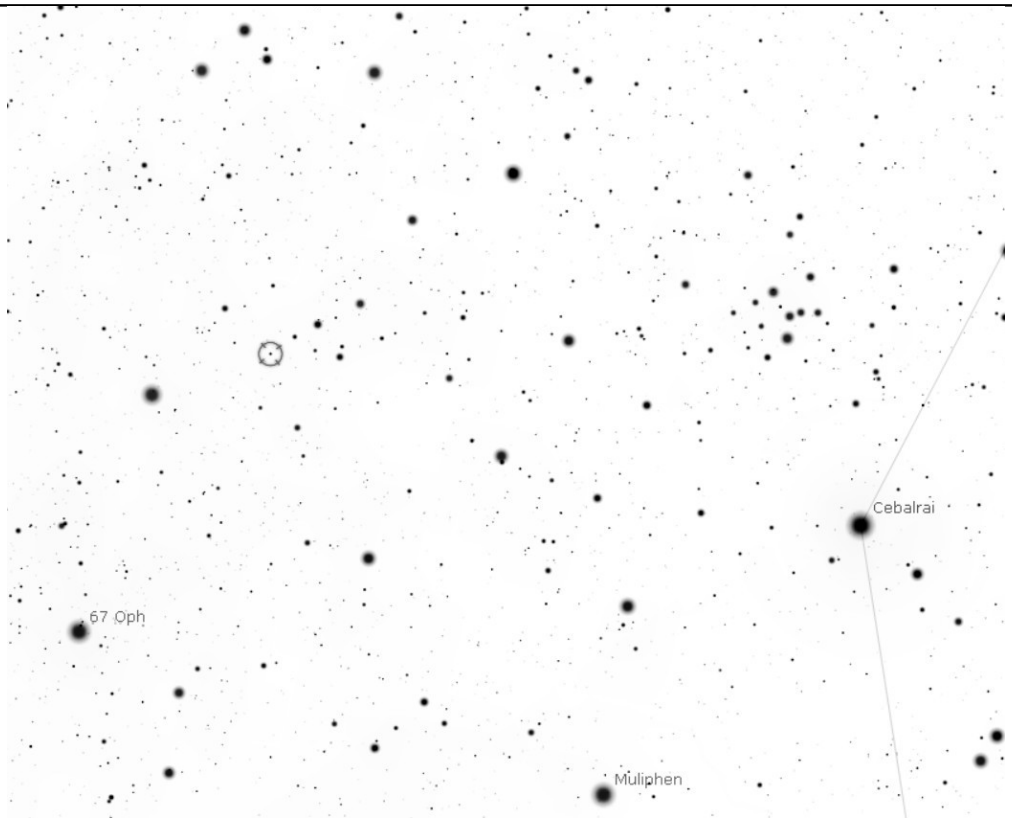
1758

Barnard's Star



Quick Facts:

Distance: 6 light-years. Constellation: Ophiuchus.

A red dwarf with the fastest apparent speed (proper motion) across the sky of any star. It moves a moon's diameter every 175 years. Careful amateur observations can reveal the motion in less than a year. The 4th closest star to our sun, only the trinary Alpha Centauri system is closer. Find it: Locate Rasalhague south of Hercules, sweep south to 3rd magnitude Celbalrai, then about 3-4 degrees west to 9th-mag Barnard's Star. GOTO: Use the GOTO RA-DEC function in UTILITIES with the coordinates 17h57.8m, +04°42'. Finder chart has north up.

Image: Stellarium. Quick reference card by Derek Wallentinsen.