Messier 107 Ophiuchus 16h 32m -13° 03"

Data of the sky region at the time of the observation	
Data of the night	Sun alt: -28.5° Moon alt: -25.8°
Data of the object	
Telescope	



Nagler 31mm (70x - 1° 10' - 6.6mm)

A curious globular object located in a curious environment.

The framing of the object and the stars that surround it has caught my attention as it seems to be part of the interior of an arrow. I mean, there is a series of stars of similar magnitude that at 6 o'clock shows a straight line pointing to the object. In addition there are three other stars placed at 9, 12 and 3 o'clock from the object that seems to enclose it in a triangle. So the whole gives the appearance of an arrow with the globular cluster inside its head. Very curious indeed.

Apart from this pareidolia the field has some bright stars in the 6 o'clock zone but it is not very rich in stars.

The cluster doesn't look very big, I don't think it covers a fifth of the eyepiece size.

Unlike other globular clusters the outer halo is not so extensive compared to the central core (I have the impression that both cover the same area) and that is why the first impression is that there is no outer halo. However, it is easily detectable as soon as you use the averted vision.

To highlight a detail, it seems that the 7 o'clock region of the globular cluster is somewhat brighter than the rest. Perhaps because there seems to be a higher magnitude star displaced towards that region.

Ophiuchus 16h 32m -13° 0

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Nagler 22mm (98x - 50' - 4.7mm)

I am surprised how much the object has gained with the use of the 22mm. I reconfirm that the area from 9 to 7 o'clock is the brightest within the core of the globular cluster. That is to say, it seems that the brightness is not evenly distributed, increasing towards the centre, but is slightly shifted to that region.

I start to resolve some stars and I detect some areas where it seems that there are no stars. Especially in comparison with that brighter area I mentioned before. I like objects to show different details with different eyepieces and so, when I change eyepieces and find a richer image of the object, I start to enjoy it in a different way.

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Delos 14mm (154x - 28' - 3mm)

How I love to jump into this eyepiece when the object is bright!

It happens all the time in my eyepiece set, the cluster has gained a lot of prominence and now it absorbs me completely as it occupies almost half of the field that the eyepiece shows me and above all with a lot of brightness, contrast and detail.

To begin with, the number of stars I can see has increased a lot, both in the outer halo and in the inner core. This allows me to focus on new details. Not to mention the beauty of observing a complex object with dozens of tiny, fully defined and bright points.

My exploration continues confirming what I had seen in previous eyepieces: the highest brightness of the cluster is between 7 and 9 o'clock and it is due to a pair of stars of similar magnitude that are now much more easily resolved (I was able to intuit them before). It is true that I have lost a little of the brightness or faint cloudiness that the outer halo showed me, which I had to observe with the side view in the 31mm but I think it is because I am now able to resolve the stars as individual points and not as a halo.

I am also struck by a series of stars between 6 and 4 o'clock that seem to form a fairly straight line, as well as the empty space around the brightest core between 9 and 6 o'clock, which is followed by a series of fainter but resolvable stars. I liked this view of the cluster.

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Ethos 10mm (216x - 27' - 2.1mm)

What a pleasure it is to look at objects with this definition and with such good material.

Despite the magnification the object has not lost definition. The stars continue to appear totally punctual, it is marvellous, it is beautiful to be able to count them calmly and to be able to differentiate stars of such different magnitudes so easily.

It is really amazing to see how the object evolves through the different eyepieces that I place in the telescope.

In my voice notes I say: "even though it is a bit faint and not very big I like the overall image of the cluster".

The main difference between this eyepiece and the previous one is (apart from the larger size of the object) that I think I have gained a little more luminosity as I regain the impression of seeing a compact object, something that I had lost with the previous eyepiece. I don't know if it is because I see again fainter stars with a slight cloudiness, but the fact is that it looks again like a cluster with two brightness levels, a brighter one inside and a fainter one outside.

Additionally I identify more star clusters, all of them easily resolvable.

A very beautiful view with the 10mm.

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The image with the 8mm is not bad but it is starting to deteriorate a bit. The punctuality of the stars is not as fine as before, I find it difficult to get such a precise focus. I am struck by the fact that the central area of the cluster seems to make a concave curve in the 6 o'clock region. I am also struck by a branch of stars that emerges towards 12 o'clock from the 10 o'clock region. A beautiful image even at such high magnification.

Ethos 8mm (270x - 22' - 1.7mm)

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Delos 4.5mm (480x - 9' - 1mm)

Very surprised with the view of the 4.5mm, really.

What strikes me most is the inner structure of the cluster as it is really complex. For example, I have the impression that the brightest stars are not exactly in the centre of the cluster, but surround it. Starting with the star that from the first eyepieces I saw as the brightest at 7 o'clock, continuing towards 9 o'clock but then turning towards 12 o'clock and arriving with more bright stars up to 3 o'clock. While in the interior there are other individual stars but clearly with a lower brightness than these that surround the core like a crown.

Also between this ring of bright stars and the outer halo stars there seems to be a darker, star-poor region, so the whole of it in the eyepiece reminds me of looking at a lunar crater in the terminator. Where you see the bright edges, you go down a fainter slope that gets darker as you enter the part where the sun doesn't reach and then look again at a pinnacle that stands out brighter because the sun is shining on it again. To be more precise, the central part resembles those pinnacles with structure, that is to say with higher areas than others. But of course on the moon everything is a continuum and in the cluster the stars are resolved. Although in the 4.5mm they are no longer dots but small balls that I can't focus any more.

The pity is that the overall image has completely fallen apart, as the outer halo no longer looks like one, and now I only see individual stars at the ends of the eyepiece, with no more detail.