1803

Lagoon Nebula

Quick Facts: Distance: 4,000 Light-years.
Size: 110 Light-years.
Constellation: Sagittarius
Star-forming gas cloud and associated cluster. This is a naked-eye glow in the Milky Way. The red color is glowing hydrogen gas fluorescing from ultraviolet radiation from stars in the cluster. Messier 8.
Find it: It is 6 degrees due north of the spout star of Sagittarius' Teapot. (This is slightly higher in the sky than the top of the Teapot's lid, which is east of the nebula). GOTO: M (MESSIER).

Image ESO/S.Guisard. Quick reference card by Derek Wallentinsen.