

FIFTY GRANDE

THE BEST HOTELS FOR STARGAZING AND ASTRO-TOURISTS

Night skies blanketed in stars used to be the easiest form of escapism. No matter where you were, you could just look up and there they shined, free of charge. But with nighttime light pollution now affecting nearly 80 percent of the world, starlight has turned into another commodity: dark sky hunting is a [burgeoning trend in travel](#). What's more, with a total solar eclipse sweeping across North America in April, plus the annual Perseid Meteor shower and a partial lunar eclipse in August, 2024 looks like it will be a banner year in astro-tourism. Top stargazing destinations like Alaska, Hawaii and West Texas will likely be at the center of the action, and hotels and glampsites are tapping into the trend too, with guided star tours, night sky photography workshops and celestial wayfinding journeys. Here's where to check in and gaze up at distant planets and glittering galaxies – no astronomical knowledge required.

Evergreen Lodge – Yosemite, Calif.



Photo by Kim Carroll

Miles from the nearest city lights, Yosemite National Park is a great place to look at the stars, but visiting this summer between April 13 and August 15 will require a reservation made using a complicated system. One loophole that bypasses the reservation rigamarole: staying at [Evergreen Lodge](#), located one mile from the park's western entrance, and joining one of its [Yosemite stargazing tours](#). Star Guides use high-powered laser pointers to pick out constellations, nebulae and star clusters with a 4.5" aperture digital Unistellar telescope on hand to give you an even closer look at the night sky.