

MON 11TH NOVEMBER 2019

# TRANSIT OF MERCURY

Image Credit: Composite image of the 2016 Transit of Mercury by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center/SDO/Genna Duberstein

During the afternoon of Monday 11th November, the planet Mercury will transit the Sun. This means it will pass between the Earth and Sun and be visible (with special solar viewing equipment\*) as a dark blob moving across the face of the Sun.

\*Looking directly at the Sun with your eyes or even with a telescope is extremely dangerous and can cause blindness. You can watch this video recorded by astronomer Prof. Lucie Green to find out how to safely view the transit of Mercury: <https://vimeo.com/366703749>

## TIMELINE

**12:35**

Mercury starts its transit of the Sun at 12:35 GMT

**15:15**

Half way! Mercury has taken 2hrs 40 mins to travel half way across the Sun

**16:15**

The Sun sets in the UK at 16:15 (GMT) and we lose sight of Mercury

## MERCURY PASSES BETWEEN THE EARTH AND SUN

Illustration not to scale

