



# Solar eclipse in ghana

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Where will you be for the "eclipse of the century?" Eclipse chasers hooked by the events of April 8, 2024, are already making plans for Aug. 2, 2027, when the longest total solar eclipse of the 21st century will unfold across North Africa, enveloping an estimated 89 million people.

Beginning in the Atlantic Ocean, the approximately 160-mile (275-km) wide path of totality will make landfall around the Strait of Gibraltar, bringing totality to southern Spain, Gibraltar and Morocco.

Next will come Algeria, Tunisia, Libya and Egypt, where the sun will be eclipsed at noon at its highest in the sky. After crossing the Red Sea, totality will be experienced in Saudi Arabia and Yemen, then Somalia, before an eclipsed sun will set southeast in the Indian Ocean southeast of the Chagos Islands.

"Some parts of the eclipse track -- over Libya and western Egypt -- have seen no August cloud on eclipse day whatsoever in the past 23 years," writes Jay Anderson, a Canadian meteorologist and eclipse chaser, in a new climate analysis published this week. "Few eclipses come with a guarantee of cloud-free skies, but, in parts, the path of the 2027 total across North Africa comes very close." Anderson says that cloud cover for this eclipse is among the lowest he's analyzed over the last 45 years.

The problem with this total solar eclipse is not climate and clouds but temperature and, perhaps, dust storms. The moon's shadow will bring a momentary drop in temperature, but in August it can reach 108 degrees Fahrenheit (42 degrees Celsius).

With totality close to the maximum at 6 minutes 22 seconds, the site of ancient Thebes features the Valley of the Kings, Karnak Temple. Luxor Temple and the Temple of Hatshepsut. Brace for thousands of tourists.

The next total solar eclipse in the contiguous U.S. (contiguous refers to the lower 48 states in North America, including the District of Columbia) will occur on Aug. 22, 2044. At 281 miles (453 kilometers) wide on average, the path of totality will stretch from Greenland through Canada's Northwest Territories, with the maximum duration of totality just south of Great Bear Lake at 2 minutes and 4 seconds.

An eclipse is a natural phenomenon. In some ancient and modern cultures, solar eclipses were attributed to supernatural causes or regarded as bad omens. Astronomers' predictions of eclipses began in China as early as the 4th century BC; eclipses hundreds of years into the future may now be predicted with high accuracy.

Looking directly at the Sun can lead to permanent eye damage, so special eye protection or indirect viewing techniques are used when viewing a solar eclipse. Only the total phase of a total solar eclipse is safe to view without protection. Enthusiasts known as eclipse chasers or umbraphiles travel to remote locations to see solar eclipses.

The Sun's distance from Earth is about 400 times the Moon's distance, and the Sun's diameter is about 400 times the Moon's diameter. Because these ratios are approximately the same, the Sun and the Moon as seen from Earth appear to be approximately the same size: about 0.5 degree of arc in angular measure.

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