Markarian's Chain

Constellation: Virgo – Coma Berenices border.
A fascinating group of 8 galaxies, 7 of which are physically moving through space together. It's over 1 million light-years long. Part of the Virgo Galaxy Cluster, 55 million light-years away. The two brightest at the southwestern end of the chain are Messier 84 and 86, giant lenticular galaxies. Moving NE, The Eyes (NGC 4435 and 4438) are a pair of gravitationally interacting galaxies, followed by another such pair, NGC 4461 and 4458. NGC 4473 and 4471 complete the original chain. Messier 84 is the sole superposed and not physically connected member. Fainter galaxies are in the same field of view as the chain.
Find it: Look 6 degrees E of Denebola in Leo to find a 5th mag. Star, then sweep 3 degrees SE to find the Chain. GOTO: M (Messier).

Image by Hewholooks. Quick reference card by Derek Wallentinsen.