

Lincoln Hills Photo Club

Photography SIG

August 2, 2023

Don't Leave It To Chance!



"A goal without a plan is just a wish."

Le Petit Prince

by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

Photo Planning... a Structured Approach

- It ain't easy!
- It takes time and a commitment to maximize your potential for success.
- But if you learn and use the tools available you will vastly improve your chances of not coming home empty-handed.
- So in effect, you are going to build an an approximate image virtually before you actually take the shot.

The Process.

- Get inspired
- Visualize an Image
- Research Possibilities
- Validate Conceptualized Image
- Get the shot

The process begins with motivation... get inspired!

- Browse the work of others on social media
- Look at other photographer's websites
 - John Paul Caponigro, Jay Maisel, Paul Biddle
- Explore "Photography" websites regularly
 - Flickr, Instagram, 500px, Shutterstock, Adobe Stock, Locationscout, etc.
- Look at photography contest winners
 - World Press, National Geographic, NYT, Nature Conservancy
- Talk with your fellow Sun City photo club members

Determine what kind of image you want to create.

- Landscape
- Moonrise/Moonset
- Sunrise/Sunset
- Urban Landscape
- Portraiture
- Events
- Street Photography
- Travel

Conceptualize an Image

- So you have an image in mind... a Moonrise Photo!
- Scout Location
 - Google Maps, Goggle Search, Google Earth
 - US Geological Service (USGS) Maps
 - Locationscout.com, Blue Marble Navigator,
 - Visit Location

Visualize an Image - a Moonrise Photo

- Sketch it out...on paper/screen, or in your mind



Visualization of Moonrise over rocks and tree in Spenceville Wildlife Area.

Photo by: Greg Ferguson

So what tools do you need to put together a plan?

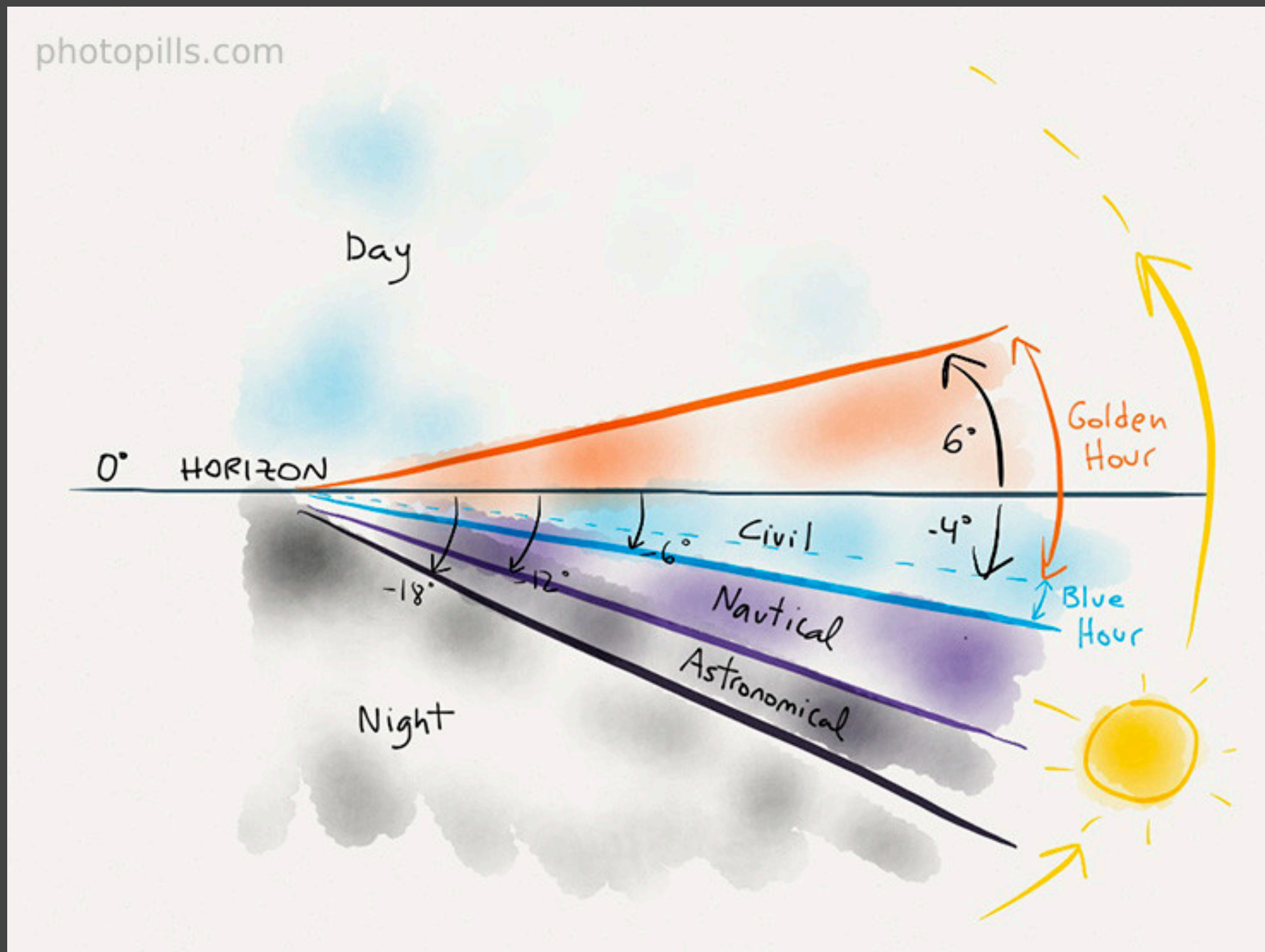
- Use location/photo planning tools
 - PhotoPills, The Photographer's Ephemeris (TPE), PlanIt, LightTrac
- Weather conditions reporting tools
 - Astropheric, Clear Outside,
- On Location Verification tools
 - Mobile Phone Augmented Reality displays

Things you need to know to build a plan

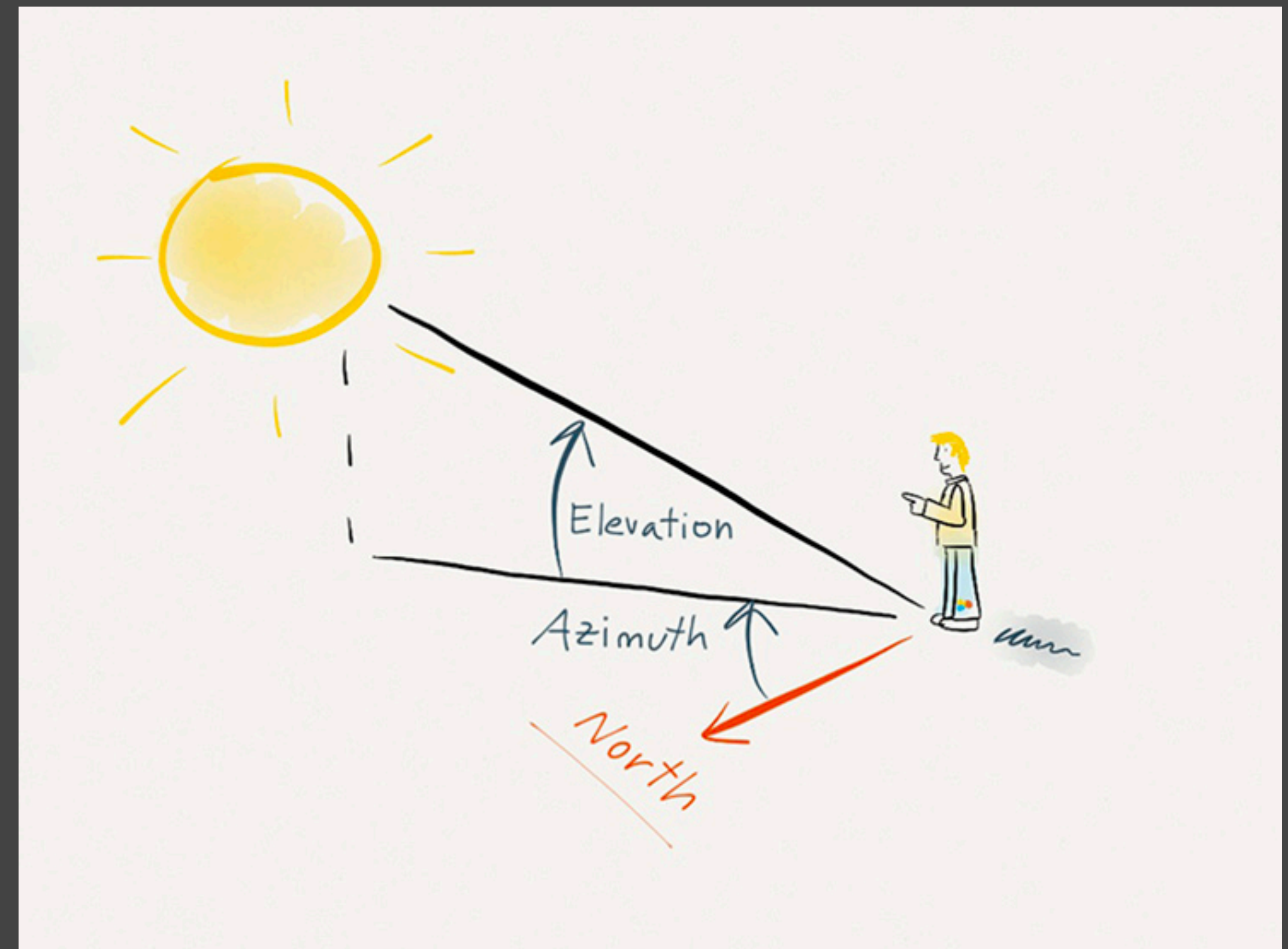
- Best Time & Place
- Topographic Info
- Weather Conditions
- Camera Position & Lens
- Quality of Natural Light
- Moon Azimuth & Elevation

You also need to know the quality of the light and be able to forecast the moon's position before it appears.

Natural Light

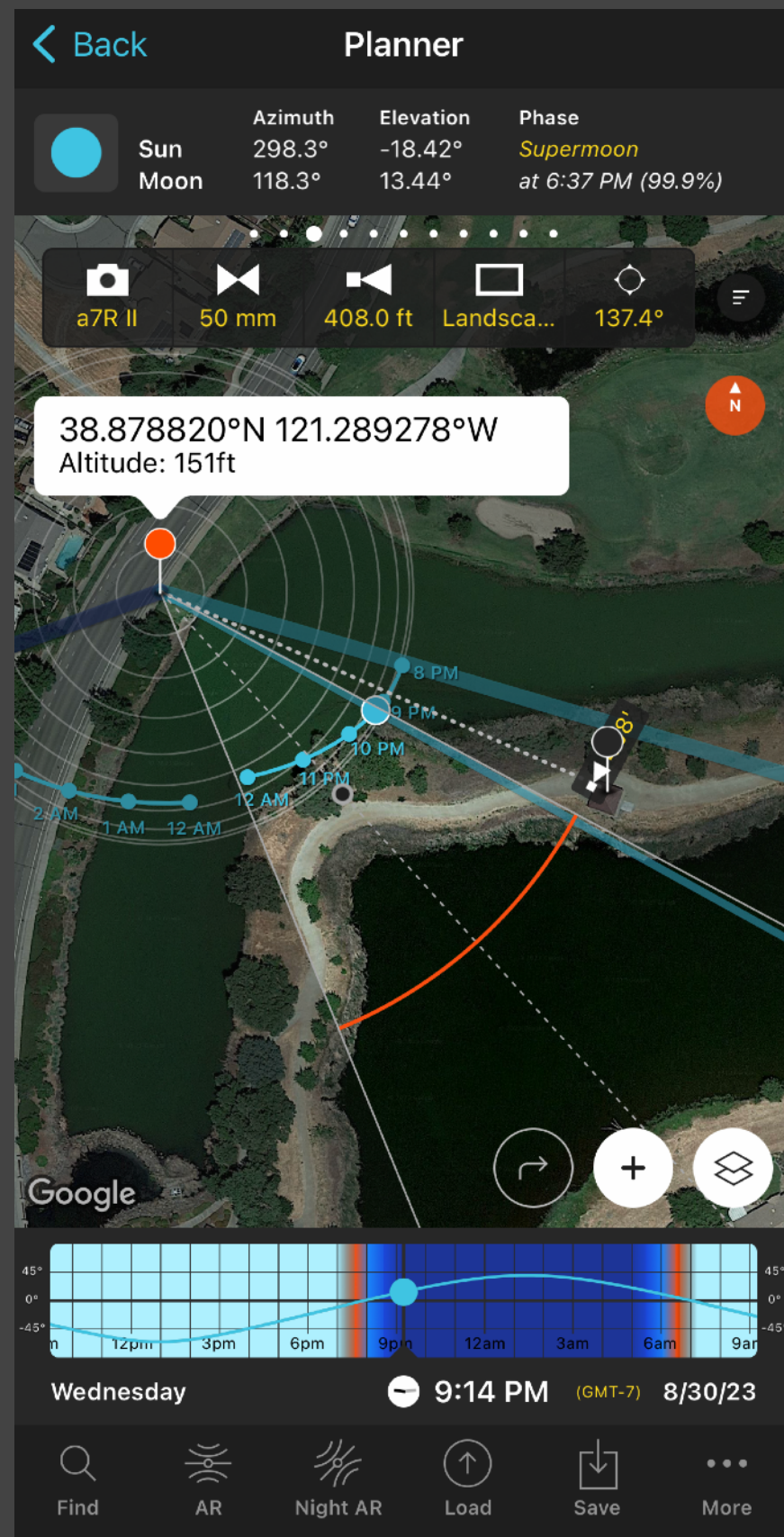


Azimuth & Elevation

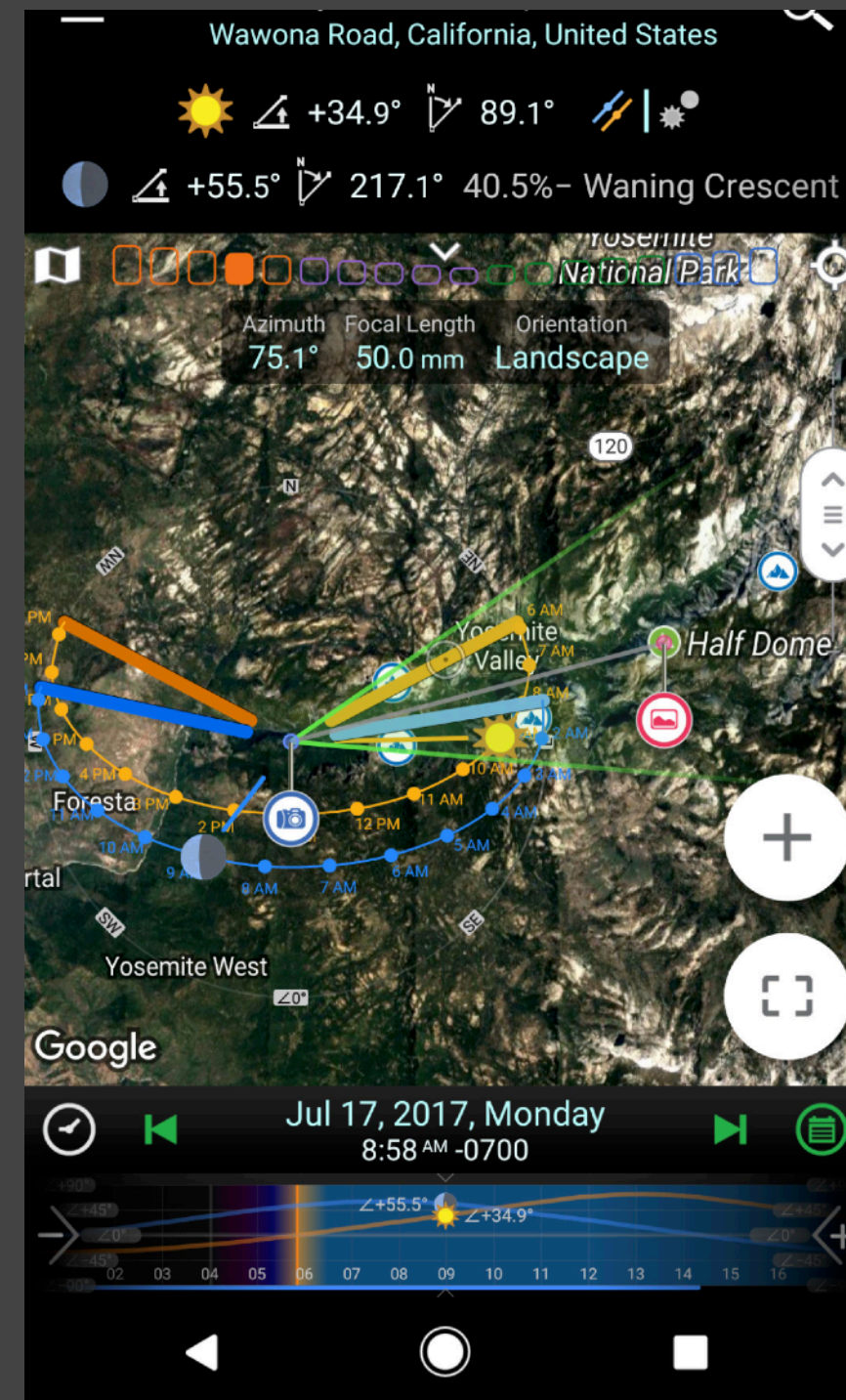


Location/photo planning tools

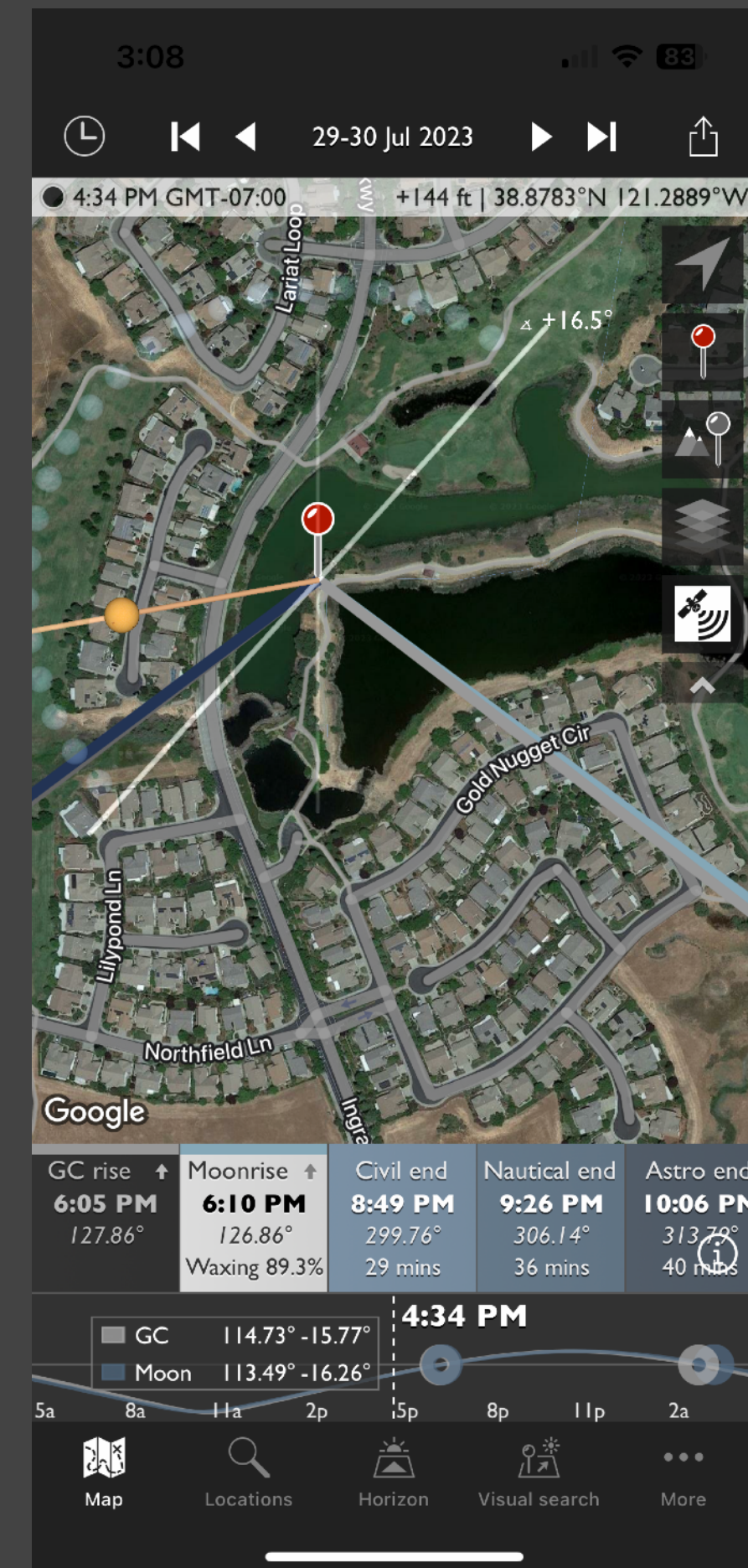
PhotoPills



PlanIt



Photographers Ephemeris



Weather and Sky Conditions planning tools

Astrospheric

The screenshot shows the Astrospheric website interface. At the top, there are navigation links for Settings, Help, 2023 Eclipse Map, and 2024 Eclipse Map. The current location is Lincoln, CA (38° 49' 24" N, 121° 16' 13" W). The main content area features a map of California with a red circle highlighting the location of Lincoln, CA. Below the map, there is a weather forecast for Monday, 31st, showing a clear sky with 4% cloud cover, excellent transparency, and average seeing. The temperature is 86°F, and the dew point is 43°F. The wind is 9 mph. The forecast also includes a timeline of cloud cover (kp) and a detailed hourly temperature and wind forecast. At the bottom, there is an advertisement for William Optics RedCat telescopes.

Clear Outside

The screenshot shows the Clear Outside website interface. At the top, there are navigation links for HOME, HOW TO USE, IOS / ANDROID APP, FAQ, USEFUL LINKS, STATUS, ROAD MAP, and GET IN TOUCH. The current location is Wheatland, Yuba, United States of America (39.02, -121.43). The main content area features a forecast for Monday, 31st, showing a clear sky with 100% visibility. The forecast also includes a timeline of cloud cover (kp) and a detailed hourly temperature and wind forecast. At the bottom, there is an advertisement for Pulsar Observatories.

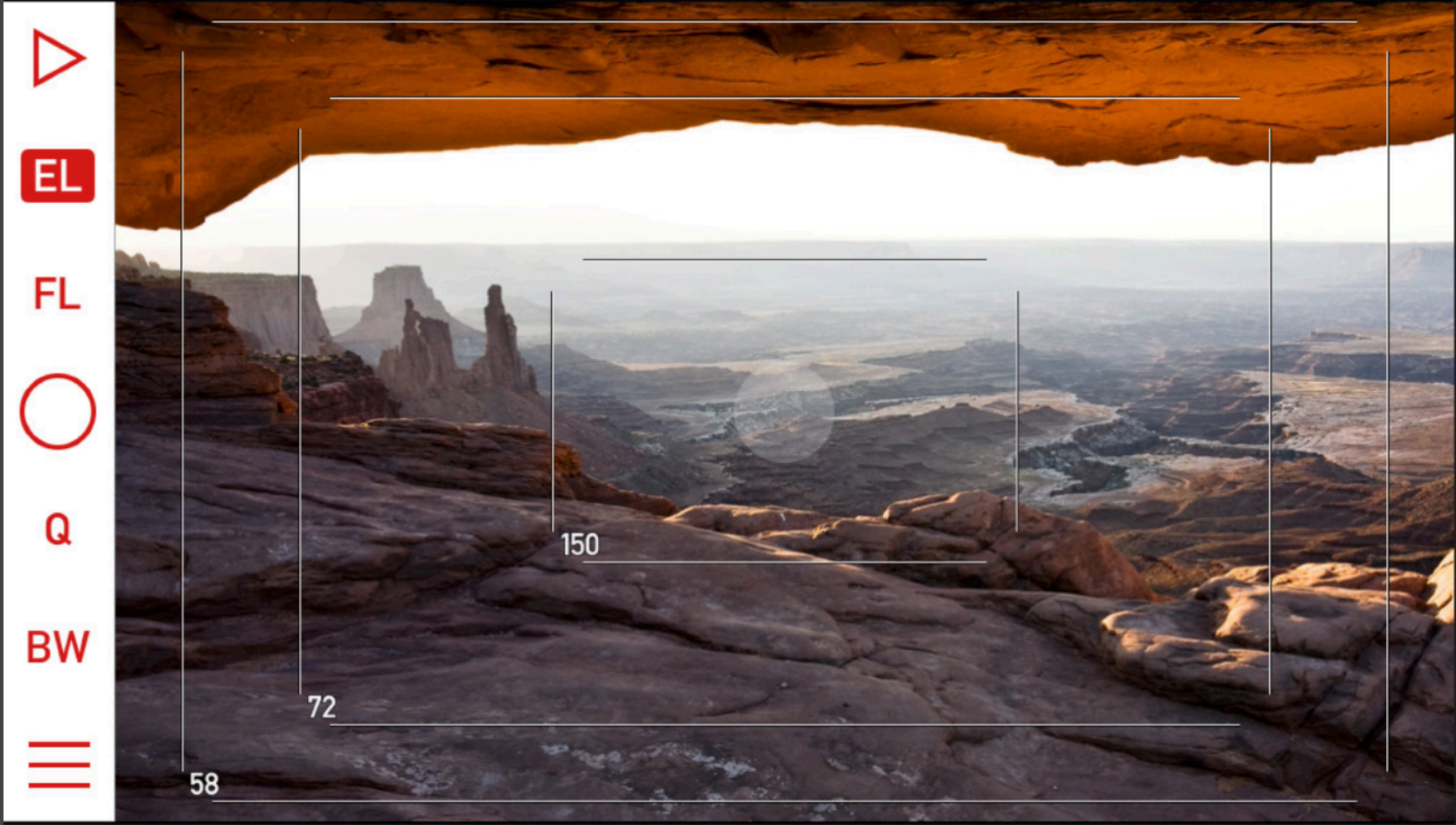
Monday 31	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09
Total Clouds (% Sky Obscured)	28	22	17	3	36	74	69	58	77	82	100	100	99	100	99	85	61	56	55	55	53	95	88	97
Low Clouds (% Sky Obscured)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Medium Clouds (% Sky Obscured)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	10	13	18	17	
High Clouds (% Sky Obscured)	3	0	3	3	32	73	68	57	75	81	100	100	99	100	99	84	61	56	55	55	47	95	87	97
ISS Passover																								
Visibility (miles)	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Fog (%)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Precipitation Type																								
Precipitation Probability (%)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Precipitation Amount (mm)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wind Speed/Direction (mph)	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑

On-site Verification Tools

Theodolite



Mark II Artist's Viewfinder

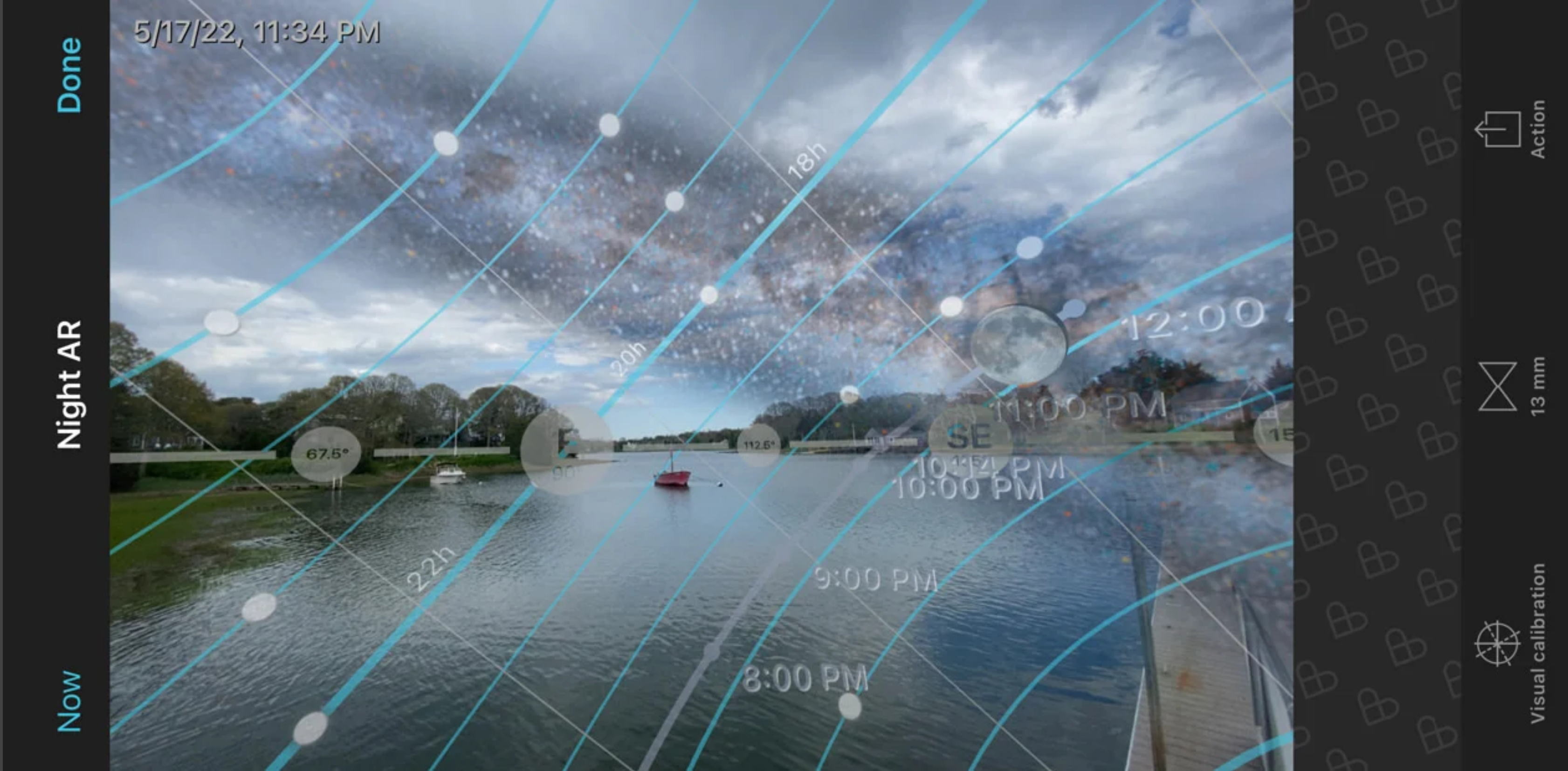


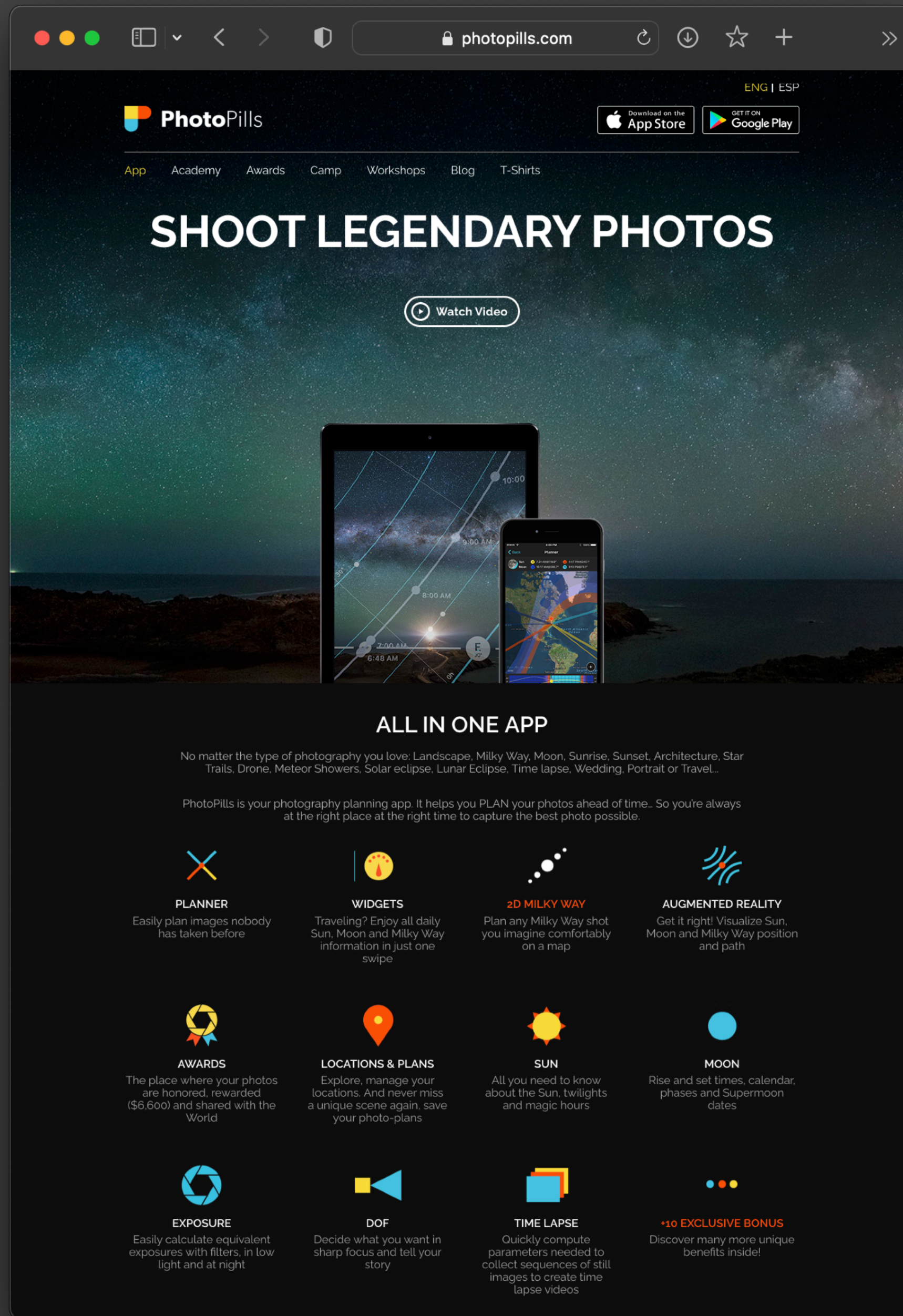
Spyglass



On-site Verification Tools

An Augmented Reality Viewer





Let's take a look at PhotoPills

- The First 2D Map-Centric Planner: Sun, Moon, Milky Way
- Sun, Moon Alignments Fast Finder
- 3D Augmented Reality: Sun, Moon, Milky Way, Celestial Equator, Polaris, DoF, FoV
- Photo Plans Manager
- Location Scouting Tool
- Key information: Sunrise/set, Twilights, Golden Hour, Blue Hour, Moonrise/set, Supermoon dates, Moon Calendar
- Calculators: Long Exposure, Timelapse, Spot Stars, Star Trails, Hyperfocal Table, DoF, FoV
- Widgets: Sun, Moon, Milky Way

Visualize an Image - a Moonrise Photo

- Sketch it out...on paper/screen, or in your mind



Visualization of Moonrise over rocks and tree in Spenceville Wildlife Area.

Photo by: Greg Ferguson

Planning the 1st August Supermoon Photo - Scouting



Ferrari Pond



SCLH North Waterfall



Coyote Pond

Planning the August 1st Supermoon Photo - Plan B

Spenceville Wildlife Area - two locations

Scouting trip to SWA on 7/29/23



Waldo Road



Pond off Spenceville Rd. Equestrian Trail

"The best laid schemes o' mice an' men
Gang aft a-gley."

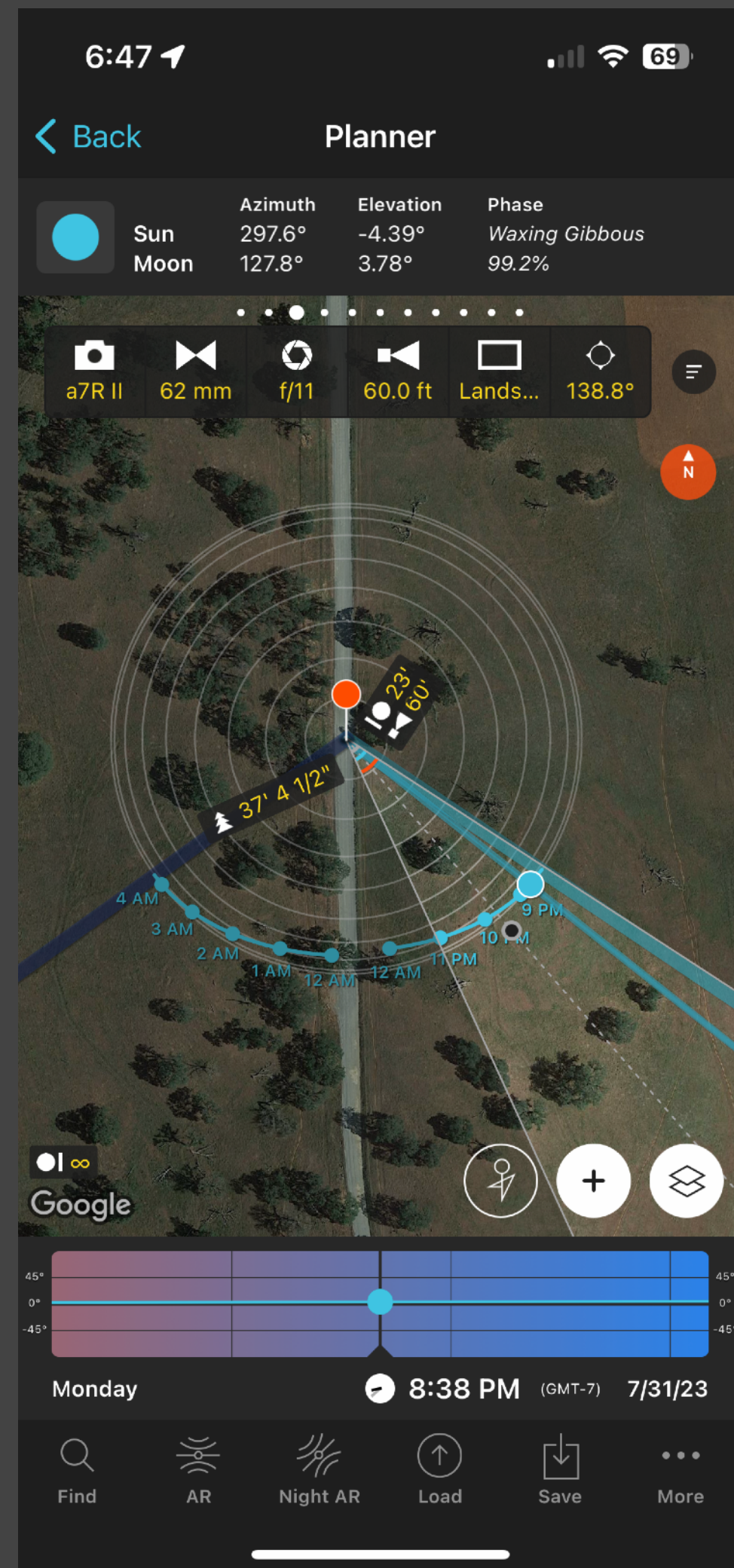
To a Mouse

by Robert Burns - 1785

iPhone Shots during just before Moonrise



Shot Selection & Verification on 7/31/23



iPhone Shots during Moonrise



Spenceville Photos... First draft



July 31, 2023 @ 8:44 PM



July 31, 2023 @ 8:57 PM

