**The Solar System Overview**

The Solar System is a gravitationally bound system comprising the Sun and the objects that orbit it, either directly or indirectly. The major planets orbit the Sun directly and dominate their respective orbital zones.

There are seven planets in the solar system.

**The Sun**

The Sun is a nearly perfect sphere of hot plasma, and it is the most important source of energy for life on Earth. It accounts for more than 99.8% of the total mass of the Solar System.

**Inner Planets**

The four inner planets — Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars — are terrestrial planets. They have solid rocky surfaces and are much smaller than the outer planets.

**Outer Planets**

The outer planets — Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune — are gas giants (Jupiter and Saturn) or ice giants (Uranus and Neptune). These planets are much larger than the terrestrial planets and have thick atmospheres composed of hydrogen, helium, and other gases.

**Moons and Other Bodies**

The Solar System includes over 200 moons, with Ganymede (orbiting Jupiter) being the largest. There are also dwarf planets like Pluto, as well as asteroids, comets, and meteoroids.

**The Asteroid Belt**

Located between Mars and Jupiter, the asteroid belt contains numerous irregularly shaped bodies. Ceres is the largest object in the belt and is also classified as a dwarf planet.

**The Kuiper Belt and Oort Cloud**

Beyond Neptune lies the Kuiper Belt, home to many icy bodies and dwarf planets. Farther still is the Oort Cloud, a hypothetical shell of icy objects believed to be the source of long-period comets.