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The Great Carina Nebula
Image Credit & Copyright: NASA, ESA, and the Hubble Space Telescope (Barden Ridge Observatory)
Explanation: A jewel of the southern sky, the Great Carina Nebula (NGC 3372), spans over 300 light-years, one of our galaxy's largest star forming regions. Like the smaller, more northerly Great Orion Nebula, the Carina Nebula is easily visible to the unaided eye, though at a distance of 7,500 light-years it is some 5 times farther away. A telescopic close-up reveals remarkable details of the region's central glowing filaments of interstellar gas and obscuring clouds. The field of view is over 50 light-years across. The Carina Nebula is home to young, extremely massive stars, including the blue supergiant Eta Carinae (below and right of center) and the still enigmatic variable Eta Carinae, as well as the dusty Keyhole Nebula (NGC 3324), seen here just above the center. X-ray images indicate that the Great Carina Nebula has been a venue for intense star formation.

2019 Astronomy Picture of the Day Calendar

February 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					Feb 1	2
3	4 New Moon	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 First Quarter Moon	13	14	15	16
17	18	19 Full Moon	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 Last Quarter Moon	27	28	Mar 1	2

Notes

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					Mar 1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23