



SKIES & SCOPES

Smart Telescopes Cheat Sheet

**Your Quick Guide to Choosing the Right
Model for You in 2026**



What are Smart Telescopes?

Smart Telescopes are devices that contain the telescope, camera and mount all in one package that you control via smartphone app.

They are relatively new to the astronomy market, having first emerged just a few years ago.

They take advantage of the power of our smartphones and massively simplify the process of being able to capture deep sky astrophotography images.

Available Models

There are 11 great smart telescopes on the market right now – each with their pros and cons.

I've had my hands on many of these in the past 12 months and I like to break them down into three categories according to budget:

Right now there are four very good **budget** smart telescopes (\$399-\$699):

- [Dwarf Mini](#) – Most affordable and lightweight
- [ZWO Seestar S30](#) – Equal most affordable (alongside the Dwarf Mini)
- [Dwarflab Dwarf 3](#) – Higher spec very high resolution camera
- [ZWO Seestar S30 Pro](#) – Premium upgrade on the S30 also featuring a wide-angle camera for landscape imaging

There are then four good **mid-range/premium** options (\$2,499 to \$3,000):

- [Unistellar Odyssey](#) – great ease-of-use
- [Unistellar Equinox 2](#) – higher specs but harder to use
- [Vaonis Vespera 3](#) – great value for a mid-range option
- [Vaonis Vespera Pro 2](#) – great ease-of-use and the highest resolution camera of any model

And three **ultra-premium** models (\$4,000 to \$5,000):

- [Unistellar Odyssey Pro](#) – super easy to use and has an eyepiece
- [Unistellar Evscope 2](#) – higher specs and an eyepiece but harder to use
- [Celestron Origin Mk II](#) – the best all-round imaging credentials but big and heavy



Vaonis Vespera 3

All of these 11 models are good – it really just depends on your budget and what features you would value, i.e. an eyepiece, portability, better imaging capacity etc.

If I had to pick from these, I would go for:

1. [Dwarf 3](#) for those with smaller budgets and/or want something really portable
2. [Unistellar Odyssey Pro](#) if you want the sexiest and most fun model to share the experience with others
3. [Celestron Origin Mk II](#) if you want the most serious astrophotography option

If money is no object and you want the easiest and most fun, then go for the [Odyssey Pro](#).

It is the only model (alongside the [Evscope 2](#)) that has an eyepiece so that you can look through it and not just see images on your phone.

If you want the absolute best imaging capacity then the [Celestron Origin](#) is for you.



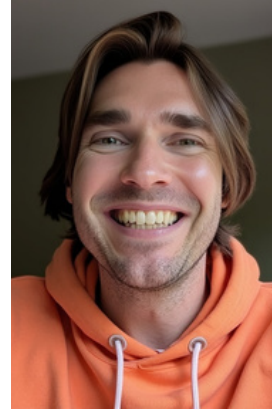
Me with the Unistellar Odyssey Pro

About Skies & Scopes

I'm **Anthony Robinson**, founder of **Skies & Scopes**.

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If you have any questions about this guide or anything else you can reach out to us at contact@skiesandscopes.com.

