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The Milky Way Panorama

This magnificent 360-degree panoramic image reveals the cosmic landscape that surrounds our tiny blue planet. The image is composed of almost 300 fields, each captured four times, adding up to nearly 1200 photos. The plane of our galaxy, the Milky Way, which we see edge-on from our perspective on Earth, cuts a luminous swath across the image. The largest part of the image was taken from the ESO observatories at La Silla and Paranal in Chile, while a small part of the northern hemisphere — not visible from these observatories — was recorded on La Palma, one of the Canary Islands.

Instrument: Nikon D3 digital camera, 50-mm lens, equatorial mount.
Photographer: Serge Brunier/ESO

