



Delphinus, take a closer look

Surprises await for the binocular and small telescope user



Delphinus is a small constellation following Altair in its westward motion across the sky. To some observers, the tracing of its major stars really does resemble a leaping dolphin. While it doesn't contain any bright highlights, its packs binocular and telescope features.

Gamma Delphini

A nice double star, easily split at 50x.

Asterisms:

A68 13 stars mag. 10-13 forming a distinctive triangle 10 minutes east of Iota.

A70 lies 1° northwest of Gamma Delphini. The "Flyswatter."

A74 Imaginative "Toadstool" shape of 13 stars of mag. 9-12.

A 109 - Job's Coffin: comprises the rough parallelogram of Gamma, Alpha, Beta, and Delta Delphini.

Variable Stars:

U 6.1-7.6; ~120 days

EU 5.4-6.7; ~59 days

CT 6.8-8.5; ~83 days

13 Delphini

5.7 & 8.5 magnitude; 1.5 seconds sep.

A challenging double star, needs >250x and good seeing.

To find Globular Cluster

NGC 7006 (aka Caldwell 42):

Place the snout of the dolphin (Gamma Delphini) on the west side of the finder field. NGC 7006 lies on the eastern edge.

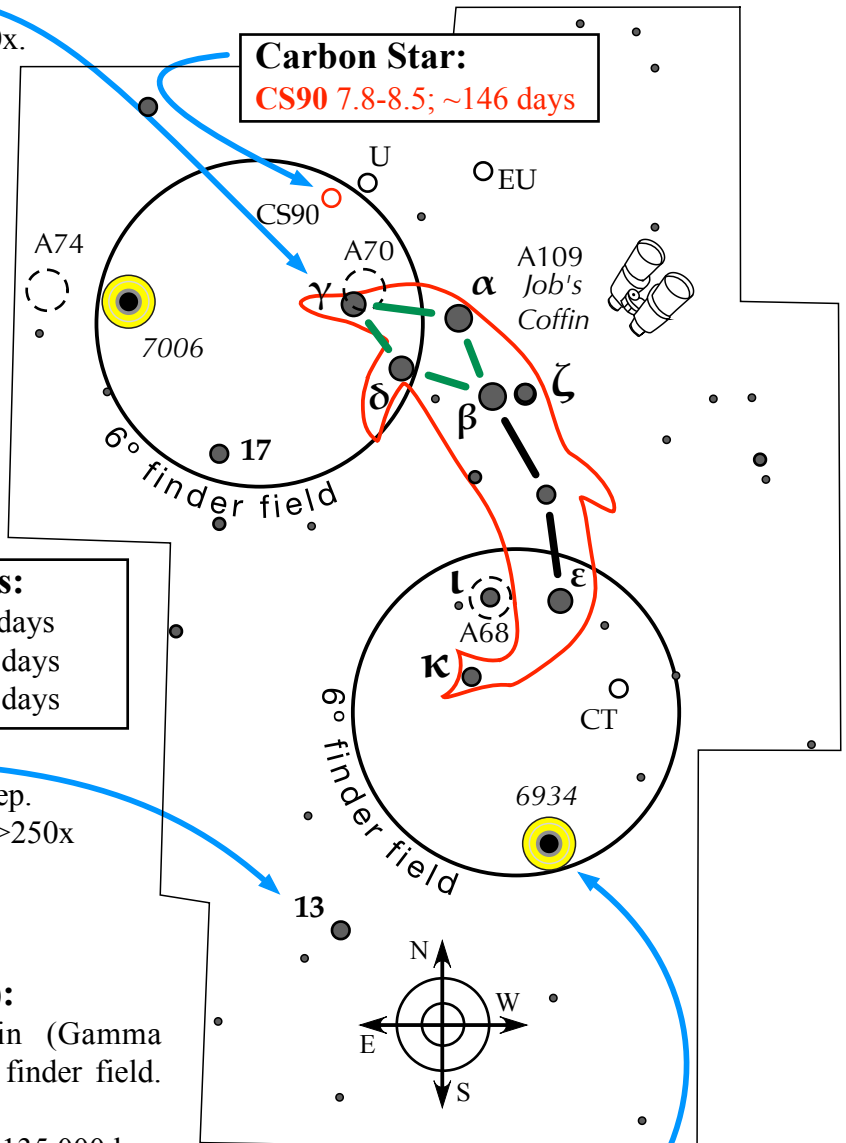
Mag: 10.6; Dia: 2.8 min; Distance: 135,000 ly.

AL Observing Programs represented here:

Constellation Hunter, Double Star, Variable Star, Asterism, Caldwell, Globular Cluster, & Carbon Star.

Carbon Star:

CS90 7.8-8.5; ~146 days



To find Globular Cluster

NGC 6934 (aka Caldwell 47):

Place Epsilon and Iota Delphini at the north edge of the finder field. The globular cluster lies near the southern edge.

Magnitude: 8.8; Diameter: 1.2 minutes