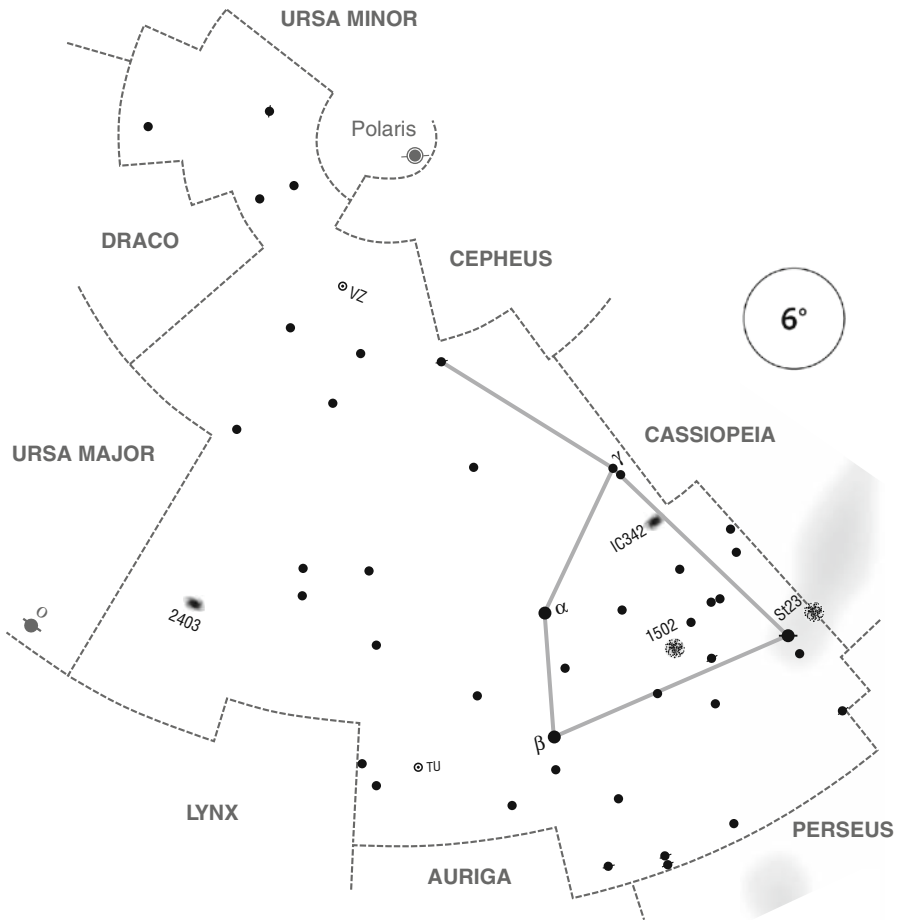


# CAMELOPARDALIS (The Giraffe)



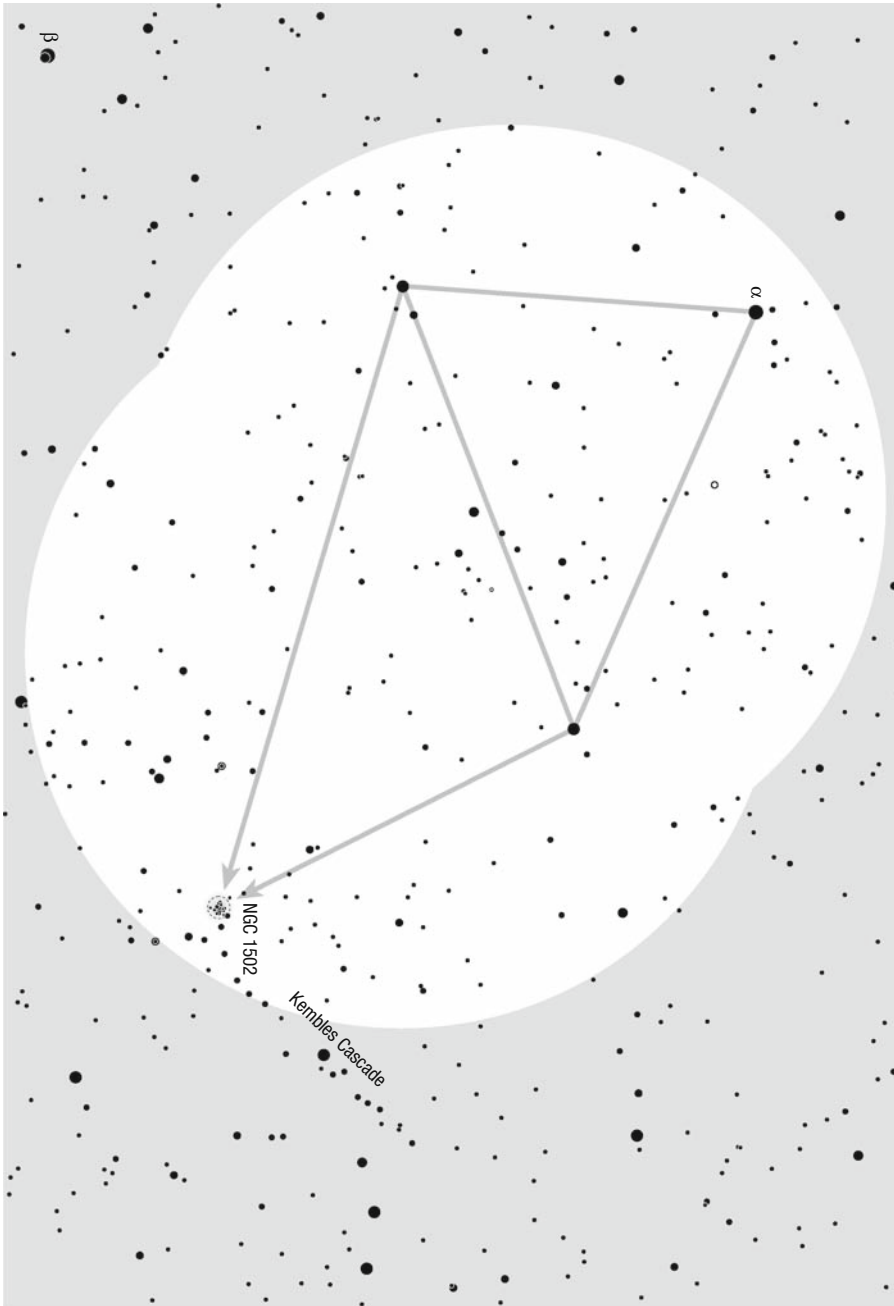
Camelopardalis lies high in the northern skies. In mid-northern latitudes, it is a circumpolar constellation, visible throughout the entire night and every night. If we compare it to its neighbors, Camelopardalis is very sulky. The brightest star is Beta (4m0), which is found between Capella in Auriga and Polaris. In light-polluted areas, the constellation is no longer visible. What a pity!

CONSTELLATION CULMINATES		
end	end	end
October	November	December
at 2 a.m.	at midnight	at 10 p.m.



Open cluster NGC 1502 (5m7/8') is a small group of approximately 30 stars up to magnitude 11. The interesting thing with this cluster is the double star with the designation Σ485. The two stars with magnitudes 6.9 are 17.7 arcsec apart (p. a. 305°, 2004) and can be seen through binoculars with excellent optics as a touching pair. It is not easy to find the cluster, since it lies in a rather empty part of the sky. With Alpha and Beta it forms an isosceles triangle, with the cluster at the top. Unfortunately, the cluster is roughly

7 degrees away from the two stars, which is a little more than the field of view of the binoculars. The detailed chart given below will be of great help when searching for this cluster.



In the eastern part of the constellation, in an almost entirely empty area of the northern sky, we can see the big and bright spiral galaxy NGC 2403 ( $8m4/18' \times 11'$ ). The star leading to it is Omicron Ursae Majoris. From this star we unfortunately have to move northwest with the aid of magnitude 6 stars. In this case the detailed chart (on next page) is essential.

NGC 2403 is a close neighbor to our Local Group of galaxies (Figure 8.1). It is 12 million light years from us. From these data and from the apparent size one