Partial Solar Eclipse

Wed 12th August 2026

The Society has permission to observe the Solar Eclipse from the University of Reading Sports Field.

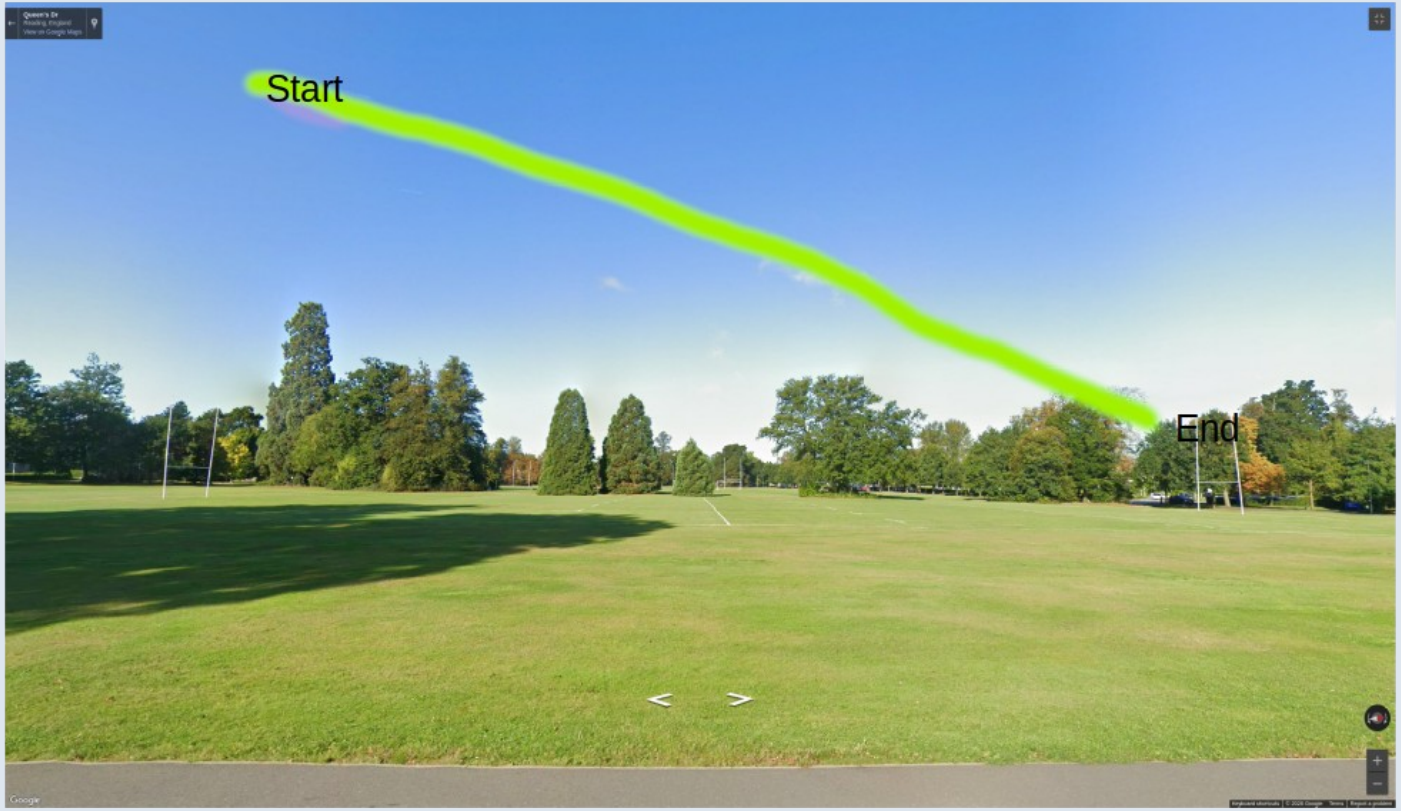
The site offers an excellent location to observe the event from its start until the close to the end of the event.

Ideally, we would like to have a few Society members there with observation equipment. Let me know if you can help out.

Fingers crossed for clear skies!

It is conveniently near bus stops on Route 21.

University of Reading – Partial Solar Eclipse 2026/08/12
Start ~ 1817BST, Az 266 deg. End ~ 2006BST, Az 289 deg



Partial Solar Eclipse at UoR, 2026/08/12 – Approx path from opp Car Park 5

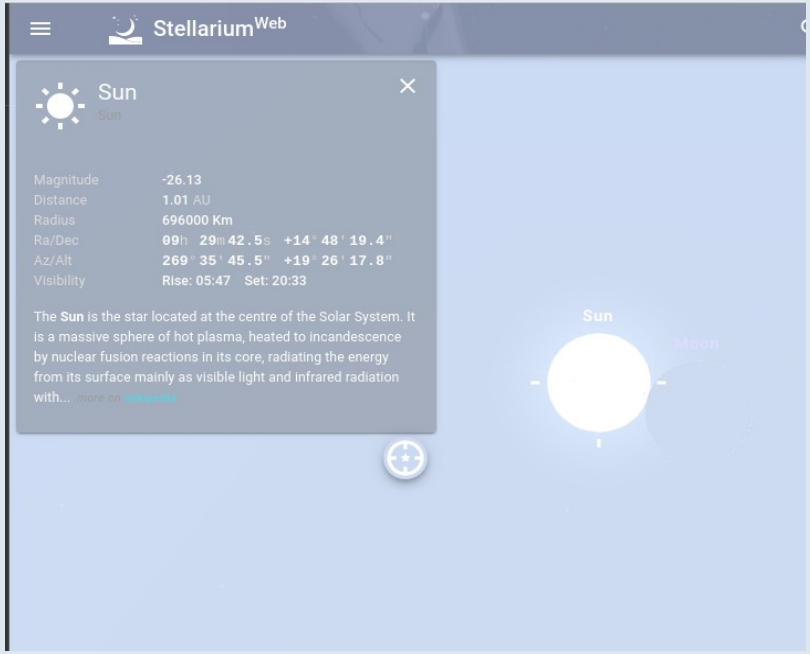
SOLAR ECLIPSE – PARTIAL 2026/08/12
APPROXIMATE TIMINGS

LOCATION University of Reading – Whiteknights Campus

Event	**BST**	**Azimuth T°**	**Altitude°**	**Magnitude %**
Start	1817	269	19	
Max	1913	280	11	92.9
End	2006	289	03	
Sunset	2033	295	00	

Data: - Stellarium Web, Timeanddate.com

MJB 2026/04/09



University of Reading

Partial Solar Eclipse - Start

1817 BST

Azimuth 269° T
Altitude + 19°

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Partial Solar Eclipse at Maximum 92.9%

1913 BST

Azimuth 281° T
Altitude + 10°

University of Reading

Partial Solar Eclipse 6 min before end

2000 BST

Azimuth 289° T
Altitude + 03°

RAS members planning to participate should let me know by 6th August so that I can give the University an idea of numbers attending. Five or six telescopes would be great.

Set up on site from 1700 h, vacate site by 2030 h

A couple of Solar Studies students from the UoR Dept of Meteorology may participate in observing the Eclipse with us.

Useful equipment for observing the Eclipse will be telescopes fitted with front objective solar filters (check for any damage and securely attached), Coronado PST type telescopes or equipment for solar image projection. Simple pinhole cameras are another safe way to observe the event.

A limited supply of ISO 12312-2 Solar Eclipse Observing glasses will be available. Bring your own if you have some.

The use of internal eyepiece “solar filters” and binoculars will not be permitted.

Please read and understand the Health and Safety Risk Assessment that the University has asked us to draw up.

Contact: - malcolm8.brown@gmail.com

UoR PARTIAL SOLAR ECLIPSE 12th AUGUST 2026 – Risk Assessment Form

Description of Risk	Who is affected by risk?	Likelihood of risk? High/med/low	Measures taken to avoid risk	Action Required in event of risk occurring	Person required to make action
Traffic – Crossing road	Self & Public	Unlikely Low	Care to be taken when crossing road from car park/bus stop.	Use gap in perimeter fence for access to observation site.	Everybody
Display table - Trip hazard	Self & Public	Unlikely Low	Display table located to rear of telescopes	Ensure table is pegged down if significant wind.	Self
Telescopes & Observing Equipment. Trip hazard Misuse of equipment	Self & Public	Possible Medium	Telescopes will be staffed at all times. If a telescope has to be left unattended, it shall be trained well away from the sun. Use only approved solar filters, checked for integrity and securely fixed. Herschel wedge or projection may be used. Pinhole or shadow devices may be used. Internal solar filters & binoculars **NOT** permitted. Approved eclipse glasses to ISO12312-2 should be checked free of defects before issue.	Attendees shall be warned NEVER to look directly at the sun. Ensure telescopes are spaced at least 3 m apart. Ensure telescopes bear a warning notice 	Self
Unsupervised children -	Children public	Possible Medium	Children shall be supervised by their parents.	Ensure that children remain with parents at all times when on site.	Everybody
Accidents – Eye injuries	Public	Unlikely Low	NEVER look at the sun, even at moment of maximum eclipse.	For minor cuts, clean and apply first aid plaster. Any major incident, call 999	Everybody
Litter – rubbish	All	Unlikely Low	Collection bag for any rubbish to be provided by display table	Collect rubbish after event	Self

Name of Assessor: **Malcolm Brown** **Position:** **Assistant Secretary, Reading Astronomical Society**

Date: **20 July 2026**