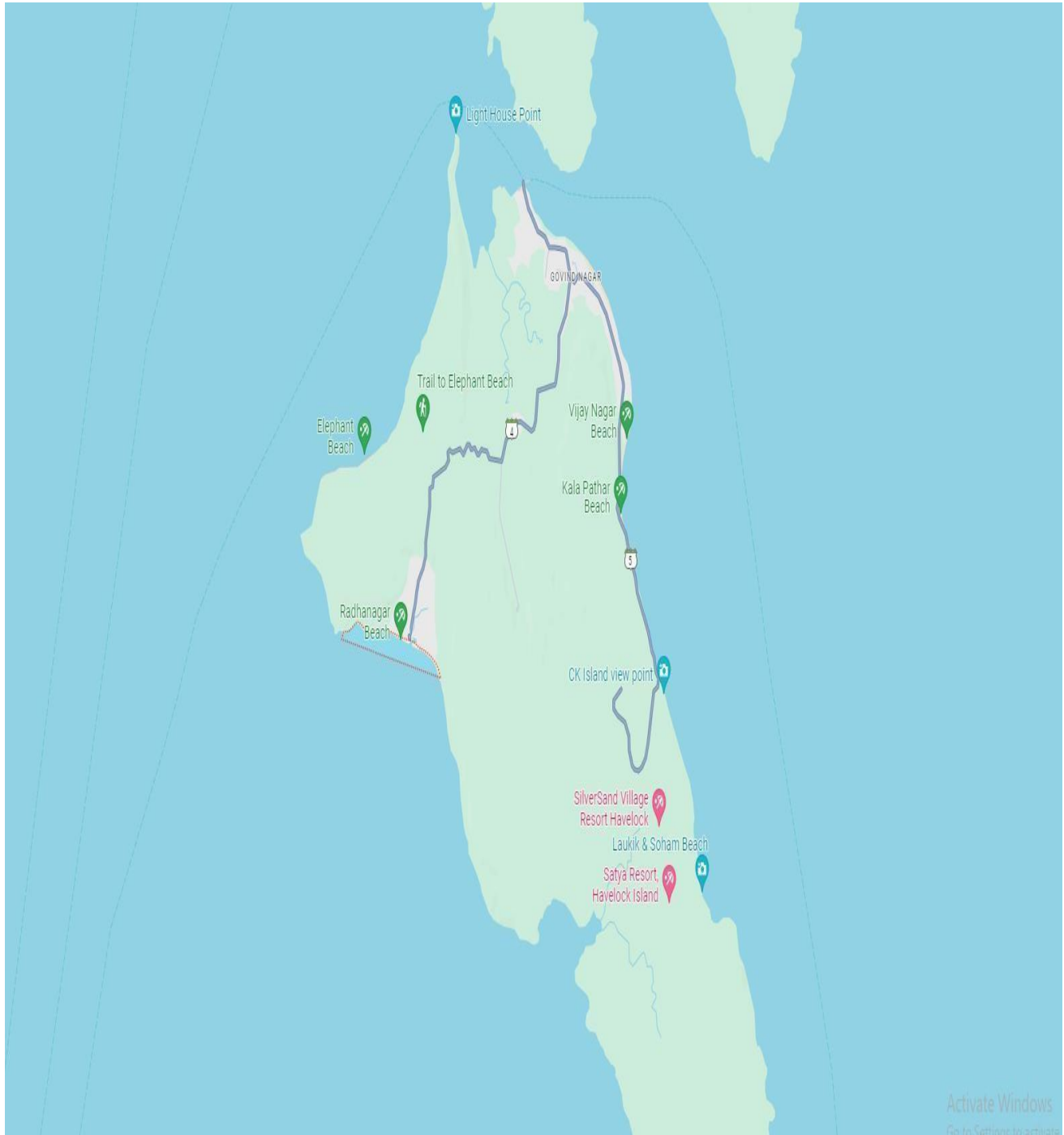
Other attractions:

- Swimming: Radhanagar Beach is ideal for sunbathing or swimming. Changing rooms and toilets are available for the convenience of the tourists.
- Sunsets: Radhanagar Beach is particularly known for its gorgeous sunsets. The captivating assortment of turquoise blue waters and lavish greenery accompanied by mesmerizing sunset views elevates the beauty of this place.
- Luxury hotels: Some of the best hotels in Andaman are located at Radhanagar Beach. If you are not staying at the luxury hotels, you can still go there to have a lavish lunch.

How to reach:

- Radhanagar Beach is located around 12 kilometres from the Swaraj Dweep Jetty. The best way to travel is by taking a cab or two-wheelers to reach the beach. It is one straight road and navigation is easy.

LOCATION OF SWARAJ DWEEP (RADHANAGAR BEACH) IN GOOGLE MAPS



6. CHIDIYATAPU (FOREST GUEST HOUSE)

Chidiyatapu is the southernmost tip of South Andaman Island situated at a distance of 28 km from Port Blair. Frequent bus services are available from Port Blair. It is famous for bird watching, sunset view, panoramic scenic beauties, and many colors of oceanic views. Swimming can be done at Chidiyatapu. Safety places boards are erected in Chidiyatapu. The biological park at Chidiyatapu is the added attraction. There is a Forest Guest House run and maintained by Forest Department. Visitors can spot various endemic and migratory birds, such as the Andaman woodpecker, Andaman treepie, Andaman drongo, white-bellied sea eagle, Andaman green pigeon, freckle-breasted woodpecker, white-headed starling and white-breasted woodswallow and Pacific reef egret, as well as the impressive saltwater crocodiles and monitor lizards. The dense green mangrove forests and walking trails offer sightings of diverse flora and fauna, and the sunset views are simply spectacular.

Basic amenities & facilities available nearby the spot:

- Local shops are available for snacks and beverages.
- Washroom facilities are available both in the Biological Park and forest rest room.

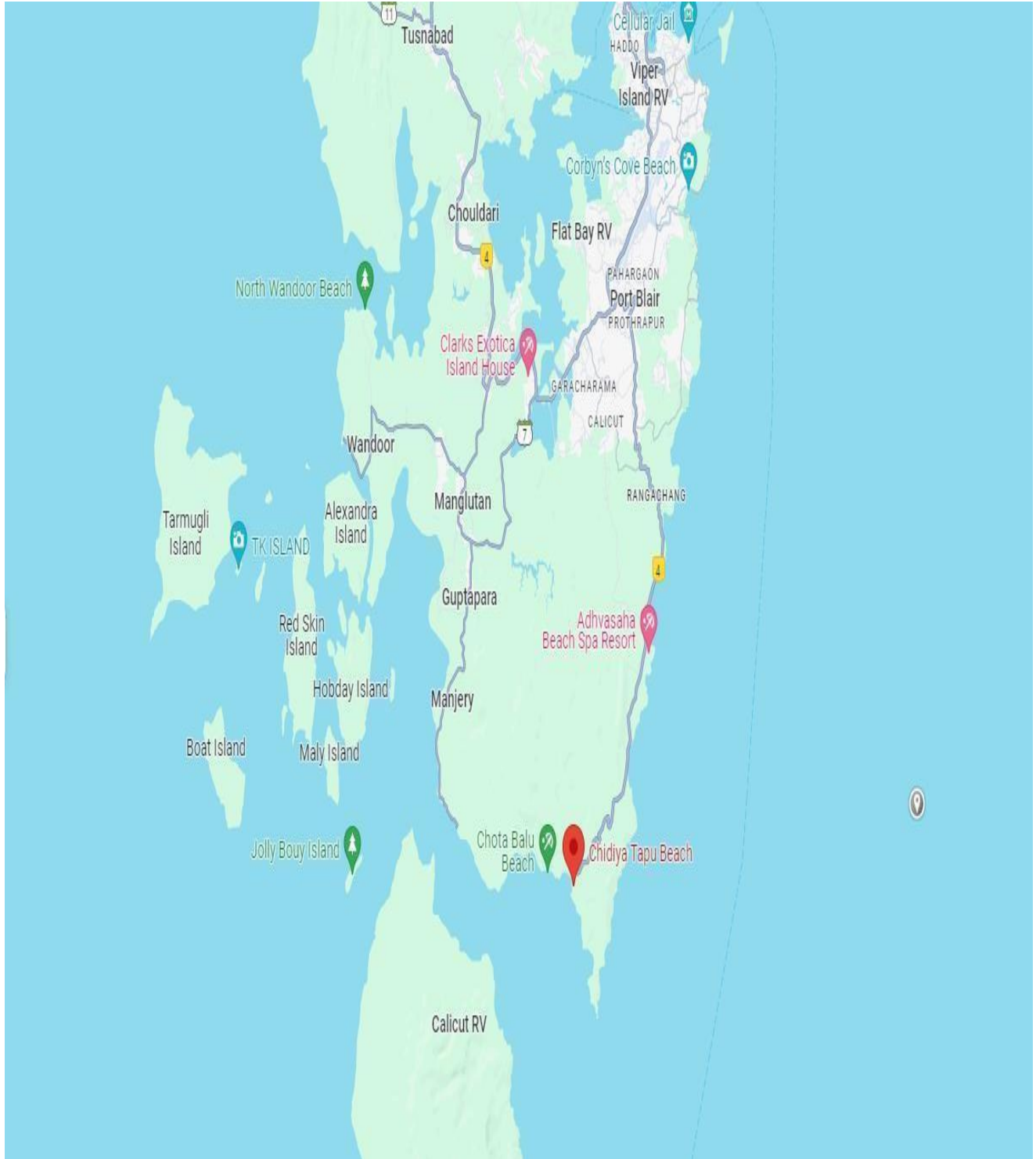
Other attractions:

- Chidiyatapu is a great wildlife destination, especially for birdwatching enthusiasts. The name Chidiyatapu translates to Bird Island. Needless to say, the name itself suggests rich avian biodiversity.
- The lush green forests and mangroves surrounding the area provide habitats for diverse flora and fauna.

How to reach:

- Chidiyatapu is roughly 28 kilometres from the city of Port Blair. Most travellers rent a car or bike to reach Chidiyatapu from Port Blair. Regular Bus Service is also available through this route.

LOCATION OF CHIDIYATAPU IN GOOGLE MAPS



Most sighted objects in evening sky in a calendar year

JANUARY	
EASTERN SKY	WESTERN SKY
Planets – Jupiter Zodiac sign – Taurus, Aries, Gemini, Pisces, Cancer Constellations – Orion, Cassiopeia, Canis Major, Lynx	Planets – Jupiter & Saturn Zodiac sign – Pisces, Aries, Capricorn Constellations – Cassiopeia, Pegasus & Delphinus Galaxy - Andromeda Galaxy
FEBRUARY	
EASTERN SKY	WESTERN SKY
Planets – Jupiter & Saturn Zodiac sign – Taurus, Aries, Gemini, Cancer Constellations – Orion, Cassiopeia, Canis Major, Lynx	Planets – Jupiter & Saturn Zodiac sign – Aries, Taurus & Pisces Constellations – Cassiopeia & Orion Galaxy - Andromeda Galaxy
MARCH	
EASTERN SKY	WESTERN SKY
Planets – Jupiter Zodiac sign – Taurus, Aries, Gemini, Leo, Cancer Constellations – Orion, Cassiopeia, Canis Major, Lynx, Auriga	Planets – Jupiter Zodiac sign – Pisces, Taurus, Aries, Gemini Constellations – Orion, Cassiopeia, Canis Major
APRIL	
EASTERN SKY	WESTERN SKY
Zodiac sign – Taurus, Gemini, Leo, Cancer, Virgo Constellations – Orion, Ursa Major, Canis Major, Auriga, Lynx, Bootes	Planets – Jupiter Zodiac sign – Taurus, Aries, Gemini, Cancer, Leo Constellations – Orion, Canis Major, Ursa Major, Auriga, Lynx

MAY	
EASTERN SKY	WESTERN SKY
Zodiac sign – Virgo, Gemini, Leo, Cancer, Libra Constellations – Orion, Bootes, Ursa Major, Canis Major, Lynx	Zodiac sign – Leo, Virgo, Gemini, Leo & Taurus Constellations – Bootes, Ursa Major, Canis Major, Lynx, Orion, Auriga
JUNE	
EASTERN SKY	WESTERN SKY
Zodiac sign –Virgo, Libra, Leo & Scorpio Constellations – Bootes, Ursa Major, Corona Borealis, Hercules & Lynx	Planets – Mercury Zodiac sign – Cancer, Leo, Virgo & Gemini Constellations – Bootes, Ursa Major, Lynx, Sirius & Auriga
JULY	
EASTERN SKY	WESTERN SKY
Zodiac sign –Virgo, Libra, Leo & Scorpio Constellations – Bootes, Ursa Major, Corona Borealis, Hercules, Vega, Lyra	Planets – Mercury & Venus Zodiac sign – Virgo, Libra, Leo & Cancer Constellations – Bootes, Ursa Major, Corona Borealis & Lynx
AUGUST	
EASTERN SKY	WESTERN SKY
Zodiac sign –Virgo, Libra, Scorpio & Sagittarius, Capricorn Constellations – Bootes, Corona Borealis, Lyra, Hercules, Cygnus, Ursa Major, Delphinus, Vega, Cephus	Planets – Mercury & Venus Zodiac sign – Virgo, Libra, Scorpio, Cancer & Leo Constellations – Bootes, Ursa Major, Vega, Corona Borealis, Lyra, Hercules & Lynx
SEPTEMBER	
EASTERN SKY	WESTERN SKY
Planets - Saturn Zodiac sign – Capricorn, Aquarius, Pisces Scorpio & Sagittarius Constellations – Bootes, Corona Borealis, Lyra, Hercules, Cygnus, Corona Australis & Delphinus, Cephus, Pegasus, Vega	Planets –Venus Zodiac sign – Capricorn, Libra, Virgo, Scorpio & Sagittarius Constellations – Bootes, Cassiopeia, Delphinus, Cygnus, Hercules, Corona Borealis & Corona Australis

OCTOBER	
EASTERN SKY	WESTERN SKY
Planets - Saturn Zodiac sign – Capricorn, Pisces, Aquarius & Sagittarius Constellations – Cygnus, Cassiopeia, Cephus, Pegasus & Lyra Galaxy - Andromeda Galaxy	Planets – Venus & Saturn Zodiac sign – Capricorn, Scorpio & Sagittarius Constellations – Cassiopeia, Delphinus, Vega, Lyra, Cygnus, Hercules & Corona Australis, Cephus & Cygnus
NOVEMBER	
EASTERN SKY	WESTERN SKY
Planets –Venus & Mercury Zodiac sign – Pisces, Sagittarius, Capricorn, Scorpio & Capricorn Constellations – Cygnus, Pegasus & Cassiopeia, Lyra, Hercules, Vega, Cephus, Corona Borealis, Bootes, Corona Australis	Planets – Venus & Mercury Zodiac sign – Capricorn, Scorpio, Aquarius, Virgo, Pisces, & Sagittarius Constellations – Cassiopeia, Delphinus, Cygnus, Corona Borealis, Delphinus, Lyra, Corona Borealis, Pegasus & Bootes
DECEMBER	
EASTERN SKY	WESTERN SKY
Planets – Venus & Jupiter, Mercury, Saturn Zodiac sign – Pisces, Aquarius, Aries, Taurus & Capricorn Constellations – Orion, Cygnus, Pegasus, Lyra, Cepheus, Delphinus, Vega & Cassiopeia Galaxy - Andromeda Galaxy	Planets – Venus, Mercury & Saturn Zodiac sign – Capricorn, Aquarius, Virgo, Libra, Scorpio, Pisces & Aries Constellations – Cassiopeia, Delphinus, Cygnus, Pegasus, Bootes, Corona Borealis, Corona Australis, Lyra & Vega