

## Image: Galaxy NGC 4945

November 5 2013

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Credit: X-ray: NASA/CXC/Univ degli Studi Roma Tre/A.Marinucci et al,  
Optical: ESO/VLT & NASA/STScI

This image provides a view into the central region of a galaxy that is similar in overall appearance to our own Milky Way, but contains a much more active supermassive black hole within the white area near the top.

This galaxy, known as NGC 4945, is only about 13 million light years from Earth and is seen edge-on. X-rays from Chandra (blue), which have been overlaid on an optical image from the European Space Observatory, reveal the presence of the [supermassive black hole](#) at the

center of this galaxy.

Provided by Chandra X-ray Center

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