

LDT Site Information

		Instruments		
		Instrumentation Main Page		
		<hr/>		
		<u>Facility Instruments:</u>		
Quick Links	LDT Observer Information Home	Facility	Large Monolithic Imager (LMI)	At the Telescope
	Instrumentation		DeVeny Optical Spectrograph	Observing Quick Links
	Applying for Observing Time		NIR Spectrograph (NIHTS)	Remote Observing
	Observing Run Planning		<u>Visitor / PI Instruments:</u>	LDT Startup Procedures
	At the Telescope (Printable Logsheets)		High-Res Spectrograph (EXPRES)	Closure Conditions
	After Your Observing Run		Speckle Imager (QWSSI)	Night Feedback Form
	First-Time Users		High Speed Imager (POETS)	End of Night Tasks
	Logistics		NIR Spectrograph (RIMAS)	
	LDT Important Notes			
		<u>User Manuals:</u>		
		LMI Manual		
		DeVeny Manual		
		NIHTS Manual		



Overview

The Lowell Discovery Telescope is near the village of Happy Jack, about 1 hour south of Flagstaff. This dark-sky site sits on the Coconino National forest at an altitude of 7,740 feet. The LDT enclosure and D. Blackett & R. Wachs Telescope Support Building sit atop an extinct cinder cone located on a 35-acre special use permit area of USFS land.

Site Characteristics:

- Good seeing
- Dark site
- Previously disturbed site as the cinder cone was mined for cinders. This is why the southern side below the observatory is so steep. The land is owned by the USFS and because it was already disturbed, this simplified the required environmental impact assessment.
- Proximity to road and power, and modest travel time to Flagstaff.

Site Survey Paper: [Bida, T. A., et al. 2004, Proc. SPIE, 5489, 196](#)

Driving to LDT – Directions for how to get to the site

Lodging for LDT Observing Runs – Where to stay during your observing run

On-Site safety:

- Because of the altitude and low humidity of the LDT site, remember to drink plenty of water to avoid dehydration.

- If you have not been to the site before, please don't enter without a Lowell staffer, or someone who is familiar with the site. There is an alarm that needs to be dis-armed, and it is not always obvious how. Your lodging packet should include keys and written instructions about the gate and alarm codes.

Site Coordinates:

Measured Coordinates	Encoded Coordinates
From the site GPS unit: (Symmetricom S250, WGS84) Date: 2013-07-08 UT Latitude: 34:44:39.498 N Longitude: 111:25:21.054 W Altitude: 2337 meters	Coded into the TCS: Date: 2013-07-08 UT Latitude: 34.7443 = 34:44:39.48 N Longitude: 111.4223 = 111:25:20.28 W Altitude: 2361 meters
From the POETS Green GPS: (Spectrum TM-4, WGS84) Date: 2013-01-10 UT Latitude: 34:44:39.60 N Longitude: 111:25:20.40 W Altitude: 2388 meters (on the EI ring)	Coded into the MCU: Date: 2013-07-08 UT Latitude: 34.7443 = 34:44:39.48 N Longitude: 248.5774E = 360 - 248.5774 W = 111.4226 W = 111:25:21.36 W Altitude: 2336 meters
Date: 2013-03-05 UT Latitude: 34:44:39.60 N Longitude: 111:25:21.60 W Altitude: 2344 meters (on the EI ring)	

Note: There is a slight degeneracy between latitude and elevation in GPS measurements, hence coordinates vary slightly.