



noctilucent  
**clouds**  
PHOTO GALLERY  
Summer 2009

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**Observing tips:** Look west 30 to 60 minutes [after sunset](#) when the Sun has dipped 6° to 16° below the horizon. If you see luminous blue-white tendrils spreading across the sky, you've probably spotted a [noctilucent cloud](#). Although noctilucent clouds appear most often at arctic latitudes, they have been [sighted](#) in recent years as far south as Colorado, Utah and Virginia. NLCs are seasonal, appearing most often in late spring and summer. In the northern hemisphere, the best time to look would be between mid-May and the end of August. **See also** [2003](#), [2004](#), [2005](#), [2006](#), [2007](#), and [2008](#)

	Photographer, Location	Images	Comments
	<a href="#">Sylvain Raimbault</a> , Paris, France Jul. 14, 2009	<a href="#">#1</a> , <a href="#">#2</a> , <a href="#">#3</a> , <a href="#">#4</a> , <a href="#">more</a>	What a national day !! Tonight, July 14, 2009, it was the national day of France (celebrating the french revolution in 1789). A huge fireworks was scheduled on the Eiffel tower in Paris, for the 120 years of the "iron lady", as we call it. The God of sky was with us : it was also a wonderful display of noctilucent clouds, the first of my life, as far as I remember. WOW ! What a show !!!
	Olivier Lagrave, Paris, France Jul. 14, 2009	<a href="#">#1</a> , <a href="#">#2</a> , <a href="#">#3</a> , <a href="#">#4</a>	As we celebrated the storming of the Bastille on July 14th, NLC stormed the sky of Paris ! Photos taken from the Champ de Mars during Bastille Day's celebrations. The display was so breathtaking (my first actually) that as I almost forgot to watch the fireworks !
	Jean-Marc Leclaire, Paris, France Jul. 14, 2009	<a href="#">#1</a> , <a href="#">#2</a> , <a href="#">#3</a> , <a href="#">#4</a> , <a href="#">more</a>	This evening, July 14th, was the Bastille day in France. I went to Paris to take pictures of the Eiffel Tower fireworks. There was not only Eiffel Tower but many noctilucent clouds, very bright, visible from horizon to zenith ! I made some pictures from Alma Square (place de l'Alma) in Paris, with a Canon 40D digital camera.

	<p><a href="#">Louis Hecker</a>, Vincennes, Val de Marne, France <b>Jul. 14, 2009</b></p>	<p><a href="#">#1</a>, <a href="#">#2</a></p>	<p>Awesome noctilucent clouds in the parisian sky. They took almost half of the sky at the beginnig ! Taken with Pentax K200D, f8 200 iso and from 5 to 10s exposure</p>
	<p><a href="#">Marek Nikodem</a>, Szubin, Poland <b>Jul. 14, 2009</b></p>	<p><a href="#">#1</a>, <a href="#">#2</a>, <a href="#">#3</a>, <a href="#">#4</a>, <a href="#">more</a></p>	<p>Yet another fabulous display of NLCs just after sunset here in Poland. Last night, after sunset. Nikon D 700/ Nikkor 28-105</p>
	<p><a href="#">Erwan Gardan</a>, Paris, France <b>Jul. 14, 2009</b></p>	<p><a href="#">#1</a>, <a href="#">#2</a></p>	<p>I got this picture while I'm was looking at the firework over Paris for the national day (July the 14). What a beautifull 120th birthday for the Eiffel Tower.</p>
	<p>Greg, Triel sur seine, Yvelines, France <b>Jul. 14, 2009</b></p>	<p><a href="#">#1</a>, <a href="#">#2</a>, <a href="#">#3</a>, <a href="#">#4</a>, <a href="#">more</a></p>	<p>These looked a lot like noctilucent clouds--am I right? (<i>Editor: Yes.</i>)</p>

**more images:** [from Peter McCabe](#) of Dublin Airport, Ireland; [from Morten Ross](#) of Sandbukta, Svartskog, Norway; [from Robert B Slobins](#) of Prague, Czech Republic; [from Donatas Tamonis](#) of Kaunas, Lithuania; [from Magnus Olsson](#) of Helsingborg, Sweden; [from Emmanuel Jehin](#) of Spa, Belgium; [from John Grzinich](#) of Ahja, Estonia; [from Jacob Kuiper](#) of Steenwijk, The Netherlands; [from P-M Hedén](#) of Vallentuna, Sweden; [from Jeremy Housman](#) of Ramsgate Kent UK; [from Jan Koeman](#) of Kloetinge, The Netherlands; [from Peter Elzinga](#) of Burgum, Friesland, The Netherlands

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Northern Lights Photo Gallery: A solar wind stream hit Earth on May 20th causing a mild geomagnetic storm and Northern Lights around the Arctic Circle. The auroras of May 21st were so bright, they were visible in the twilight blue sky above Nunavik, Quebec.

"The sky is blue at 1 o'clock in the morning when I took these pictures," says photographer Sylvain Serre. "At our latitude at this time of year, it is blue all night long--and it's never a dark blue. So, at 1 o'clock in the morning, the sky is bright and I can see only a few stars."

In spite of this extra glare, Serre was able to see the auroras. "I saw them with my unaided eyes. The clouds made it difficult, but the clouds were moving slowly while the northern lights were moving faster." This, plus the green color of the auroras, made it possible to sort things out.