

Shoot for the stars



Daily Mail Reporter

NO, you're not seeing double - this really is twin arches of the Milky Way appearing side by side in the night sky.

The celestial event happens just once a year - as the Winter Milky Way sets while the Summer Milky Way rises, forming the full arches.

The image was captured by Angel Flux over the Matterhorn in the Swiss Alps, who said: 'This event isn't widely photographed, as it requires staying awake all night, carefully tracking the sky and shooting over multiple hours. The window to capture it is limited.'

The image is one of 25 chosen by travel photography blog Capture The Atlas for their Milky Way Photographer of the Year contest.

Also featured is Winter Fairy tale by Uros Fink, which sees the reddish nebulae of the Milky Way stretching above a winter hut on Dobratsch Mountain in Austria, left. The galaxy's distinct disc of stars is reflected on the Pacific in Starlit Ocean, taken by Xinyang Cai in Big Sur, California, far right. And for the first time, the contest features a picture taken from space - One in A Billion, by US astronaut Don Pettit, right.

