

# Nightscape

 DarkSky

#115 | March 2024

COVER STORY

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# DarkSky

We restore the nighttime environment and protect communities from the harmful effects of light pollution through outreach, advocacy, and conservation.

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## On the cover

**“Starry sky at the NamibRand International Dark Sky Reserve”**

**Namibia**

**by Jeff Dai**

The starry sky here is truly the best in the world. Not only is the Milky Way bright enough to create shadows on the ground, but you can even distinguish the pale yellow color in the center of the Milky Way! The NamibRand International Dark Sky Reserve was designated by DarkSky in 2012 as Africa’s first International Dark Sky Reserve. The lighting in the reserve is minimal and the local light pollution education program is also very impressive!

#### TECHNICAL DETAILS

20s exposure | 15mm | f/2.8 | ISO 12800

#### FOLLOW

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## Nightscape

#115 · March 2024

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# From the Executive Director

Five years ago, I began my journey with DarkSky, not fully grasping the critical issue of light pollution. Thanks to our global community, my eyes have been opened to the challenges and opportunities in preserving our night skies.

The field of light pollution research has significantly advanced, with last year's special editions in renowned journals — *Science* and the *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society* — marking a milestone. More crucially, the understanding of light pollution as an environmental concern has broadened.

My recent visits to Saudi Arabia, Dubai, and West Virginia have underscored the global awakening to this issue. In Saudi Arabia, I witnessed how adherence to our dark sky lighting principles is integral to their ambitious development projects, ensuring that the natural rhythms of wildlife, like nesting turtles, are undisturbed and the Milky Way remains a beacon for the region's visitors. Similarly, Dubai's

ThinkLight conference, the largest lighting event in the region, emphasized designing with darkness in mind — a testament to the growing recognition of our cause. In West Virginia, I participated in a workshop hosted by the US Fish and Wildlife Service focused on restoring dark skies and preventing bird collisions.

This momentum offers DarkSky an unparalleled opportunity to push for meaningful change. This year, we're focusing on policy advocacy, promoting lighting designs that embody our principles, and introducing an education program based on the ROLAN principles — responsible outdoor light at night.

The refreshed *Nightscape* symbolizes our commitment to the global dark sky movement. By standing together, we can restore the natural beauty of the night sky, ensuring it's preserved for generations to come. Let's embrace this challenge, inspired by the knowledge that every small effort contributes to a brighter (yet darker) future.



For the night,  
**Ruskin Hartley**  
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Tucson, Arizona, U.S.



Ruskin and DarkSky Delegate  
Ahmed Althaher in Saudi Arabia

# From the Editor

Welcome to *Nightscape*, the quarterly publication of DarkSky International. I am writing to you from Argentina, where I have been spending time under starry skies with DarkSky Delegate Alejandro Sommer. Thanks to Alejandro's work, a dark sky protection law covers the province of Misiones — a huge step in ensuring that the starry nights remain dark in Misiones for years to come.

Many of you will notice this issue has a new look. Others are holding a print copy of *Nightscape* for the first time. *Nightscape* has been published since 2010, with several different designs over the years.

Our goal and intention have always been to mail copies of *Nightscape* globally. However, due to various constraints, print copies were only sent to U.S. addresses. We are delighted that this has changed! With DarkSky's rebrand last year, we wanted to ensure that *Nightscape* reflects our mission as a global organization. Sending the print magazine to members worldwide was a priority.

*Nightscape* has changed shape and size — a slightly different size to a standard magazine. Our team considered many factors, including our printer's availability, environmental

considerations, and international postage requirements mandated by law. We feel this format is both striking and appealing.

Most importantly, this change allowed us to reach more members and advocates around the world. Each of you brings your passion, time, and commitment to protecting the night. It is my personal promise that *Nightscape* will continue to provide coverage and run stories that reflect the depth of diversity in our community.

To that end, this first global issue is themed on Africa. Inside, you'll find feature articles, updates, and inspiration on how the dark sky movement is growing across the African continent. On p.14, DarkSky Board member, Samyukta Manikumar, offers an overview of work being done in Africa, centering on the continent's first chapter, DarkSky Kenya. You'll also hear from me on p.8 about a dark sky tourism conference I attended in Ethiopia last November.

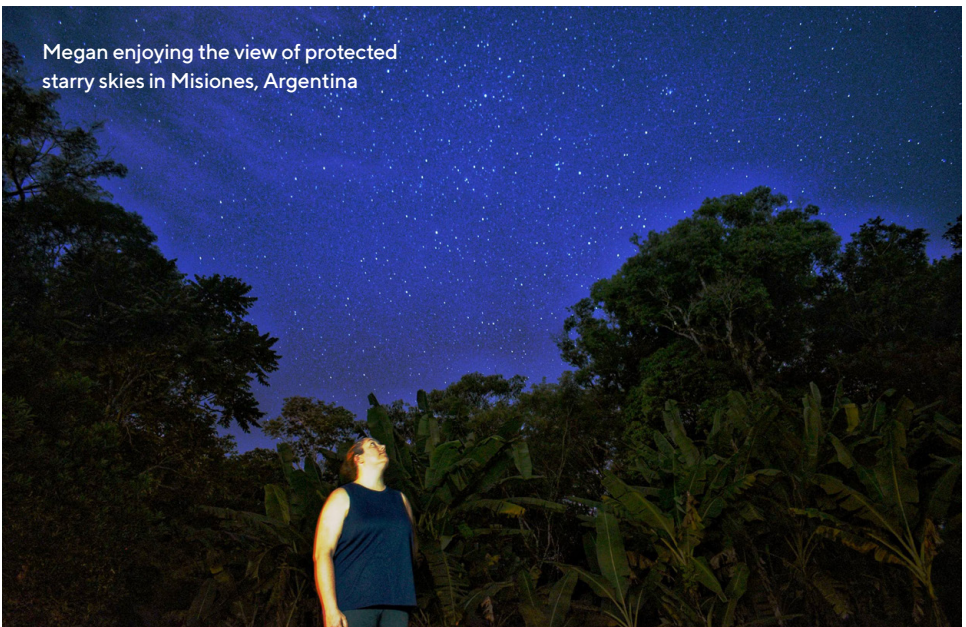
Thank you, supporters around the world, for everything that you do for the night. And thank you for your understanding through our organizational changes over the past year. From where I'm standing, the future looks dark and starry.



**Megan Eaves**

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London, U.K.

Megan enjoying the view of protected starry skies in Misiones, Argentina



Alejandro Sommer

# Advocate highlights

News snippets from our network of DarkSky Advocates around the world



## A Oregon, U.S.

With grant support from Visit Central Oregon, **DarkSky Oregon** has begun creating and airing animations to raise awareness about light pollution. The first episode, titled “Bees Get All the Credit,” premiered as a 30-second advertisement on local Central



Oregon TV (KTVZ). Watch the video:

[youtu.be/24TVp-AIBv8](https://youtu.be/24TVp-AIBv8)

## B Brazil

Thanks to the efforts of **Delegate Marcelo Souza** and Advocates from **DarkSky Rio**, the town of Santa Maria Madalena — gateway to **Desengano International Dark Sky Park** and self-titled “City of the Stars” — has declared the first **International Dark Sky Week** proclamation in South America.



Melanni Eaves

L-R: DarkSky Rio representative

Cristiana Rizzetto, city councilor Nestor Lopes, and Marcelo Souza with the IDSW proclamation.



## C China

**Delegate Ruoyu Li** appeared on an episode of the program “News and Science” on Hunan TV, one of China’s most popular TV channels, where he talked



about how to build a dark sky community and **DarkSky’s Five Principles for Responsible Outdoor Lighting**.

## D New Zealand

The **Starlight Conference** will be held in Tekapo at **Aoraki Mackenzie International**



**Dark Sky Reserve** from October 20–23, 2024. Participants are invited to submit

talks on the conference theme, “Dark Skies for All: A Call for Action!”. Registration is open on the website:

[starlightconference.org.nz](https://starlightconference.org.nz)



**April 2-8, 2024**

# Discover the night during International Dark Sky Week

For many, the dark night is often misunderstood, unfamiliar, and frightening. But the natural night is filled with wonder and awe and is critical to the health and well-being of our planet.

International Dark Sky Week is a worldwide celebration of the night – an opportunity to get out after dark to learn about its importance and the growing threat of light pollution to wildlife, biodiversity, and human health.

Join us, April 2-8, as we discover the night together. With events held around the world and a number of actions to complete, we invite you to learn about the growing dark sky movement and what you can do to protect the night.



# Take action to protect the night!

Each year, DarkSky encourages participation in International Dark Sky Week to celebrate the night by completing an action. How many actions can you accomplish?



**Action #1**

**Sign the pledge to protect the night**



**Action #2**

**Get out after dark**



**Action #3**

**Get your community to sign a proclamation**



Learn more about International Dark Sky Week



**INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY WEEK**

Visit [idsw.darksky.org](https://idsw.darksky.org) for more actions, events, and details.

Report

# Ethiopia 386: Symposium on dark skies

by Megan Eaves, U.K.



DarkSky Advocates John Hearnshaw (top left), Megan Eaves (top right) and Samyukta Manikumar (top right) enjoying an Ethiopian dinner with conference attendees.



## In November 2023, the International Astronomical Union (IAU) hosted Symposium 386 with the theme: “Dark sky and astronomical heritage in boosting astro-tourism around the globe.”

The event was held in Addis Ababa, the capital city of Ethiopia. It was the first time such a dark sky event had been held on the African continent. I didn’t want to miss out on such a historic event, nor the chance to visit a new country — Ethiopia! — and see more of Africa.

If, like me, you don’t come from an academic astronomy background, it is worth knowing that the IAU is a non-governmental organization aimed at advancing astronomy around the world. With many other things, it is responsible for assigning names and designations to stars, moons, galaxies, and other celestial bodies.

### Global South leads the way

Symposium 386 attracted a lineup of more than 200 participants in person and online. They were astronomers, dark sky advocates, and tourism professionals (and a lone journalist — me!) from around the world. The Global South and the African continent were especially well-represented among the speakers. DarkSky CEO Ruskin Hartley gave a keynote address on how dark sky tourism has taken off through International Dark Sky Places and the potential that DarkSky’s certification program has to bolster economic development.

Dark sky advocates are particularly kindred people, and I quickly made friends with fellow lovers of the night from Ethiopia, Nepal, Iran, Kenya, Mexico, Namibia, India, Japan, and New Zealand among the many who attended. We heard about the cultural astronomies and star stories of places like Ghana, South Africa, and Nigeria. We learned why a meteorite field in Argentina is sacred to local Indigenous groups. We heard how astronomical homestays in the Indian Himalaya are creating economic opportunities for women. We saw how Tanzania is paving the way for safari destinations to offer

stargazing and nocturnal game drives. And we learned about a new visitor trail in Guadalajara, Mexico, which follows the city’s heritage of the 1882 transit of Venus.

The five days I spent listening to these presentations reinforced for me just how many passionate dark sky



Megan Eaves

Participants from across Africa and the world attended the conference in Addis Ababa and online.

advocates there are in the world, and importantly, how much rich cultural heritage exists across diverse communities and geographies. It seems that almost every culture in the world has a connection with the night sky preserved in their stories, myths, and historic sites.



Above: DarkSky Board member Samyukta Manikumar presenting on how dark skies can support economic development. Left: Samyukta and *Nightscape* Editor Megan Eaves meeting in person.



## Balancing development and protection

Discussions and panels debated the merits of dark sky preservation alongside the need for infrastructure in the context of developing countries. Exploring Addis Ababa at night, I was struck by how many lighting shops I saw lining the streets. In developing environments, light is often perceived as a sign of prosperity and affluence. Riding in the event bus one evening, our group saw many shops spilling over with bright LED strips, giant chandeliers, and elaborate lamps. At the same time, I was heartened by the passionate Ethiopian astronomers and advocates I met who are leading the effort to protect the night in their country. Ethiopia continues to have some of the lowest levels of light pollution in the world.

Most of the conference’s attendees agreed that a balance must be struck between environmental protections

and useful infrastructure, and this must be led by local communities. As one participant pointed out, “Every community should have the right to electricity and to develop how they wish, but many places in the Global South have an opportunity not to replicate the mistakes that we made by overusing light in the Global North. You can protect your natural nights from the start.” Nebiyu Suleyman Mohammed from the Ethiopian Space Science and Technology Institute gave a presentation on the efforts that are already underway to address Addis Ababa’s streetlight pollution.

## Looking ahead

The conference concluded with a group visit to Entoto Observatory, the headquarters of the Ethiopian Space Science Society and the base from which Ethiopia monitors its first scientific satellite — ETRSS-1 — which

launched in 2019. The observatory is located at an elevation of 10,500 feet (3,200 m) atop Mount Entoto outside of the city and has two 1-meter observing telescopes.

Astronomy and dark skies outreach are growing rapidly across the African continent. In August this year, the IAU's General Assembly, which takes place every three years, will be held in Cape Town — the first time the event will be held on the African continent. In April, the African Astronomical Society will also hold its annual conference in Morocco. These are great excuses to book

a trip to Africa (if you need one!). And, as you'll read about on p.14, last year DarkSky welcomed its first-ever African chapter: DarkSky Kenya, with more chapters on the way in Tanzania and beyond. Given all of this, I look forward to seeing how DarkSky's Advocates from the African continent will lead the way for nocturnal protection in the coming years. ✦



Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, at night

Gift Habeshaw / Unsplash

## Highlights from the many fascinating presentations at IAU 386, including research on cultural astronomy, Indigenous knowledge of the sky, and astrotourism development:

### **Bosco Oruru**

Cultural astronomy of local communities in Uganda

### **Mónica Martínez Borrayo and Durruty Jesús de Alba Martínez**

From heritage to dark sky: an astronomical route in downtown Guadalajara

### **Alejandro M. López**

Indigenous peoples and sky stones: tourism and astronomical heritage in contexts of inequality

### **Tolu Biressa**

Cosmology of the Ayyaana observations in Borena calendar, Ethiopia

### **Hossein Khezri**

Solar calendar and circular astronomical cities in ancient Iran

### **Sonal Asgotraa**

Astrotourism: sustainable livelihoods through community-led astrotourism in Ladakh

### **Ladislau Batinoluho**

Success and prospects for astrotourism in Tanzania

### **Proven-Adzri Emmanuel**

Exploring dark skies in the outback of Ghana

### **Mohammad Saleh Timar**

In search of darkness in the deserts of Iran

### **Timothy C. Egbuim**

Citizen science approach to dark sky protection and astro-tourism across Nigeria

### **Angel Bashyal**

Astro-tourism for sustainability in local regions of Nepal

**Inspiration**

*Beautiful as only the moon  
Of my village can be  
...where no neon  
Dulls the magical clarity  
Of Lady Moon  
...my beautiful  
African Moon*

An excerpt of the poem "African Moon" by Guinean poet Koumanthio Zeinab Diallo.

Published in *A Rain of Words: A Bilingual Anthology of Women's Poetry in Francophile Africa*; edited by Irène Assiba d'Almeida (Charlottesville and London: University of Virginia Press, 2009); translated by Janis A. Mayes.



The Moon rising through an 800-year-old baobab tree in Tanzania.

Photo by Megan Eaves

Cover story

# Africa's starry nights



# Harnessing dark skies as a resource

by Samyukta Manikumar, Kenya

Africa was given the name “The Dark Continent” by the Welsh explorer Henry Morton Stanley. While Stanley intended the word “dark” to capture the continent’s mystery, the name also has a more literal relevance — Africa’s night skies remain among the darkest on Earth. While light pollution is growing in urban centers, most rural areas still have truly dark skies. Unfortunately, most countries on the continent also lack regulations to protect the quality of the night sky. Energy efficiency often takes precedence over protecting darkness, with many laws encouraging the use of efficient LEDs without regulation or mention of light pollution.

## The African context

Africa’s cultural and economic context creates some unique challenges, as lighting is associated with electrification and development. Since many Africans live with limited access to electricity, electric light holds cultural significance as something to strive for. The growing presence of solar energy providers is promoting rapid electrification in many previously dark parts of Africa. This is creating a need for early awareness of light pollution and compliance to balance development with dark sky protection.

Issues around lighting and safety also manifest differently in many parts of Africa compared to the developed world. One example of this is

here in Kenya. In areas where wildlife and humans coexist, intermittently flashing lights called “Lion Lights” are used to mitigate human-wildlife conflict by repelling predators from human-inhabited areas, protecting people and their livestock. It’s an intricate challenge to strike a balance between dark sky preservation and addressing human and community needs — one that requires careful consideration of the environmental and social aspects of each situation. This also creates a need for African dark sky advocates to lead their communities in finding solutions that work on a local level, rather than trying to recreate approaches and ideas that worked in very different areas.

Left: Astrophysicist Ronald Wasilwa leads a monthly stargazing camp near Kona Baridi outside of Nairobi, under Bortle class 4 skies.

## Nocturnal Africa

The continent is home to some unique nocturnal species, from foxes and adorable bushbabies (small nocturnal primates with big eyes) to more unusual creatures like aardvarks and pangolins, and elusive felines like servals and genets. There are also fantastic, unique species of plant life — the African baobab tree can live for centuries, flowering at night with blooms pollinated by an array of nocturnal creatures. Flat-topped acacia trees are also common across the drier African savanna, and are key in the nocturnal food web, supporting arthropod and bat species.

Despite being one of the largest continents, there are currently only two designated International Dark Sky Places (IDSPs), both in southern Africa. The NamibRand Dark Sky Reserve in Namibia earned its designation in 2012. Situated in the

southwest Namib Desert, this is an arid patchwork landscape of sand, gravel plains, stretches of savanna, mountain ranges, and towering orange-red dunes, some of which are among the tallest in the world.

Farther south is the !Ae!Hai Kalahari Heritage Park in South Africa, a Dark Sky Sanctuary designated in 2019. The sanctuary is part of the Kalahari Desert, a semi-arid savanna covered in red dunes, scattered vegetation, and a distinctive blend of flora and fauna adapted to these conditions.

## Potential of dark sky tourism

Dark sky conservation has incredible potential to improve people's lives by creating economic opportu-

*A wild leopard — one of Africa's majestic nocturnal big cats — rests in a baobab tree in Tanzania.*



Megan Eaves



# Some of Africa's unique nocturnal wildlife



## Serval

The medium-sized wild cat predominantly hunts at night, though sometimes at dusk or dawn.



## Bushbaby

Nocturnal bushbabies, possessing oversized eyes, leap adeptly through African forests, communicating with distinctive, eerie calls.

## African fox

Nocturnal African foxes hunt under moonlight, utilizing keen senses to navigate and locate prey silently.



nities through astrotourism and dark sky tourism. With widely available dark skies as a valuable resource, communities can build sustainable tourism products around their natural and cultural heritage. The two existing African IDSPs are already doing this. NamibRand Dark Sky Sanctuary has star beds and trekking packages centered around the night sky. In the !Ae!Hai Kalahari Heritage Park, cultural tours of the night sky are given by local San bushmen. Wildlife safaris are a common tourism activity across the continent, and many also take visitors on night safaris to discover the wonders of the night in Africa. More products like these could help to financially empower local communities using a resource that is freely available in many parts of Africa but scarce in most of the rest of the inhabited world: dark skies.

## Africa's first DarkSky chapter

DarkSky Kenya was founded at the start of 2023 by Zach Kolp, who moved to Kenya in 2015. In exploring the dark skies around the town of Naivasha with his 130mm reflector telescope, he became invested in protecting them. Zach mobilized other individuals and organizations working in astrotourism and conservation, including the astrotourism enterprise, The Travelling Telescope ([travellingtelescope.co.uk](http://travellingtelescope.co.uk)), to form the core team of DarkSky Kenya, the first DarkSky chapter on the African continent.

As a chapter, we are working toward protecting existing dark places through International Dark Sky Place designations. We hope to protect and grow awareness about the existing dark skies in the country,



Left: Susan Murabana Owen demonstrating astronomy software at a public school supported by OI Jogi, a luxury lodge and conservancy in Laikipia, Northern Kenya.

Below: A primary school student from OI Jogi viewing craters on the Moon for the first time.



Left: Susan Murabana Owen teaches OI Jogi students how to find the ecliptic line, which from equatorial Kenya, appears almost directly overhead.

Photos: Daniel-Chu Owen / Travelling Telescope

bolster Kenya’s ecotourism efforts by introducing light pollution into conversations around environmental sustainability, and strategically tackle the issue at an urban level. Through these efforts, we want to strike the balance between equitable technological progress and dark sky conservation. DarkSky Kenya’s ultimate goal is to put Kenya on the map for its unpolluted starry skies, highlighting the global rarity and value of dark skies to both Kenyans and tourists.

DarkSky Kenya has now grown to a team of 50 members and has developed relationships with wildlife

and community conservancies in a pipeline to apply for IDSP certification. Two conservancies near the base of Mount Kenya are currently in the application process, and another two in Tsavo West National Park in southeast Kenya are preparing to apply. As the first DarkSky chapter on the continent, we hope that these efforts will inspire initiatives and organizations across the continent to address the issue of light pollution while it’s still relatively early for us. Our aspiration is to empower people to protect and advocate for what is arguably our most underrated resource — a truly dark night sky. ✦

# Advocacy and conservation in Africa



## DELEGATES

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## CHAPTER



- D Zach Kolp**  
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## INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY PLACES



### 1 NamibRand Nature Reserve Namibia · Certified 2012

One of the naturally darkest places on Earth lies in Africa's largest private nature reserve, conserving the unique ecology and wildlife of the southwest Namib Desert.

TYPE	LAND AREA
Dark Sky Reserve	2,022 km <sup>2</sup>



### 2 !Ae!Hai Kalahari Heritage Park South Africa · Certified 2019

The heritage park preserves the cultural and traditional knowledge of indigenous communities while improving their opportunities to earn a sustainable livelihood.

TYPE	LAND AREA
Dark Sky Sanctuary	500 km <sup>2</sup>

# Newly certified International Dark Sky Places

Announced since November 1, 2023 · Visit [DarkSky.org/places](https://DarkSky.org/places) for more



## ABOUT THE PROGRAM



The International Dark Sky Places program certifies communities, parks, and protected areas around the world that preserve and protect dark sites through responsible lighting policies and public education.

## BY THE NUMBERS

215

International Dark Sky Places around the world

26

Countries represented

6

Continents represented

160,798+

Square kilometers of protected land and night sky

**Find a Dark Sky Place near you**

Use the Place finder at [DarkSky.org/places](https://DarkSky.org/places)



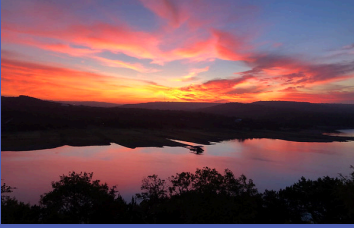


## Sopotnia Wielka <sup>1</sup>

### Poland

A grassroots initiative reduced nighttime street lighting in this logging village since the 1990s.

Dark Sky Community      32.4 km<sup>2</sup>



## Jonestown <sup>2</sup>

### Texas, U.S.

The city and Jonestown Night Sky Advocacy crafted and passed a new lighting ordinance.

Dark Sky Community      13.7 km<sup>2</sup>

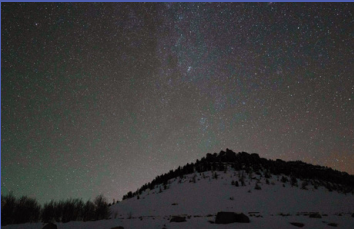


## Presteigne and Norton <sup>3</sup>

### Wales, U.K.

Frequent sky quality monitoring and engagement programs raised awareness of overlighting.

Dark Sky Community      40 km<sup>2</sup>



## Sinks Canyon State Park <sup>4</sup>

### Wyoming, U.S.

The park features stunning geology, abundant wildlife, and a variety of recreation opportunities.

Dark Sky Park      2.4 km<sup>2</sup>

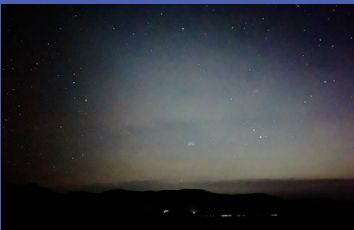


## Dark Sky Park Bulbjerg <sup>5</sup>

### Lild Strand, Denmark

Covering seafronts, dune heaths, and dune forests, the park offers many recreation opportunities.

Dark Sky Park      12.5 km<sup>2</sup>



## Oxford Forest Conservation Area <sup>6</sup>

### New Zealand

Collaboration between more than 20 public and private organizations led to robust light management.

Dark Sky Park      113.5 km<sup>2</sup>



## Saguaro National Park <sup>7</sup>

### Arizona, U.S.

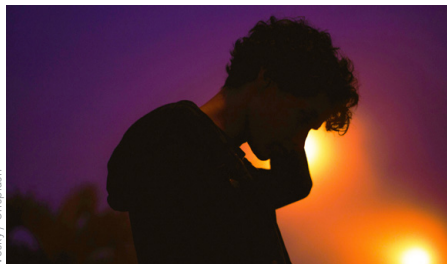
The park has reduced human-made light to create a space for visitors and animals alike to take refuge.

Urban Night Sky Place      369.6 km<sup>2</sup>

# News & notables



News from the global movement promoting responsible outdoor light at night



Vecky / Unsplash

## Largest-ever study on light exposure proves its impact on mental health

The world's largest study on **light exposure and its impact on mental health**, with almost 87,000 participants, has found that increased exposure to light at night increases a person's risk for psychiatric disorders such as anxiety, bipolar, and PTSD severity, among others. Read more:

[bit.ly/mentalhealth-LP](https://bit.ly/mentalhealth-LP)



Ray Hennessy / Unsplash

## IUCN releases guidelines for nocturnal conservation

The **International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)** has released a report with good-practice guidelines for conserving the night. It contains night sky values and conservation methods for protected areas and nature conservation worldwide. Intended mainly for conservation managers and other interested parties, it summarizes the impacts of light pollution and the resources available to help combat it. DarkSky contributed to the content of the report. Download it:

[bit.ly/IUCN-night](https://bit.ly/IUCN-night)

## Get your International Dark Sky Week merch!



A great way to support DarkSky is to purchase our customized apparel, mugs, and totes.

[bonfire.com/store/idadarksky](https://bonfire.com/store/idadarksky)

## Researchers release light pollution map of the ocean



Caleb Fisher / Unsplash

Scientists have published a global atlas of artificial light at night under the sea, showing that **artificial light is widespread in the world's underwater habitats**. The study proves how many areas of the global ocean are strongly impacted by light at night, affecting many aspects of marine life, including reduced reproductive success, disrupted migration, and shifts in species interactions. Read the paper:

[bit.ly/marine-LP](https://bit.ly/marine-LP)



Ruoyu Li

## Capture the Dark contest winners on display in China

In December 2023, through a collaboration of the **Shanghai Astronomy Museum** and **Rémy Martin**, and supported by DarkSky International, **IP SHANGHAI**, and the **International Astronomical Union’s Office for Astronomy Outreach**, the “Guarding the Dark Night | Aiming at the Stars” photography exhibition opened at the Shanghai Astronomy Museum. The exhibit features 28 photos from 15 countries, part of DarkSky’s **Capture the Dark 2023** photography contest. The exhibit runs until February 7, 2024.

## Support International Dark Sky Week

One way you can celebrate **International Dark Sky Week, April 2–8**, is through a special one-time donation to DarkSky. Your gift helps support critical programs that protect nighttime environments worldwide.

[idsw.darksky.org/donate](https://idsw.darksky.org/donate)



### IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

## DarkSky Approved Lodging

The **DarkSky Approved Lodging certification program** is now officially

open for applications.



Travel Burke

This new program offers an opportunity to obtain DarkSky certification for accommodation facilities, like lodges and hotels, that

have dark skies and maintain responsible outdoor lighting at night.

[bit.ly/darkskylodging](https://bit.ly/darkskylodging)

### OVERHEARD

“DarkSky is a fantastic resource. Your materials are well-written, easily understandable to the layperson, and offer clear suggestions for reducing light pollution.”

– John Batt, astrophotographer, Colorado, U.S.

## DarkSky wins prestigious Spotlight Prize

DarkSky is delighted to have received the esteemed **Spotlight Prize** at the **2023 LIT Lighting Design Awards**. The Spotlight Prize highlights an organization, project, or initiative making outstanding contributions to their community while also being a

key contributor to the lighting industry.



LIGHTING DESIGN AWARDS

Winning the prize underscores DarkSky’s unwavering dedication to combating light pollution

by promoting responsible outdoor lighting practices. Read more:

[bit.ly/darkskyspotlightprize](https://bit.ly/darkskyspotlightprize)

Hola! Bonjour! 你好!  
Hej! مرحبا! Hallo! Hei!  
안녕하세요 Tere! Γειά σου!  
Pozdrav! नमस्ते Ciao!  
こんにちは Merhaba!

This ground-breaking issue of *Nightscape* is the first one being mailed to DarkSky members in nearly 3 dozen countries where previously it was only available online.

For longtime member-subscribers, you'll notice it's also physically smaller. By reducing our magazine's width, we were able to drastically reduce our U.S. postage costs, thereby saving enough to start mailing to members outside the U.S. for the first time!

But have no fear — even though the pages are a little narrower, there are *more* pages per issue, so you'll get the same amount of great dark sky advocacy coverage every issue. And there's always more at:

[DarkSky.org/news](https://DarkSky.org/news)



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