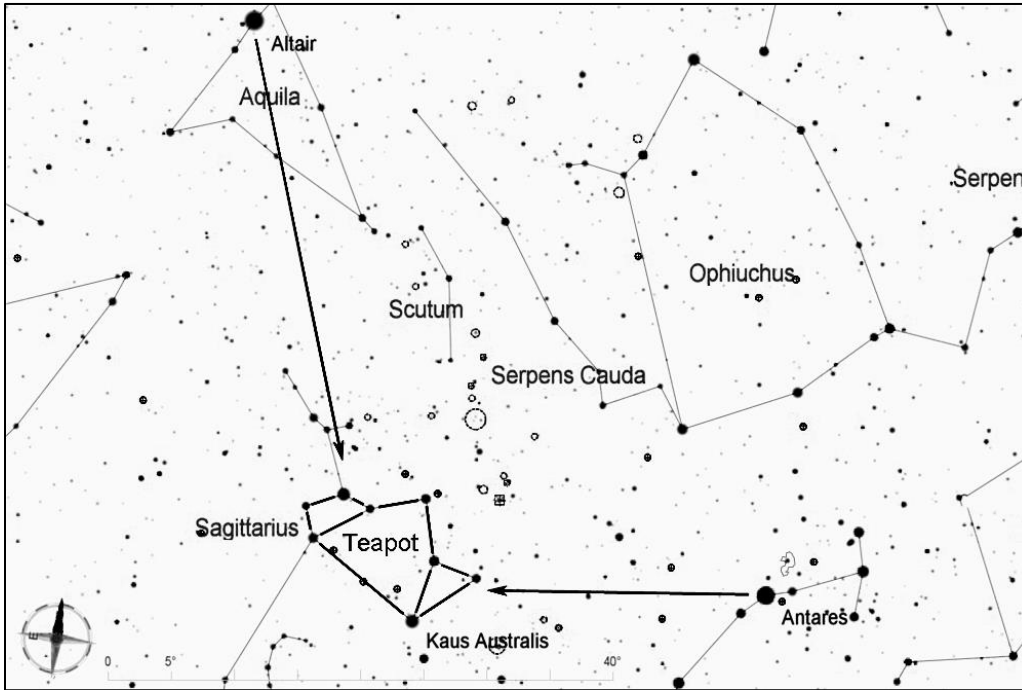


NGC 6522 and NGC 6528, Globular Clusters in Sagittarius

These two globular clusters are not very big or bright, but they are just 1/4 degree apart and can be seen in the same telescopic field of view. They make an interesting sight because of their proximity and their contrasting backgrounds. NGC 6522 (to the west) is seen against a very dense portion of the Milky Way, whereas NGC 6528 is on the edge of a dark nebula and there are fewer stars in the background.



From mid-summer to early fall, the distinctive teapot shape of Sagittarius can be seen low in the southern sky during the evening. It is about 50 degrees south of Altair (part of the Summer Triangle) and about 30 degrees east of bright red Antares. It is well worth learning to recognize the teapot, for it can guide you to dozens of beautiful deep-sky objects.

Once you have located the Sagittarius teapot, this is an easy star hop. Go to Alnasi, the star that represents the tip of the teapot's spout. From there, NGC 6528 is just 1/2 degree to the northwest. NGC 6522 is 1/4 degree west of 6528.

