

## Geographical Lunacy: Moon Glossary

- Apogee** *the point in an object's orbit farthest away from the centre of Earth, or a planet.*
- Black Moon** *the second of two New Moons in the same calendar month*
- Blood Moon** *a total lunar eclipse is sometimes called a Blood Moon because when fully eclipsed, the Full Moon takes on a red tinge. The term is also frequently used to describe four total lunar eclipses that occur in a row. Find out more [here](#).*
- Blue Moon** *a seasonal Blue Moon is the third Full Moon of an astronomical season that has four Full Moons. A monthly Blue Moon is the second Full Moon in a calendar month with two Full Moons.*
- Ebb tide** *the change from high to low tide*
- Eclipse** *a total lunar eclipse takes place when the Earth comes between the Sun and the Moon and its shadow covers the Moon. The Moon appears to turn red when the eclipse reaches totality. A 'Blood Moon'. [Next Total Lunar Eclipse: Fri, 14 Mar 2025 03:57:28]*
- Flood tide** *the change from low to high tide*
- Full Moon** *when the Sun and the Moon are aligned on opposite sides of Earth, and 100% of the Moon's face is illuminated by the Sun*
- Gibbous Moon** *the oval-to-round shape of the Moon*
- Harvest Moon** *the Full Moon closest to the September equinox is called the Harvest Moon.*
- Lunar Day** *the time it takes Earth to reach the same position in relation to the Moon, on average, 24 hours and 50 minutes*
- Micromoon** *when a Full Moon or a New Moon coincides with apogee.*
- Moonbow** *similar to rainbows, they are created by moonlight instead of direct sunlight.*
- Neap Tide** *seven days after a spring tide—refers to a period of moderate tides when the sun and moon are at right angles to each other*
- New Moon** *when the Sun and Moon are aligned, with the Sun and Earth on opposite sides of the Moon.*

**Spring Tide** *also known as King Tide, these happen during Full Moon and New Moon phases, the Moon and the Sun's gravitational forces combine to pull the ocean's water in the same direction – the 'springing forth' of the tide. They happen twice a lunar month.*

**Tidal range** *technical term for the difference in water level between high tide and low tide*

**Supermoon** *when the Full Moon or New Moon occurs near the Moon's closest approach to Earth, its perigee.*

**Waning Crescent Moon** *waning means shrinking and getting smaller, crescent refers to the curved sickle shape.*

**Waxing Crescent Moon** *waxing means growing larger.*

*Some useful websites and sources*

BBC About the Moon <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z8nxhcxw>

BBC Bitesize Moon Year 5 <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z3b3ydm#zywjsg>

NASA Moon Phases <https://nasaclips.arc.nasa.gov/video/ourworld/our-world-moon-phases>

Time and Date <https://www.timeanddate.com/>