

# Rare Summer 'Strawberry Moon' Shines Bright Tonight

Summer has officially arrived in the Northern Hemisphere, and to kick off its annual inauguration, a "Strawberry Moon" will grace the skies of the southeast on Friday, June 21.

The first moon of summer is a little deceptive at first, as many would expect it to shine a bright red or pink hue due to its namesake, much like the blood moons that draw so much attention.

This is not the case, however, as the Strawberry Moon got its name from American Indian tribes such as the Algonquian who used this moon to determine "the ripening of 'June-bearing' strawberries that are ready to be gathered," according to the Farmers Almanac, not a drastic change of color.

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"Since the 2024 June full moon happens on the solstice, the very day the sun is absolutely at its highest of the year, this month's full moon on the 21st is the very lowest full moon, indeed, the lowest we've seen in years," the Almanac reads. "Just look at it! Because the moon is so low, it will appear bigger than ever. This is called the 'moon illusion.'"

But the Algonquian tribe were not alone in this practice, as other tribes such as the Ojibwe, Dakota and Lakota also marked this moon as a time of harvest.

Events such as this, and the peoples of the earth using as a time of harvest, coincide with the words of the Bible in regard to the seasons changing as time continues.

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Here are two verses that show God is the Lord of the harvest and set forth the sun and moon to mark the times of the seasons:

- Genesis 1:14: "And God said, 'Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and let them be signs to indicate seasons, and days, and years.'"
- Psalm 104:19: "He set the moon to mark the appointed seasons;  
the sun knows its time for going down."

Take time to enjoy God's creation with your family and experience the Strawberry Moon to kick off your summer fun!

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