

# April 8, 2020 Total Solar Eclipse Experiences

In the final 10 minutes before totality, check for the following:

1. Any planets (e.g., Venus) or bright stars visible?

I saw Venus to the lower right of the sun and Jupiter to the upper left and a bit farther away than Venus was. I didn't see the comet 12P. I didn't see Mars or any other stars.

2. Any change in behavior of birds or other animals?

There were birds in the area. I didn't notice anything different from them. They were quiet the entire eclipse.

3. Brightness of sunlight?

As a thin crescent of the sun remained, the hue of the landscape around us had a noticeable yellow tint to it.

4. What colors or shades seem odd?

The yellow tint to the landscape was unusual.

5. Any naked eye (with eclipse glasses) size sunspots visible?

There was one sunspot that was noticeable early in the eclipse.

Describe what occurs in the last 5 minutes before the beginning of totality:

1. Any change in temperature?

Yes. As totality approached, the temperature drop was extreme. As totality approached, you could feel the coldness of the air increase. Not a jacket coldness, but not the hotness of the direct sun during other parts of the eclipse. Half the sun covered, it was still hot in the sunshine.

2. Does wind direction or speed vary?

It was calm the entire eclipse from my observing site.

3. Just before totality, do you see shadow bands?

YES!!! I was ready for them and they were very cool to see. I also saw them on the egress part of the eclipse. After the diamond ring was seen, the shadow bands started a few seconds later. They lasted for several seconds.

4. Just before totality, do you see the shadow coming over distant hills or other features?

No. I looked but I was in a pasture surrounded by trees. I did not see it coming or going.

5. If you didn't know there was an eclipse, would you expect one?

Yes. The strangeness of the colors before totality, the temperature drop and then looking at the sun naked eye during the eclipse would confirm it.

Now, at totality:

1. Describe what you see where the sun once stood.

This was very cool also. I could see the extended corona. I could see one solar prominence at the 5:30 o'clock position on the sun's edge. It was triangular shaped and easy to see.

2. What color is the disk?

It was black.

3. What color is the corona?

It was white.

4. Can you see any detail in the corona?

Yes. The corona was easy to see and more of it extended from 2-8 o'clock on both sides of the sun. There was corona seen above and below the sun that didn't extend too far from the sun at the major part described above.

5. Right on the disk, check for smaller, reddish glows.

I didn't notice it.

Here is a Blog of my trip:

[https://mikehotka.com/TotalSolarEclipse\\_040824/Eclipse\\_Apr\\_8\\_2024.html](https://mikehotka.com/TotalSolarEclipse_040824/Eclipse_Apr_8_2024.html)

# Total Eclipse Contact Timings

CONTACT 1 (MOON ON SUN'S DISK): 12:30:48

TIME ZONE OR UT: Local time, CDT

CONTACT 2 (START TOTALITY): 13:47:42

TIME ZONE OR UT: Local time, CDT

CONTACT 3 (END TOTALITY): 13:51:49

TIME ZONE OR UT: Local time, CDT

CONTACT 4 (MOON LEAVES DISK): 15:08:36

TIME ZONE OR UT: Local time, CDT

## LOCATION OF TIMINGS:

John Bozeman's home.  
207 Polk Road 199  
Mena, Arkansas 71953

LATITUDE = 34.59788 LONGITUDE = -94.00474

IN PERSON OR DESCRIBE SOURCE: In Person