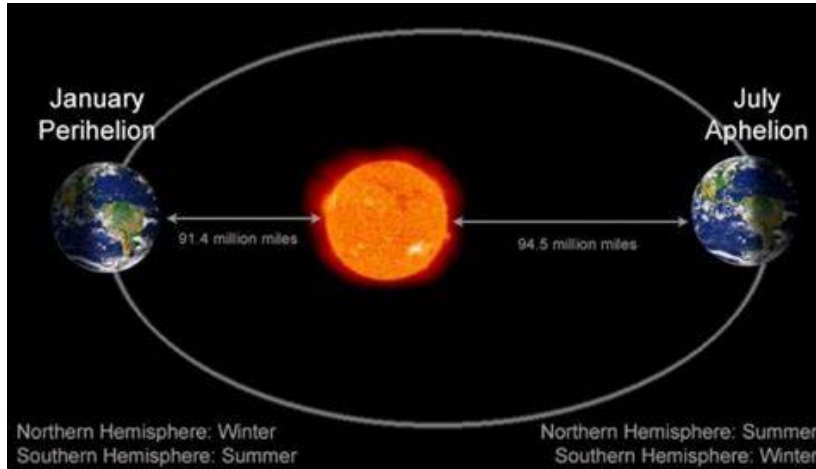


04 January 2025



(Picture credits: ABC Columbia)

### *Perihelion*

**Space agency/country:** Worldwide  
**Mission:** N/A

Today, the Earth will reach this year's *perihelion*, the point in its orbit that is nearest to the Sun. At 00:38 UT, the Earth will be at 0.9883 astronomical units or 147,100,632 km from the Sun. At this distance, however, we will not notice any changes in the weather or the seasons. The opposite of the annual perihelion is the *aphelion*, when the orbit of the Earth will be farthest from the Sun. In 2025, aphelion will be reached on 3 July. The dates of perihelion and aphelion occur about two weeks after the winter and summer solstices, respectively. However, because of long-term variations in the Earth's orbit, in the thirteenth century, the winter solstice and perihelion occurred on the same day, as did the summer solstice and aphelion.

### **For more information:**

<https://www.space.com/what-is-perihelion>

<https://www.livescience.com/perihelion-solar-storm-2023>