

Stella

The Night Wise Owl



Congratulations! You are staying in a “Stella, the Night Wise Owl” approved accommodation offering onsite or nearby access to the universe via a nearly naturally dark night sky. If it is a clear night, step outside, your eyes will beam you up — no Scotty required.

Stella's expert suggestions:

- 👁️ Plan for comfort - I like to perch on a limb, but people do better on the ground, prone or reclined, sitting is next best.
- 👁️ Adapt your vision - Turn all lights, inside and out, off. Unless red or amber, avoid using a flashlight. It takes up to 20 minutes to fully dark adapt your night vision to see like me.
- 👁️ Download a planetarium app on your smart- phone or tablet. Select the night mode (red). Find and trace out all the constellations you can.
- 👁️ Access a sky watcher website to find out what's up tonight.
- 👁️ Next time consider bringing a constellation guide and maybe binoculars.
- 👁️ Record your experience in the guestbook and/or social media and please, mention me, Stella.

Oh, almost forgot, let me hear from you on my Facebook Page - (see over).



ABOUT STELLA, LIGHT POLLUTION AND THE ARKANSAS NATURAL SKY ASSOCIATION

Stella, the Night-Wise Owl, is the outreach mascot of the Arkansas Natural Sky Association (ANSA), a affiliate of the International Dark-Sky Association (IDA), a nonprofit environmental organization dedicated to educating the public about the growing problem of light pollution and the responsible lighting practices needed to combat it.

Light Pollution is not just about seeing the stars, as light pollution is wasted energy and hence contributes to the various forms of pollution and climate change associated with energy production. A 100-watt bulb left on all night generates almost a half-ton of carbon dioxide each year. The earth has known night and day for five billion years. Nearly all biology is keyed into that cycle. Lighting the night impacts wildlife, shrinks habitat and poses risks to human health, by disrupting biological processes entrained by the diurnal cycle. <https://news.uams.edu/2017/06/02/light-pollution/>

Visit us at darkskyarkansas.org if you...

- are looking for a location to experience a natural sky in Arkansas.
- know of a dark sky place to share with others.
- have a problem with a neighbor's intrusive lighting.
- want to learn about responsible lighting practices.



Hence, thoughtless, impulsive, and poorly designed lighting is a broad spectrum assault on our environment. It wastes money, ironically creates safety and security concerns, and detracts from the aesthetics of our communities, in addition to stealing the stars.

Please support ANSA by joining our Facebook Group where we love to have people post their Arkansas dark sky photos and adventures. www.facebook.com/groups/ARK. IDA/

www.darkskyarkansas.org