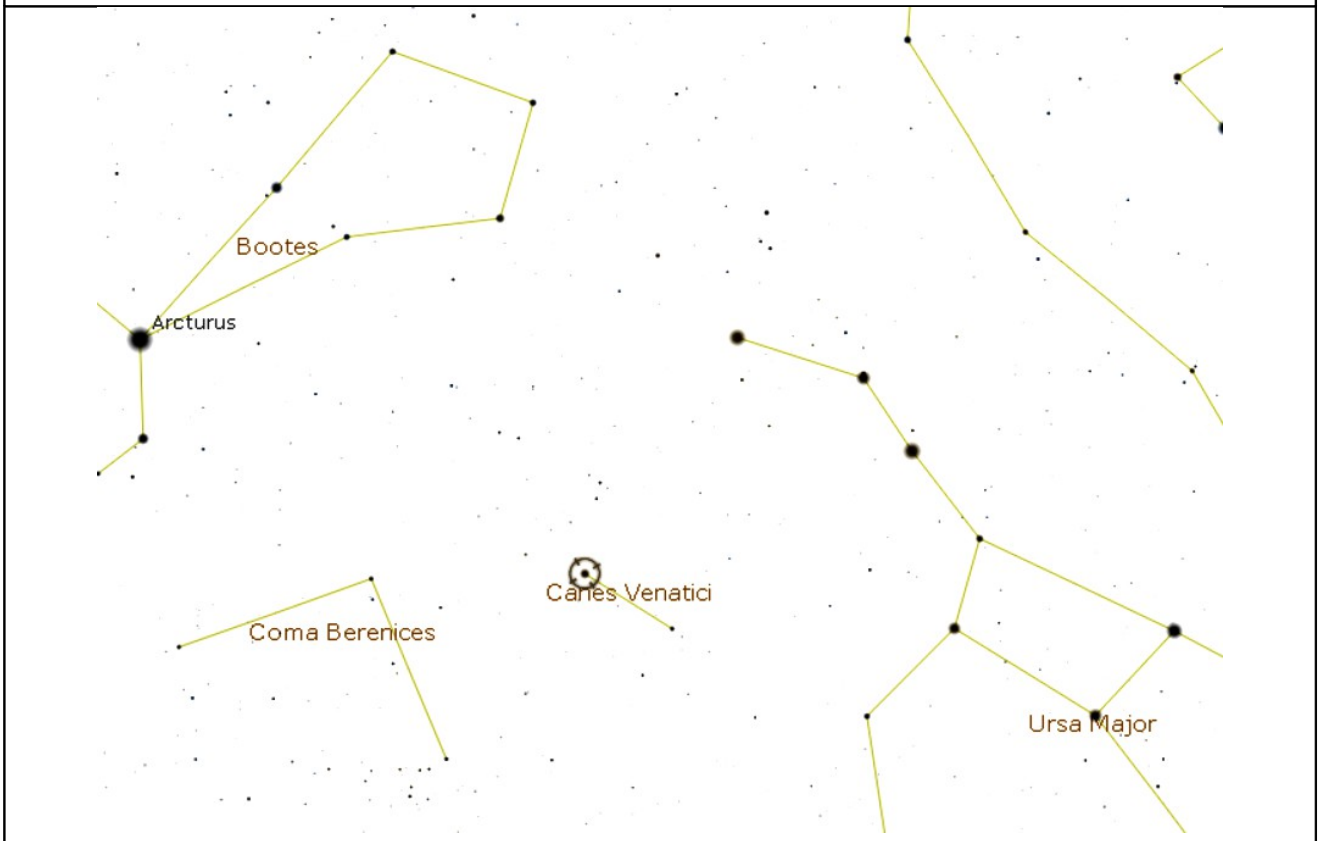
Cor Caroli



Quick Facts:

Distance: 110 light-years

Constellation: Canes Venatici

The poetic name refers to one or the other of the two English monarchs Charles I or Charles II and means the Heart of Charles. It's the brighter star of the binary system. Cor has a strong magnetic field, producing enormous starspots causing the star's light to vary by about 10 percent over time.

Find it: Look approximately halfway between Arcturus and the Big Dipper for a star somewhat fainter than Polaris. GOTO: DOUBLE STARS.

Image: Stellarium. Quick reference card by Derek Wallentinsen.