Summary for the New Crescent Moon in May 2026

The visibility of the new crescent moon for May (lunation number 1279) preceding the Hajj and the Islamic festival of Eid al-Adha is shown in the table below. Eid al-Adha is celebrated on the 10th day of Dhu al-Hijjah, the last month of the Islamic calendar. We have included Mecca (with timings in Arabian Standard Time – AST or UTC+3 hours), Rabat and Dakhla (with timings in Western European Summer Time – WEST or UTC+1 hour and New York (with timings in Eastern Daylight Time or EDT – UTC−4 hours) for reference as well as a number of cities across the United Kingdom in British Summer Time (BST). Times of sunset (SS) and moonset (MS) are provided. Offsets from Universal Time are also given. We have also added Jakarta (with timings in Western Indonesian Time – WIB or UTC+7 hours), Karachi (with timings in Pakistan Standard Time – PKT or UTC+5 hours), Dhaka (with timings in Bangladesh Standard Time – BST or UTC+6 hours), Cairo (with timings in Eastern Summer European Time – EEST or UTC+3 hours), Istanbul (with timings in Eastern European Summer Time – EEST or UTC+3 hours), Cape Town (with timings in South African Standard Time; SAST or UTC+2 hours), Lagos (with timings in West African Time; WAT or UTC+1 hour), and Los Angeles (with timings in Pacific Daylight Time or UTC−7 hours), to the list of cities for which data have been provided. An entry of '**:**' indicates the setting phenomenon takes place the following day. Please note that clocks go forward onto British Summer Time on Sunday March 29th at 01:00 GMT in the United Kingdom.

The instant of new Moon takes place on Tuesday May 16th 2026 at 20:01 UT/GMT or 21:01 BST. Telescopic sightings of the crescent moon with small, conventional amateur-sized telescopes are possible on May 16th from part of the Aleutian Islands chain. The crescent moon should be visible with a conventional, amateur sized telescope from the north Pacific Ocean region on May 17th. Optical aid may be needed to find the crescent moon the same day from westernmost Russian, Japan, parts of South-East Asia, the northern Philippines and western Indonesia. Sightings with the naked eye under excellent conditions the same day may be possible from central and western Asia, India, northern Russia, central Africa and central South America. Easy naked-eye sightings may be possible from western Asia, the Middle East, northern Africa, Europe (including the British Isles), the northern part of South America, North and Central America and the eastern Pacific Ocean region. The crescent moon should be easily visible on a global basis on May 18th. Easy sightings with the naked eye should be possible with the possible exception of most of New Zealand.

For most observers, no sightings of the crescent moon of any type are likely on Saturday May 16th. The crescent moon could seen on Sunday May 17th under perfect conditions from western and central Asia and central Africa. Easy sightings are possible to the west of longitude 80° east in the northern hemisphere as well as from northern parts of South America. The crescent moon is likely to be seen globally with the possible exception of New Zealand. The most likely dates for the first easy naked-eye sightings of the month at a given location are shaded pink in the table below. Sightings that may require perfect conditions are shaded khaki and those requiring optical assistance at selected locations are shaded brown.

Visibility of the New Crescent Moon from selected locations

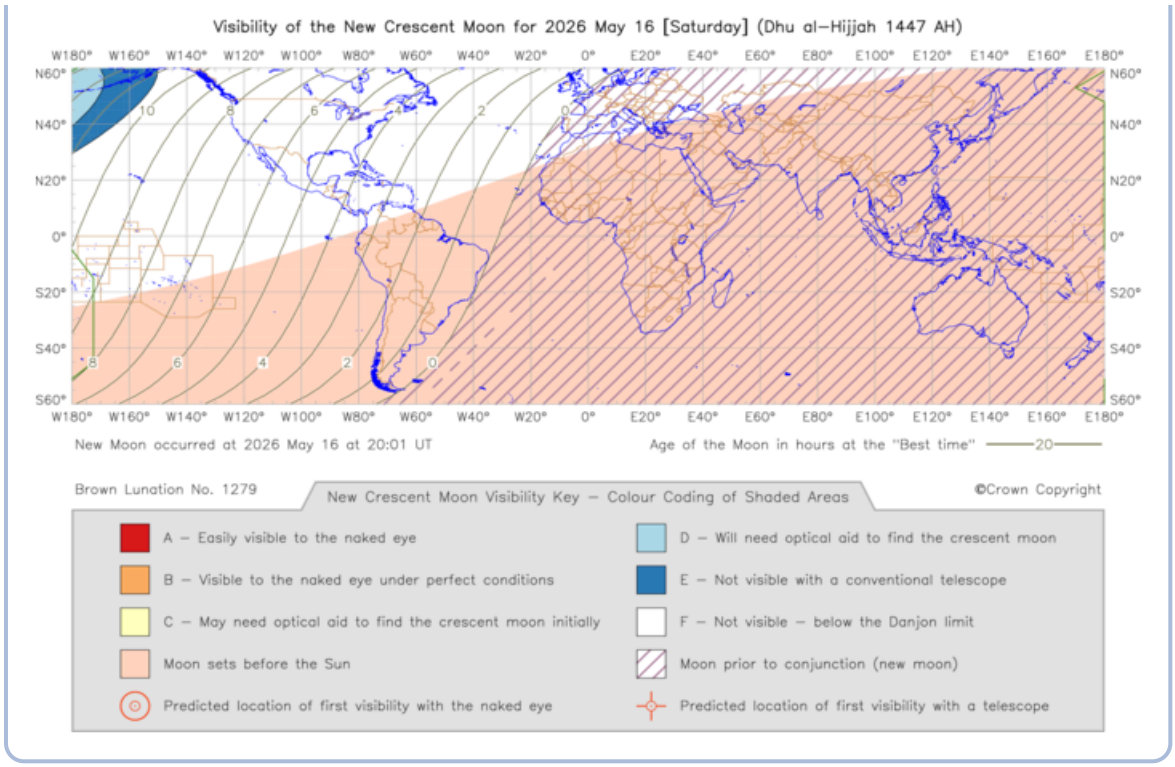
Visibility of the New Crescent Moon in May 2026

Location	Saturday 16th May	Sunday 17th May	Monday 18th May	Tuesday 19th May
Mecca Times in AST i.e. UTC+3hr	Not Visible	Easily Visible SS: 18:53 MS: 19:51	Easily Visible SS: 18:53 MS: 21:00	Easily Visible SS: 18:54 MS: 22:05
Rabat Times in WEST i.e. UTC+1hr	Not Visible	Easily Visible SS: 20:23 MS: 21:43	Easily Visible SS: 20:24 MS: 22:53	Easily Visible SS: 20:25 MS: 23:54
Dakhla Times in WEST i.e. UTC+1hr	Not Visible	Easily Visible SS: 20:40 MS: 21:50	Easily Visible SS: 20:40 MS: 23:00	Easily Visible SS: 20:41 MS: **:**
New York Times in EDT i.e. UTC-4hr	Not Visible	Easily Visible SS: 20:08 MS: 21:50	Easily Visible SS: 20:09 MS: 23:00	Easily Visible SS: 20:10 MS: 23:56
London Times in BST i.e. UTC+1hr	Not Visible	Easily Visible SS: 20:49 MS: 22:38	Easily Visible SS: 20:50 MS: 23:52	Easily Visible SS: 20:52 MS: **:**
Cardiff Times in BST i.e. UTC+1hr	Not Visible	Easily Visible SS: 21:01 MS: 22:50	Easily Visible SS: 21:03 MS: **:**	Easily Visible SS: 21:04 MS: 00:15
Birmingham Times in BST i.e. UTC+1hr	Not Visible	Easily Visible SS: 21:00 MS: 22:52	Easily Visible SS: 21:02 MS: **:**	Easily Visible SS: 21:03 MS: 00:07
Leicester Times in BST i.e. UTC+1hr	Not Visible	Easily Visible SS: 20:58 MS: 22:50	Easily Visible SS: 20:59 MS: **:**	Easily Visible SS: 21:01 MS: 00:05
Sheffield Times in BST i.e. UTC+1hr	Not Visible	Easily Visible SS: 21:03 MS: 22:58	Easily Visible SS: 21:04 MS: **:**	Easily Visible SS: 21:06 MS: 00:13
Manchester Times in BST i.e. UTC+1hr	Not Visible	Easily Visible SS: 21:06 MS: 23:02	Easily Visible SS: 21:08 MS: **:**	Easily Visible SS: 21:10 MS: 00:18
Bradford Times in BST i.e. UTC+1hr	Not Visible	Easily Visible SS: 21:06 MS: 23:02	Easily Visible SS: 21:07 MS: **:**	Easily Visible SS: 21:09 MS: 00:18
Leeds Times in BST i.e. UTC+1hr	Not Visible	Easily Visible SS: 21:05 MS: 23:02	Easily Visible SS: 21:07 MS: **:**	Easily Visible SS: 21:09 MS: 00:18
York Times in BST i.e. UTC+1hr	Not Visible	Easily Visible SS: 21:04 MS: 23:01	Easily Visible SS: 21:06 MS: **:**	Easily Visible SS: 21:07 MS: 00:17
Belfast Times in BST i.e. UTC+1hr	Not visible	Easily Visible SS: 21:26 MS: 23:27	Easily Visible SS: 21:28 MS: **:**	Easily Visible SS: 21:30 MS: 00:43
Newcastle Times in BST i.e. UTC+1hr	Not Visible	Easily Visible SS: 21:11 MS: 23:13	Easily Visible SS: 21:13 MS: **:**	Easily Visible SS: 21:15 MS: 00:29
Glasgow Times in BST i.e. UTC+1hr	Not Visible	Easily Visible SS: 21:27 MS: 23:33	Easily Visible SS: 21:29 MS: **:**	Easily Visible SS: 21:31 MS: 00:50
Jakarta Times in WIB	Not Visible	Not Visible	Easily Visible SS: 17:44	Easily Visible SS: 17:44

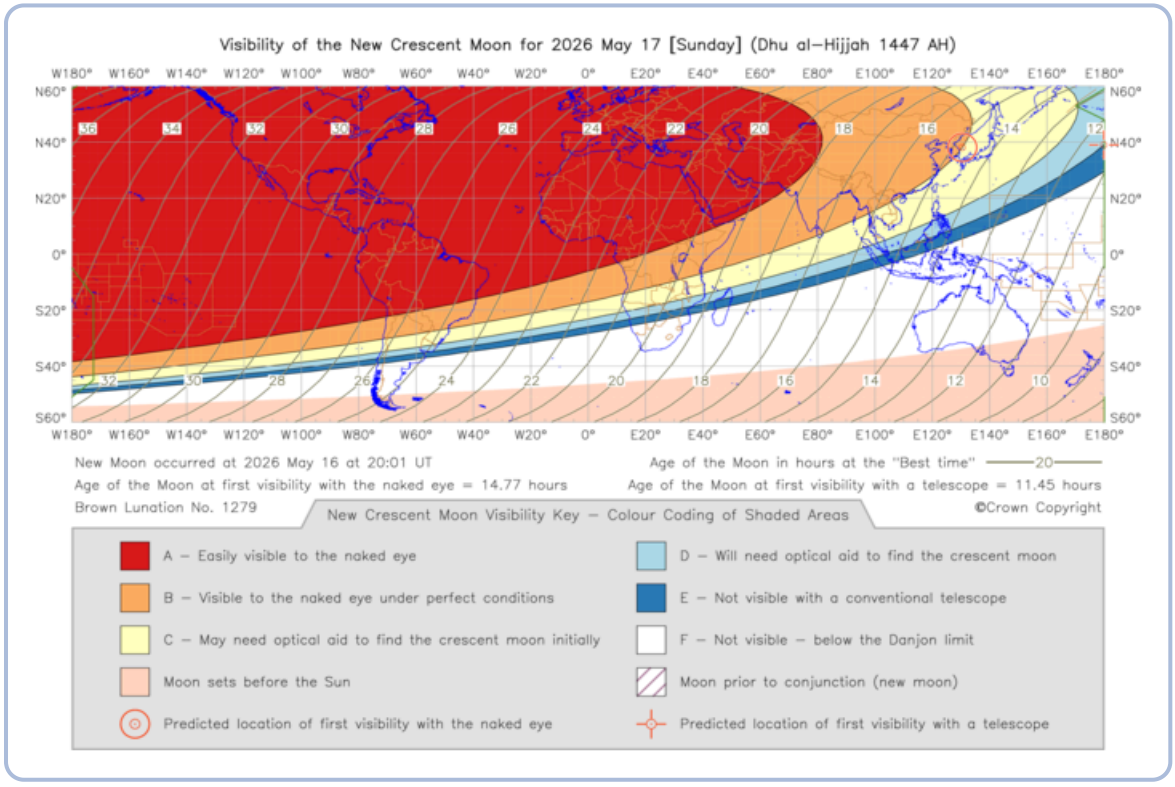
i.e. UTC+7[hr]			MS: 19:16	MS: 20:23
Karachi Times in PKT i.e. UTC+5[hr]	Not Visible	Easily Visible SS: 19:10 MS: 20:05	Easily Visible SS: 19:10 MS: 21:16	Easily Visible SS: 19:11 MS: 22:20
Dhaka Times in BST i.e. UTC+6[hr]	Not Visible	Visible in perfect conditions SS: 18:34 MS: 19:24	Easily Visible SS: 18:35 MS: 20:35	Easily Visible SS: 18:35 MS: 21:40
Cairo Times in EEST i.e. UTC+3[hr]	Not Visible	Easily Visible SS: 19:43 MS: 20:50	Easily Visible SS: 19:43 MS: 22:01	Easily Visible SS: 19:44 MS: 23:04
Istanbul Times in EEST i.e. UTC+3[hr]	Not Visible	Easily Visible SS: 20:17 MS: 21:38	Easily Visible SS: 20:18 MS: 22:51	Easily Visible SS: 20:19 MS: 23:51
Cape Town Times in SAST i.e. UTC+2[hr]	Not Visible	Not Visible	Easily Visible SS: 17:52 MS: 19:11	Easily Visible SS: 17:51 MS: 20:21
Lagos Times in WAT i.e. UTC+1[hr]	Not Visible	Easily Visible SS: 18:56 MS: 19:49	Easily Visible SS: 18:56 MS: 20:57	Easily Visible SS: 18:56 MS: 22:02
Los Angeles Times in PDT i.e. UTC-7[hr]	Not Visible	Easily Visible SS: 19:49 MS: 21:31	Easily Visible SS: 19:50 MS: 22:39	Easily Visible SS: 19:51 MS: 23:36

New Crescent Moon Visibility Maps for May 2026

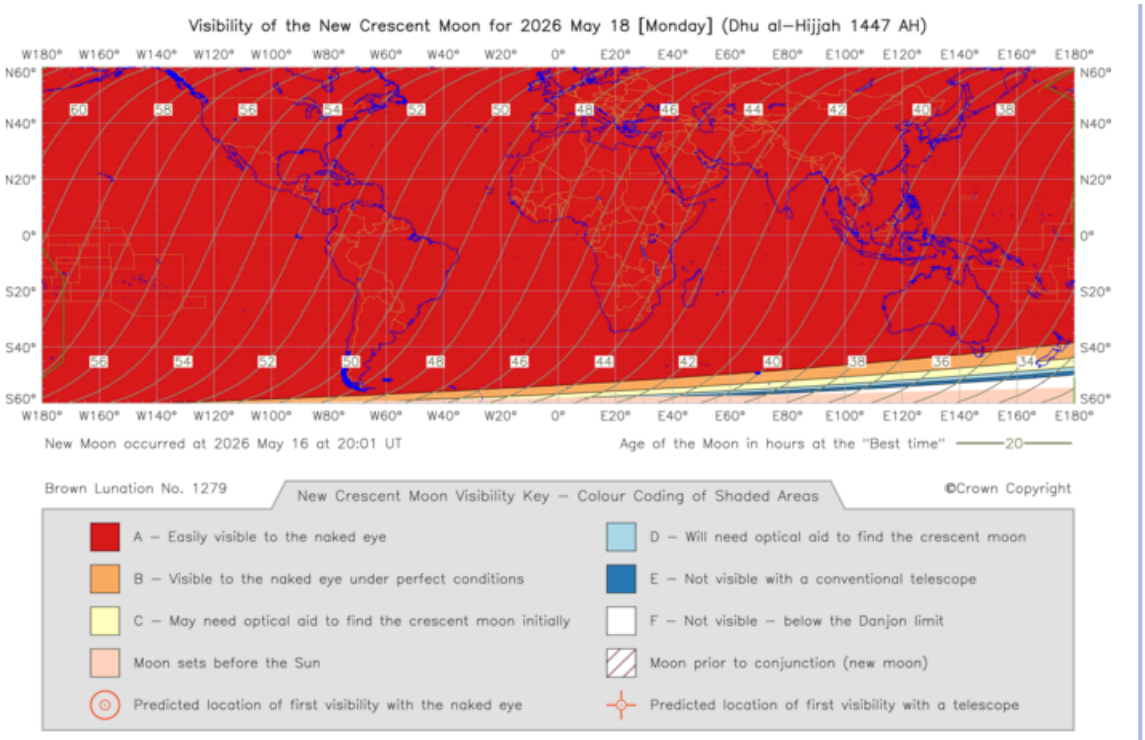
1) — Saturday May 16th 2026: It should be noted that the old Moon is technically visible east of approximately longitude 25° West with the Moon setting before the Sun in the light brown-shaded region covering most of the globe. Telescopic sightings of the crescent moon with small, conventional amateur-sized telescopes are possible on May 16th from western part of the Aleutian Islands chain. Consequently there is little chance of any type of sighting of the crescent moon on May 16th.



2) — Sunday May 17th 2026: The crescent moon should be visible with a conventional, amateur sized telescope from the north Pacific Ocean region on May 17th. Optical aid may be needed to find the crescent moon the same day from westernmost Russia, Japan, parts of South-East Asia, the northern Philippines and western Indonesia. Sightings with the naked eye under excellent conditions the same day may be possible from central and western Asia, India, northern Russia, central Africa and central South America. Easy naked-eye sightings may be possible from western Asia, the Middle East, northern Africa, Europe (including the British Isles), the northern part of South America, North and Central America and the eastern Pacific Ocean region.



3) — Monday May 18th 2026: The crescent moon should be easily visible on a global basis. Easy sightings of the crescent moon with the naked eye should be possible with the potential exception of most of New Zealand.



E-mail: customerservices@ukho.gov.uk
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