

BBC CHASING THE NORTHERN LIGHTS IN CANADA

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Sky at Night

THE UK'S BEST-SELLING ASTRONOMY MAGAZINE



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high & bright at
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THE SCIENTISTS PLANNING
TO TURN MARS GREEN

SUPERNOVA DISCOVERY
COULD UPEND COSMOLOGY

REVIEWED: THE EYEPIECE TO
MAKE ANY SCOPE SMARTER



The new mosaic offers twice the resolution and double the sky area of GLEAM's 2019 image

The Milky Way as you've never seen it before

This is the largest low-frequency radio colour image of our Galaxy ever assembled

Astronomers have revealed an incredible new view of our Galaxy, created from a range of radio wavelengths, the 'colours' of radio light.

The Southern Hemisphere view was captured during two survey periods in 2013–2014 and 2018–2020, as part of GLEAM (the GaLactic and Extragalactic All-sky MWA), a low-frequency radio


survey by the Murchison Widefield Array (MWA). This image offers twice the resolution, 10 times the sensitivity and covers twice the area imaged in the previous version released in 2019.

"This vibrant image delivers an unparalleled perspective of our Galaxy at low radio frequencies," says PhD student Silvia Mantovanini from Curtin University,

who spent 18 months and nearly a million hours on a supercomputer to process and compile the mosaic.

"It provides valuable insights into the evolution of stars, including their formation in various regions of the Galaxy, how they interact with other celestial objects, and their demise."

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▲ Stitching thousands of observations into one vast view, it unveils structures that are difficult to image at higher frequencies