

Mission to Mars

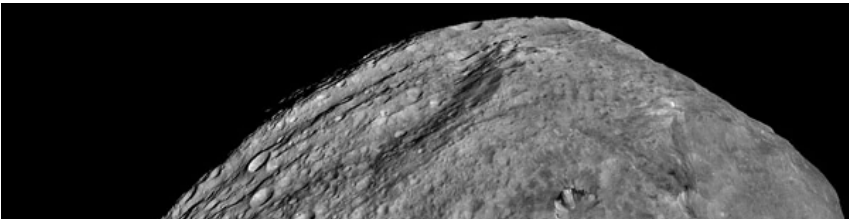
Scrape New Data

Latest Mars News

Martian Skies Clearing over Opportunity Rover – NASA’s Mars Exploration Program

Scientists reviewing data from the Mars Color Imager (MARCI) aboard NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO) have determined that the tau estimate (a measure of the amount of haze in the Martian atmosphere) in the skies above the rover Opportunity has been below 1.5 for two consecutive measurements. With more sunlight reaching the rover's solar array, the Opportunity team at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California, are increasing the frequency of commands it beams to the 14-plus-year-old rover via the dishes of NASA's Deep Space Network from three times a week to multiple times per day. Passive listening for Opportunity will also continue to be performed by JPL's Radio Science Group, which records radio signals emanating from Mars with a very sensitive broadband receiver. The original story has been updated in paragraph six to reflect NASA review at each step of the recovery process. Updates on the 2018 dust storm and tau can be found here. Original story posted August 30, 2018

Featured Mars Image

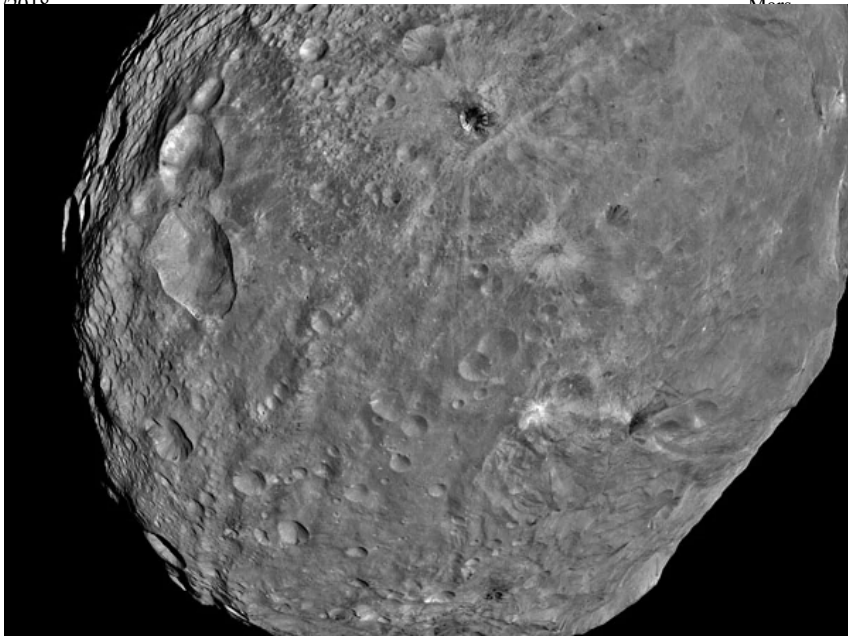


Current Weather on Mars

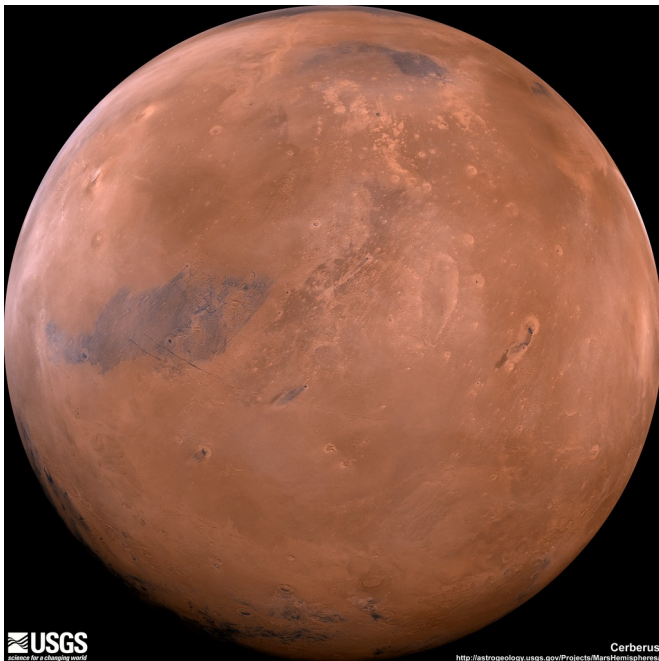
Sol 2166 (2018-09-09), high -10C/14F, low -72C/-97F, pressure at 8.87 hPa, daylight 05:40-17:56

Mars Facts

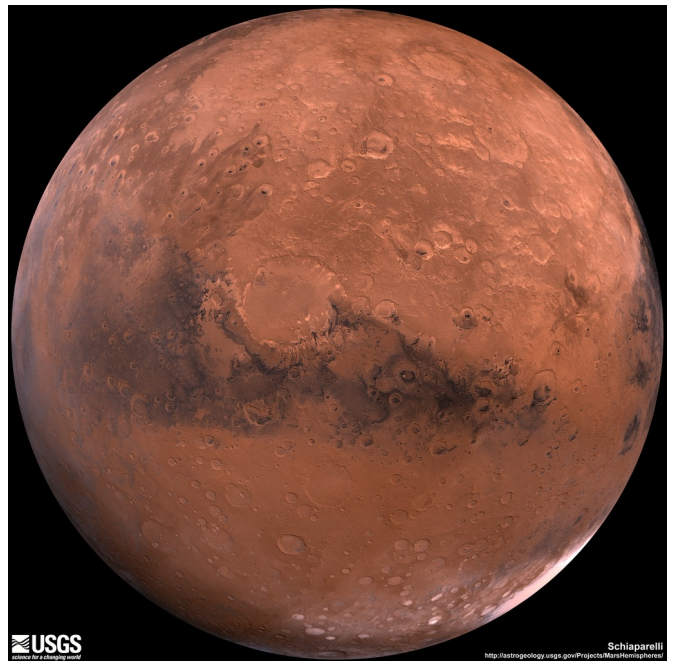
	Value
Index	
Equatorial Diameter:	6,792 km
Polar Diameter:	6,752 km
Mass:	6.42 x 10^23 kg (10.7% Earth)
Moons:	2 (Phobos & Deimos)
Orbit Distance:	227,943,824 km (1.52 AU)
Orbit Period:	687 days (1.9 years)
Surface Temperature:	-153 to 20 °C
First Record:	2nd millennium BC
Recorded By:	Egyptian astronomers



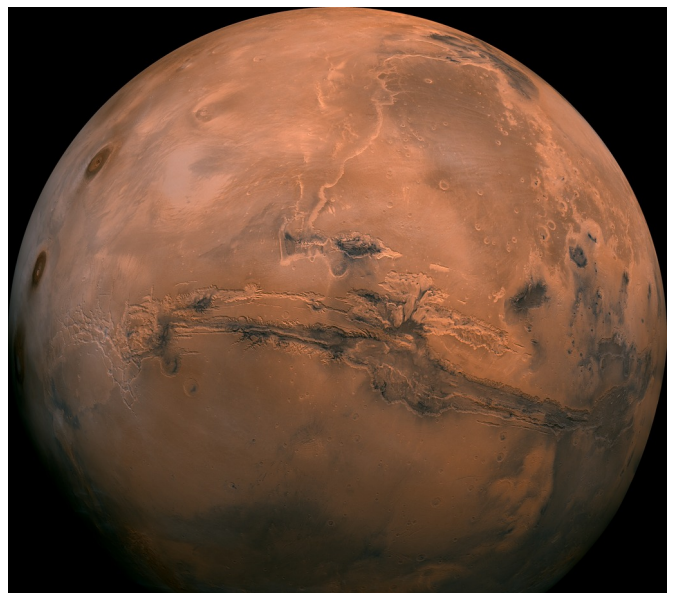
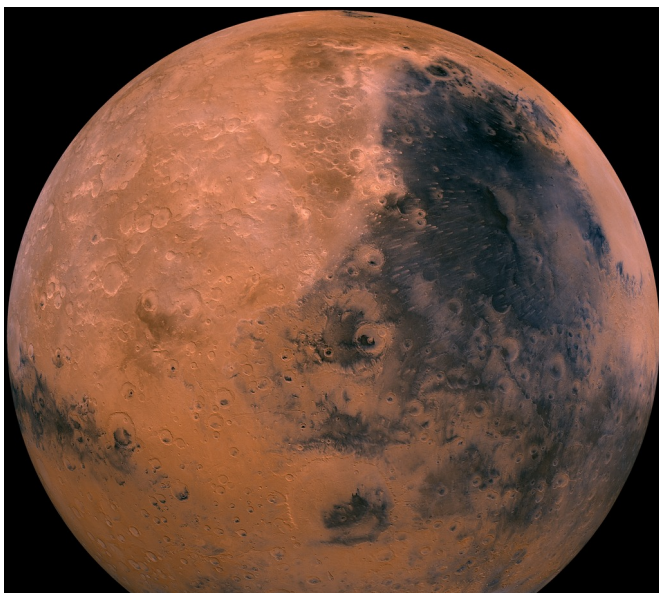
Mars Hemispheres

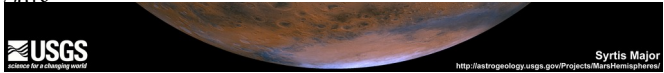


Cerberus Hemisphere Enhanced



Schiaparelli Hemisphere Enhanced





Syrtis Major Hemisphere Enhanced



Valles Marineris Hemisphere Enhanced