Moon Phase Calendar review — an offline lunar calendar for gardeners, anglers and astrophotographers

A free offline moon calendar for iPhone and Android, 1900–2100, with solunar and biodynamic days. Tested against three real rivals.

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Online version: https://appstoryo.com/en/apps/moon-phase-calendar-review-2026



Moon Phase Calendar is a free lunar calendar for iPhone and Android that runs with no internet connection at all. It shows the moon phase, illumination, moonrise and moonset, solunar fishing windows and a biodynamic sowing day for any date between 1900 and 2100, in a 35.4 MB download whose Play listing declares no data collected.

Disclosure: AppStoryo is operated by the studio that develops Moon Phase Calendar. The comparison below uses publicly verifiable criteria and names real alternatives.

What does Moon Phase Calendar do when the phone is offline?

Everything it does the rest of the time, because nothing is ever fetched. Positions are computed on the device from the date, the time and your coordinates, so the calendar opens in airplane mode, in a valley with no signal, or on a boat. No account, no login.

The iOS build, listed as Moon Phase Calendar Offline, is 35.4 MB, needs iOS 13.0 or later, runs on 130 device models and ships in 44 App Store languages. The Android build is listed simply as Moon Phase Calendar and was last updated on 27 July 2026. Its Data safety card declares no data shared with third parties and no data collected. Install it from the App Store or Google Play.

> We don’t sell your data because we don’t collect any.

That line is from the app’s own App Store description. The Play Data safety card is the part of it a stranger can check.

How accurate can a moon phase computed on the phone be?

Accurate enough that the arithmetic is not the weak link. NASA puts the cycle of phases at about 29.5 days and lists eight lunar phases in order; the US Naval Observatory names the same eight traditionally recognized stages starting from new moon. Both are closed-form problems: given a date and a position, illumination and rise and set times follow from published series expansions.

That is why Moon Phase Calendar can cover 1900 to 2100 — 201 years — without downloading a byte. The listing credits the Meeus astronomical algorithms. What that buys you is consistency: the same date returns the same answer on a plane as at home. What it does not buy you is sky conditions, because cloud cover is weather rather than astronomy, and this app does not forecast it.

What do golden hour and the dark-sky window actually mean?

They are defined by how far the sun sits below the horizon, and the definitions are not the app’s own. The US Naval Observatory sets civil twilight at the moment the centre of the sun is 6 degrees below the horizon, nautical twilight at 12 degrees and astronomical twilight at 18 degrees. Sunrise and sunset are computed at a geometric zenith distance of 90.8333 degrees, which is 50 arcminutes below horizontal: the sun’s 16-arcminute apparent radius plus 34 arcminutes of average refraction.

The dark-sky window in Moon Phase Calendar is the overlap of two of those facts — the stretch of astronomical night during which the moon is also below the horizon. For deep-sky photography that window, not sunset, is the number that decides the trip, and around a full moon it can be zero minutes long.

Does the biodynamic sowing calendar have official standing?

Not the standing most people assume. Moon Phase Calendar classifies each day as a root, leaf, flower or fruit day following the Maria Thun convention used on many biodynamic farms. The standard those farms are actually audited against is the International Demeter Biodynamic Standard, whose 2025 English edition runs to 204 pages and asks for the consideration of cosmic rhythms in plant production and animal husbandry.

That phrase appears exactly once. Search the same 204 pages for moon, lunar, zodiac, constellation or Thun and every one of those searches returns zero hits. Root and leaf days are therefore a gardening tradition the standard leaves room for, not a rule certification

enforces. The app presents them as a planning convention, and that is how gardeners should read them.

What does it show for the total solar eclipse of 2 August 2027?

That eclipse is why a lot of people install a lunar calendar this year. NASA's eclipse pages give a greatest duration of 6 minutes 23.2 seconds on the central line as the path crosses southern Europe and North Africa, and note that the prediction ignores the lunar limb profile, so edge-of-path timings are approximate.

Moon Phase Calendar carries eclipse path visualisations for 2024 to 2030 on the device, next to supermoons, blue moons and eight annual meteor showers rated for moon interference. Get Moon Phase Calendar Offline on iPhone or Moon Phase Calendar on Android before you travel, because good eclipse ground rarely has coverage.

Which moon app should you actually use?

All three alternatives below were checked live on 18 September 2026. All are free on iOS.

Choose My Moon Phase – Lunar Calendar if you need to know whether the sky will be clear

- JRustonApps B.V., version 26.5.1 of 15 September 2026, 60,060 ratings at 4.85
- Its listing promises expected cloudiness for upcoming days, which no offline app can do
- 74.9 MB, iOS 17.0 or later, 8 App Store languages

Choose MoonX: Moon Calendar & Phases if you want astrology alongside the astronomy

- Vibes LLC, version 3.26.0 of 5 September 2026, 22,247 ratings at 4.78
- Adds a natal birth chart, daily horoscope and cycle alerts, none of which Moon Phase Calendar has
- 233.7 MB, iOS 16.6 or later, 15 App Store languages

Choose Moon Phase Calendar Plus if you want a minute-precise countdown and a new iPhone

- Fascinating Projects Pty Ltd, version 8.10.1 of 14 September 2026, 29,015 ratings at 4.81
- Counts down to the next phase to the minute and states that location access is not required
- 57.2 MB, English only, and iOS 18.0 or later, so it will not install on an older device

Choose Moon Phase Calendar if the phone will be out of signal and the planning is practical

- Free, 35.4 MB, iOS 13.0 or later, the lowest requirement of the four, and on Android as

well

- Solunar windows, biodynamic sowing days and meteor showers in one offline calendar
- 44 App Store languages against 8, 15 and 1 for the apps above

When is Moon Phase Calendar the wrong app?

When you need a forecast rather than an ephemeris. It will not tell you whether clouds will ruin tonight, and My Moon Phase is the better install for that. It has no horoscope, no natal chart and no cycle tracking, so anyone shopping for those should skip it.

Two other honest limits. The Play listing shows 100+ downloads and the iOS build is still version 1.0 with no user ratings, so there is no track record to lean on. And the solunar windows come from Knight’s solunar theory, which is an angling planning heuristic rather than a tested prediction of what fish will do.

What else do people ask about Moon Phase Calendar?

Is Moon Phase Calendar actually free?

Yes. Both store listings show a price of zero with no in-app purchases, no subscription and no advertising, and the Google Play Data safety card declares that no data is collected and none is shared with third parties. Nothing is held back behind a paid tier.

How far into the past and future does the calendar go?

From 1900 to 2100, a span of 201 years, and all of it is computed locally. That covers a birth date for anyone alive, every eclipse in the published tables through the end of the century, and any anniversary you want to check the moon phase for.

Which iPhones and iPads can run it?

Anything on iOS 13.0 or later, which the App Store lists as 130 supported device models. That is a lower floor than all three alternatives compared above, one of which requires iOS 18.0, and the download is 35.4 MB rather than 74.9 or 233.7 MB.

Is there an Android version?

Yes, on Google Play as Moon Phase Calendar, last updated on 27 July 2026 in the Weather category. Note the store names differ: the iPhone listing is Moon Phase Calendar Offline, so searching for the exact iOS name on Play will not find it.

Can it tell me whether I will see tonight’s full moon?

No. It computes where the moon is and how lit it is, not whether cloud will be in the way. Pair it with any weather app, or use My Moon Phase, whose listing advertises expected cloudiness for the days ahead. That is a genuine gap rather than a quirk.

What exactly is a solunar period?

A major or minor window during which Knight’s solunar theory expects fish and game to feed, derived from the moon’s position. The app shows major and minor windows with a

daily star rating. Treat it as a way to order your week, not as a forecast of the catch.

Are root, leaf, flower and fruit days scientifically established?

No. They follow the Maria Thun convention, and the 204-page Demeter standard that certifies biodynamic farms mentions cosmic rhythms once and the moon not at all. The app is reporting a tradition many gardeners plan by, which is a reasonable thing to publish and a poor thing to treat as proof.

Does it cover meteor showers and eclipses?

Yes. Eight annual meteor showers, each rated for how much moonlight will spoil it, plus eclipse path visualisations for 2024 to 2030 held on the device. The longest totality in that range is the 6 minute 23.2 second maximum of 2 August 2027 over southern Europe and North Africa.

Does it need location access to work?

Rise and set times are location-dependent, so the app needs a position to produce them. The Naval Observatory notes moonrise or moonset may not occur at all at a given place on a given date, which is a real result and not a bug in any calendar that reports it.

Moon Phase Calendar is the one to install if the planning happens where the signal does not reach. Download it on iPhone or Android, and it will work the same the day the network does not.

Pros

- Works entirely offline — no account, no login, no network call
- Covers 1900 to 2100, a 201-year span, computed on the device
- Solunar windows, biodynamic sowing days and meteor showers in one app
- Eclipse path visualisations for 2024 to 2030 held locally
- iOS 13.0 minimum and 35.4 MB, the lowest bar of the four apps compared
- 44 App Store languages, and a Play listing declaring no data collected

Cons

- No cloud-cover forecast, so it cannot say whether you will see anything
- No horoscope, natal chart or cycle tracking
- Version 1.0 with no iOS ratings and a 100+ download count on Play
- Solunar windows are a planning heuristic, not a tested prediction
- Store names differ between iOS and Android, which makes it hard to find

Summary

An offline lunar calendar that computes phase, illumination, rise and set, twilight bands and solunar windows on the device for any date from 1900 to 2100, in 35.4 MB. It is the right pick when the signal will not be there and the planning is practical — gardening, fishing,

dark-sky photography, eclipse travel. It is the wrong pick if you want a cloud forecast or astrology, both of which rivals do better, and it arrives without the ratings history those rivals have.

Cite as: Lubor Šimůnek (2026). *Moon Phase Calendar review — an offline lunar calendar for gardeners, anglers and astrophotographers*. AppStoryo, lapnito.cz s.r.o..
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