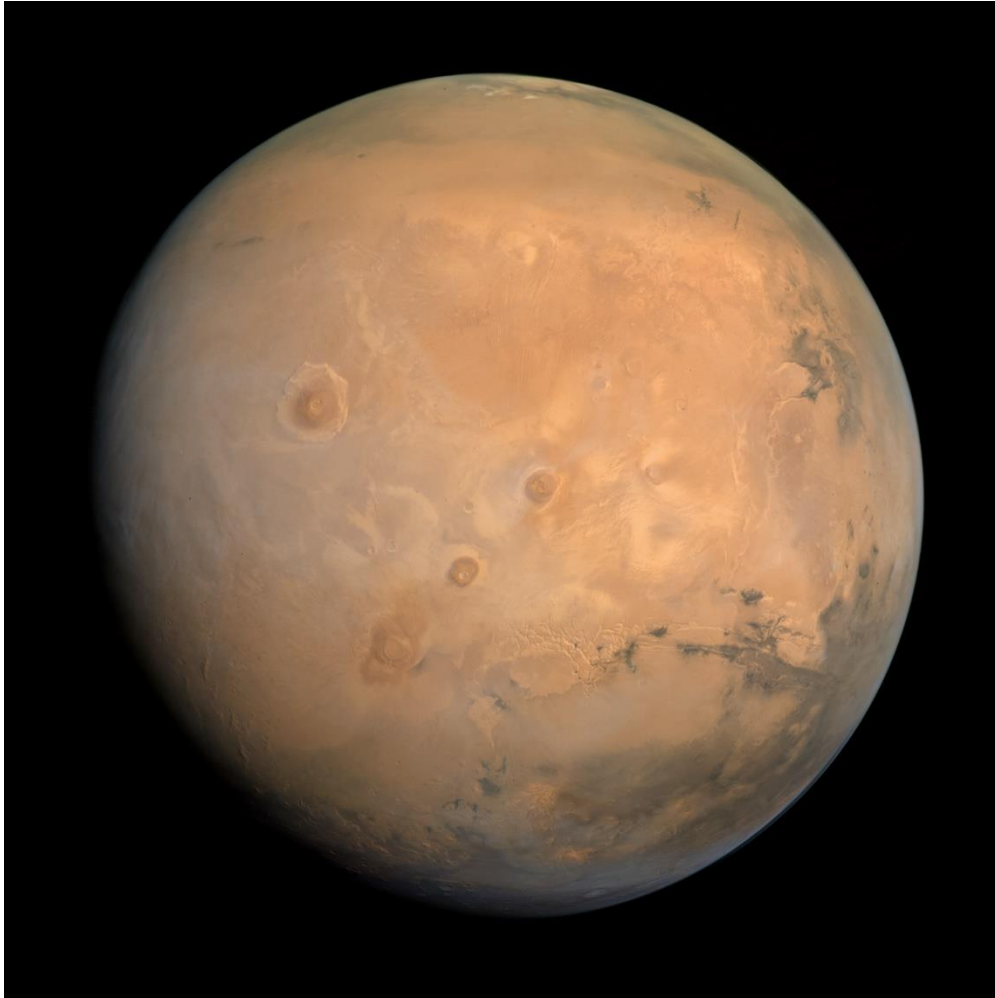


Planet Information



- Mars is 53% smaller than Earth.
- A Martian day is a little longer than Earth's; a Mars year is almost two Earth years.
- Mars's surface has been altered by volcanoes, impacts, winds, and crustal movement.
- Phobos and Deimos are small compared to the planet.
- Iron minerals in the Martian soil oxidize, or rust, causing the soil and atmosphere to look red.
- Missions are determining Mars' past and future potential for life.