2012

Crescent Nebula

Quick Facts:

Distance: 5000 Light-years. Size: 25 Light-years.
Constellation: Cygnus.
A large stellar wind-blown bubble around a massive star late in its life. Formed about 30,000 years ago, it has at its center a star 600,000 times brighter than the sun, soon to go supernova. NGC 6888.
Find it: Sweep 2.7 degrees southwest of the intersection star of the Northern Cross, Gammi Cygni or Sadr, along the upright axis of the Cross in the direction of Albireo. GOTO: NGC.

Image: Luca Moretti CC BY-SA 4.0. Quick reference card by Derek Wallentinsen.