

Two Beautiful Eclipses Coming to North America!

An Annular Eclipse in 2023 and a Total Eclipse in 2024

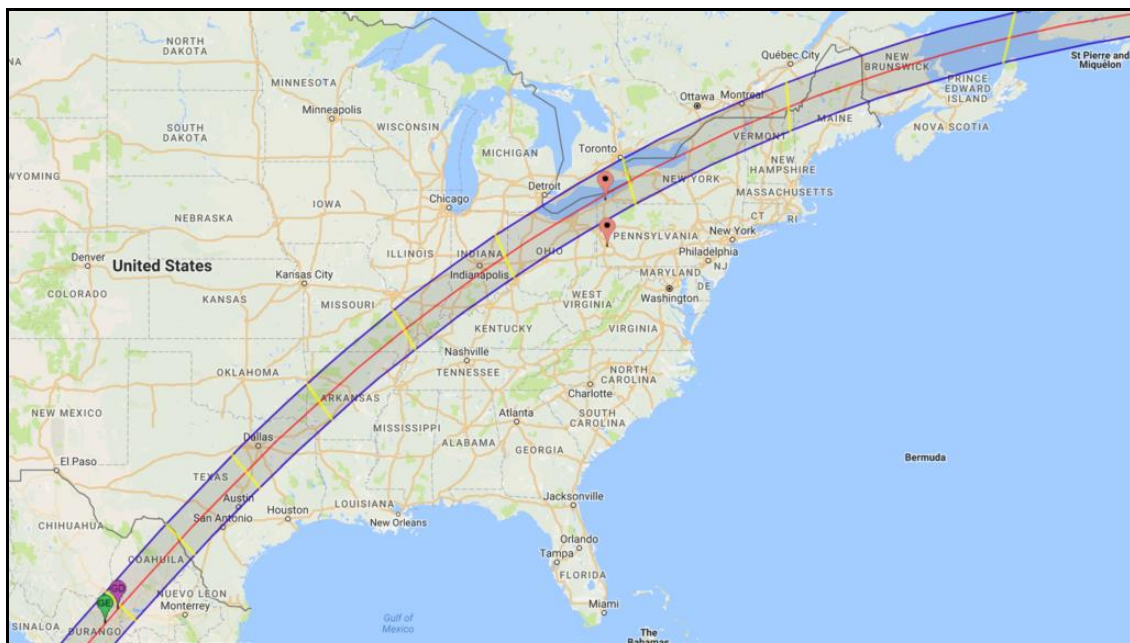
Information by Andrew Fraknoi (Fromm Inst. U of San Francisco) fraknoi@fhda.edu

Eclipses of the Sun, where the Moon gets in front of the Sun and blocks its light, are among the most spectacular of natural events. The total eclipse visible in the US in 2017 fascinated and involved millions of people all across the country. The good news is that, quite unusually, 2 more great eclipses are coming to the US just a few years later.

1. Total Eclipse, Monday, Apr. 8, 2024

An excellent TOTAL eclipse of the Sun will be visible the U.S. in 2024. The path of totality (where the Sun is blocked out completely by the Moon getting exactly in front of it) is over 100 miles wide, and passes over more cities than the eclipse in 2017. Totality will be visible first in Mexico, coming to Texas just after noon local time. The eclipse then moves northeast through Oklahoma, Missouri, Ohio, New York, and Maine (to name just a few of the states) and into Canada. In the Northeast, totality will be around 3 to 3:30 pm. So, in most of the U.S., students will be in school for the eclipse. In Mexico and South Texas. the total eclipse will last over 4 minutes, which is good for a total eclipse. 32 million people live along the path of totality, and many millions will try to get there on April 7th and 8th. All the rest of North America will see a partial eclipse. (Whenever any part of the Sun's surface is showing, you will need protective glasses or filters!) By the way, the next total eclipse to cross the continental US will not be until Aug. 12, 2045, so don't miss this one!

For more information, see: <https://eclipse.aas.org/eclipse-america-2024>

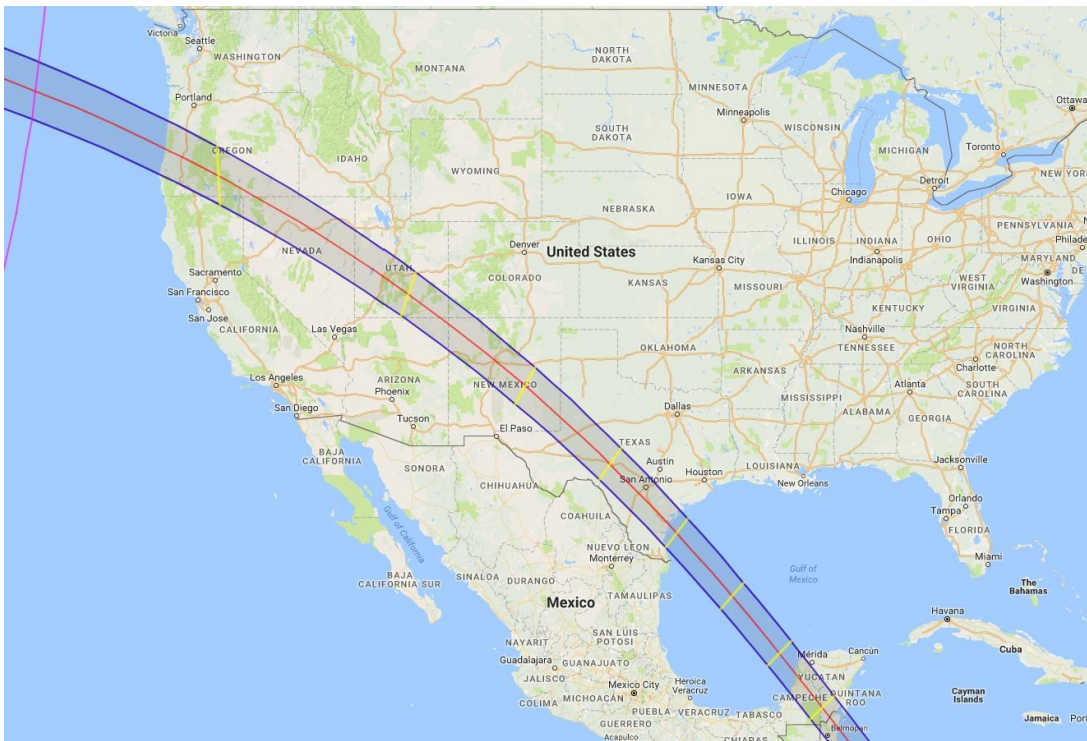


2024 MAP VIA ECLIPSE PREDICTIONS BY FRED ESPENAK, ECLIPSEWISE.COM

2. Annular Eclipse, Saturday, Oct. 14, 2023

Six months before the 2024 total eclipse, there will be another intriguing solar event. In an *annular* eclipse, the Sun never goes dark; at maximum eclipse, you can see a dramatic “ring of fire” around the dark sphere of the Moon. Just like for a total eclipse, you need to be in a narrow path to see the ring. Because the full Sun never goes dark, you will need special protective glasses or filters throughout. For the U.S., the annular eclipse path begins in Oregon at 9:13 am PDT and ends in Texas at 12:03 pm CDT. All the rest of North America (except for NW Alaska) will experience a nice partial eclipse in the morning that day. This Saturday event is well timed for libraries and other non-school organizations that work with families.

For more information, see: <https://eclipse.aas.org/eclipse-america-2023>



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NOTE: Keeping your eyes protected anytime a part of the Sun is showing is crucial to safe eclipse enjoyment. See the American Astronomical Society site about safety for reliable information: <https://eclipse.aas.org/eye-safety>

About the Author: Andrew Fraknoi is a retired astronomer, college professor, the lead author of the most-frequently used introductory astronomy textbook in the U.S., and coauthor of a children’s book on eclipses, *When the Sun Goes Dark*. (For more on his work, see: <http://fraknoi.com>)