

'Can anybody watch eclipse?' and other FAQs on Blue Moon

Why is this lunar eclipse called Blue Moon, Super moon, Copper-red moon?

Blue Moon: When two full moons happen in the same calendar month (January 1, 2018 and January 31, 2018), the second full moon is called blue moon.

Super Moon: Super Moon happens when the moon's closest approach to Earth (perigee) in a single orbit coincides with a full moon. A super moon is up to 14% bigger and 30% brighter.

Copper-Red Moon: This time, the super moon happens to be on the same day as the lunar eclipse. When a total lunar eclipse occurs, the moon looks orangish, copper coloured or reddish because of the scattering of sunlight in the earth's atmosphere. Therefore, the moon is called Blood Moon or Copper Moon.

Why is it special?

Because it is happening after 150 years!

What time will it be visible in Bengaluru?

The lunar eclipse begins at 4.21 p.m. The total eclipse will end at 7.31 p.m, but partial eclipse will continue till 8.41 p.m. Penumbral Lunar eclipse will end by 9.38 p.m.

How can one watch the lunar eclipse?

Locate a high-rise building or any open space from where moon rise will be clearly visible.

Can anybody watch the phenomenon?

Yes! There is no scientific evidence of any harmful rays or increase in microbial activity during eclipses. It is absolutely safe to eat, drink water and continue doing our normal activities during eclipses.

Do we need special equipment?

No. If binoculars and simple telescopes are available, the moon will look a little more attractive. The company of friends and family could further enhance the experience.

Courtesy: Breakthrough Science Society

Begins at 4.21 p.m. and end by 9.38 p.m.

Receive the best of The Hindu delivered to your inbox everyday!

Please enter a valid email address.

Just what exactly needed such special protection and secrecy is still unknown.

END