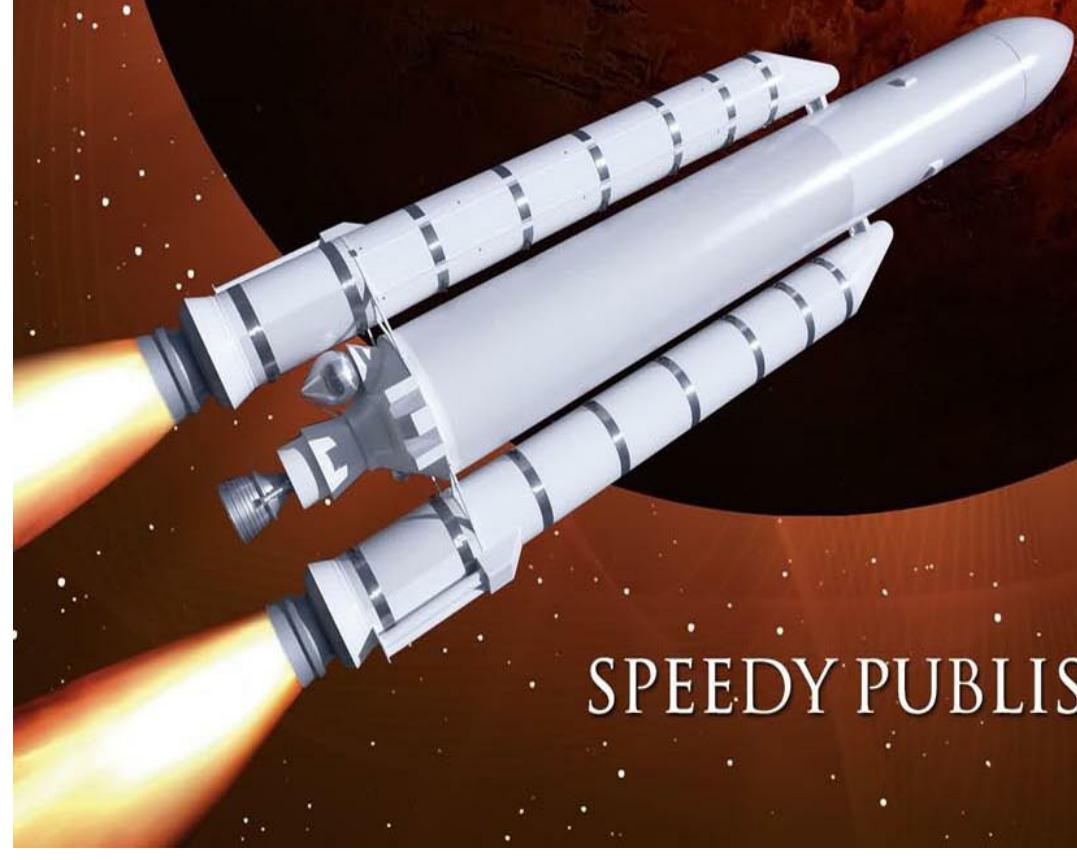


MARS SPACESHIP

ALL ABOUT MARS



SPEEDY PUBLISHING LLC

Mars Spaceship (All About Mars)

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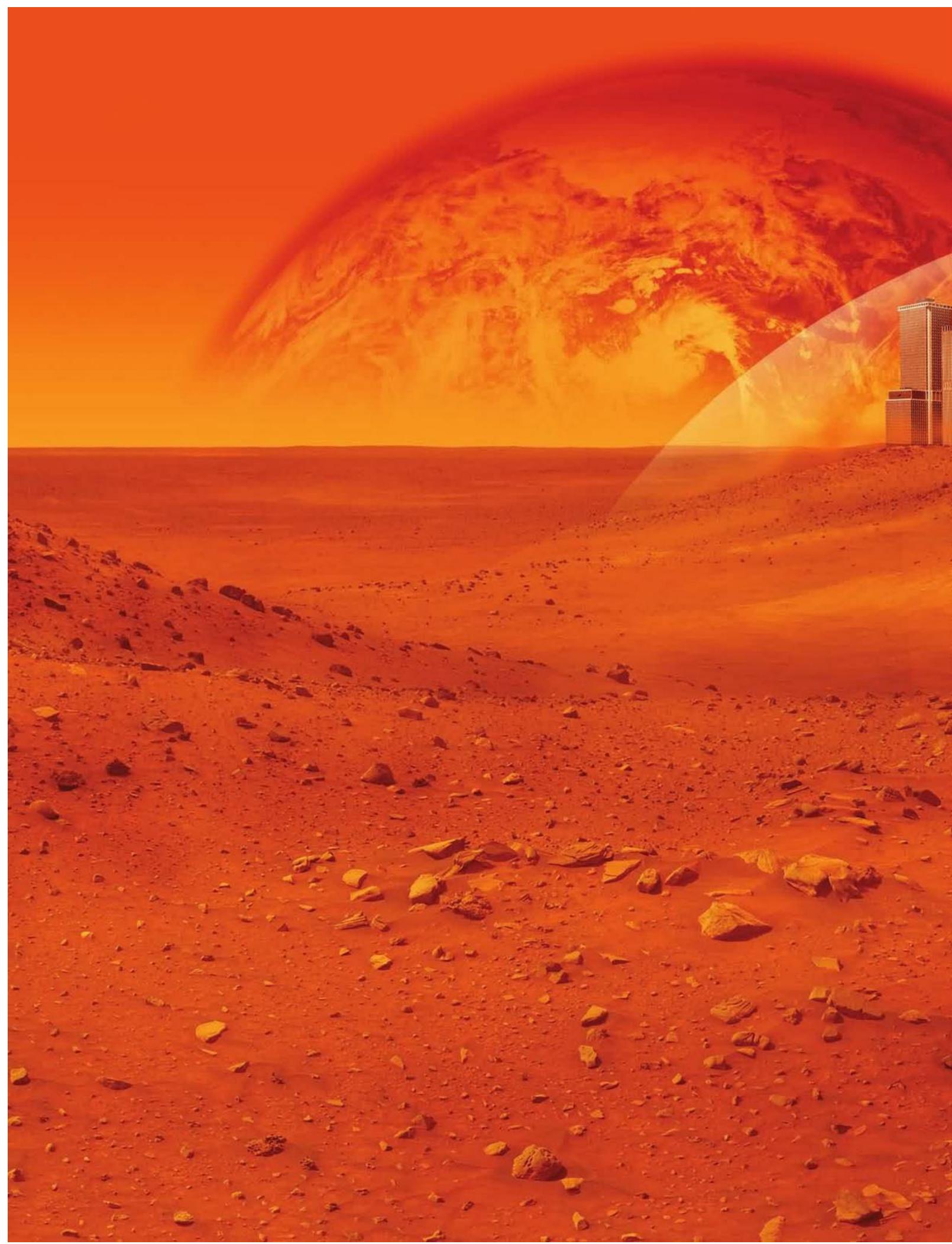






Mars Facts...

Mars is the fourth planet from the Sun and the second smallest planet in the Solar System, after Mercury.

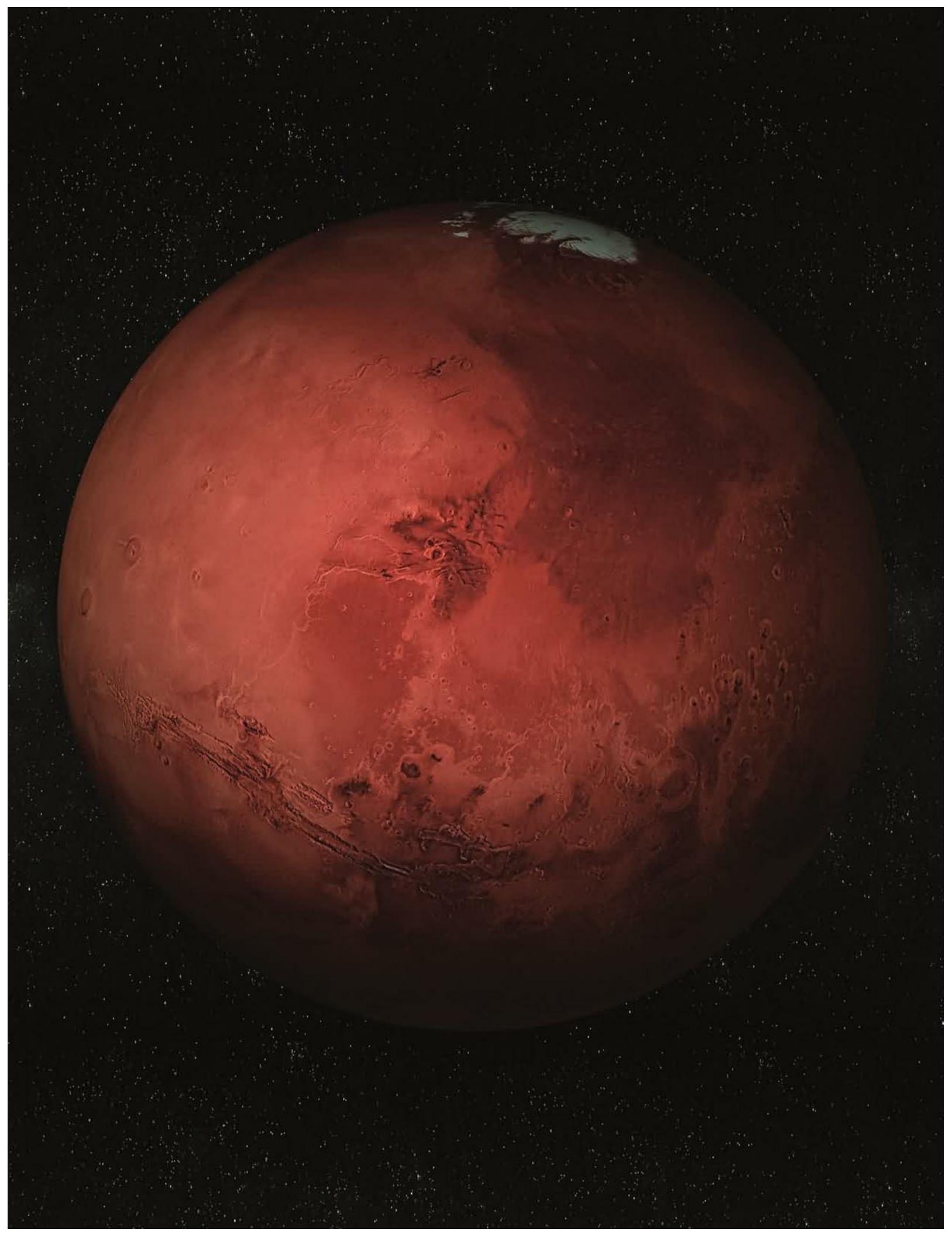




Mars Facts...

Named after the Roman god of war, it is often described as the “Red Planet” because the iron oxide prevalent on its surface gives it a reddish appearance.



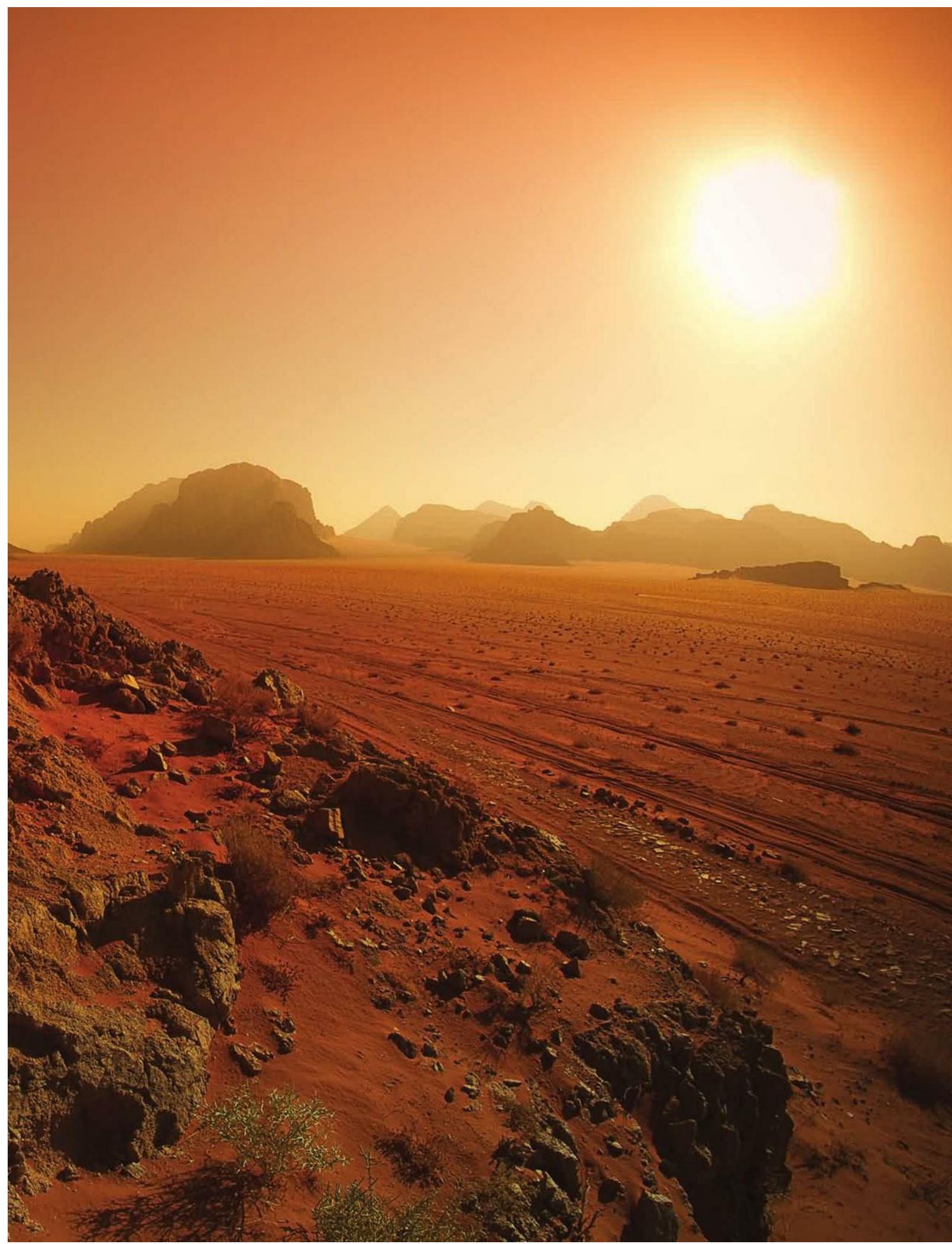


Mars Facts...

Mars is a terrestrial planet with a thin atmosphere, having surface features reminiscent both of the impact craters of the Moon and the volcanoes, valleys, deserts, and polar ice caps of Earth.

Mars Facts...

With the existence of various orbiters, landers, and rovers, it is now possible to study astronomy from the Martian skies. While Mars's moon Phobos appears about one third the angular diameter of the full moon as it appears from Earth, Deimos appears more or less star-like and appears only slightly brighter than Venus does from Earth.



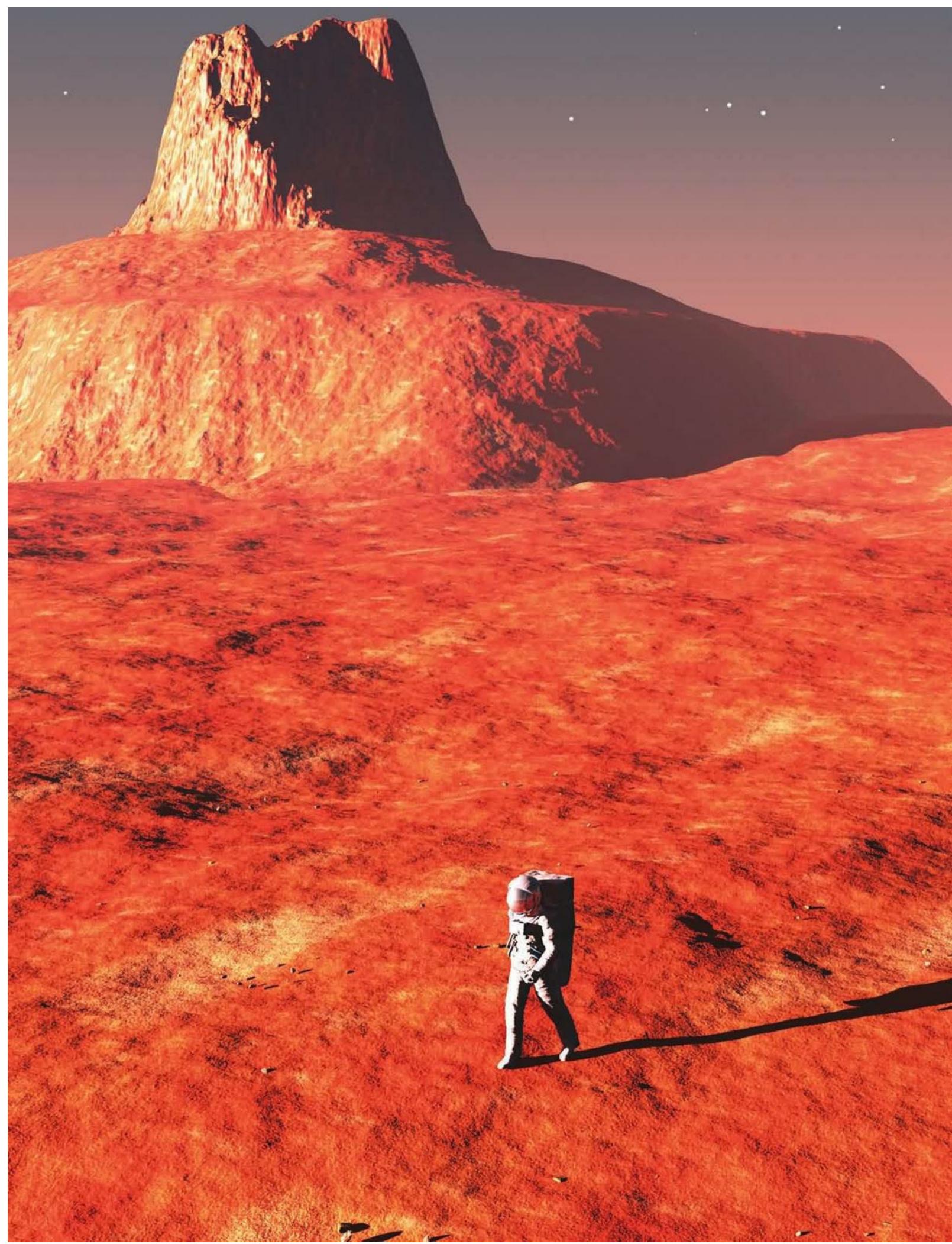


Mars Facts...

The rotational period and seasonal cycles of Mars are likewise similar to those of Earth, as is the tilt that produces the seasons.

Mars Facts...

Mars is the site of Olympus Mons, the second highest known mountain within the Solar System (the tallest on a planet), and of Valles Marineris, one of the largest canyons.





Mars Facts...

Mars has two moons, Phobos and Deimos, which are small and irregularly shaped. These may be captured asteroids, similar to 5261 Eureka, a Martian trojan asteroid.

MARS

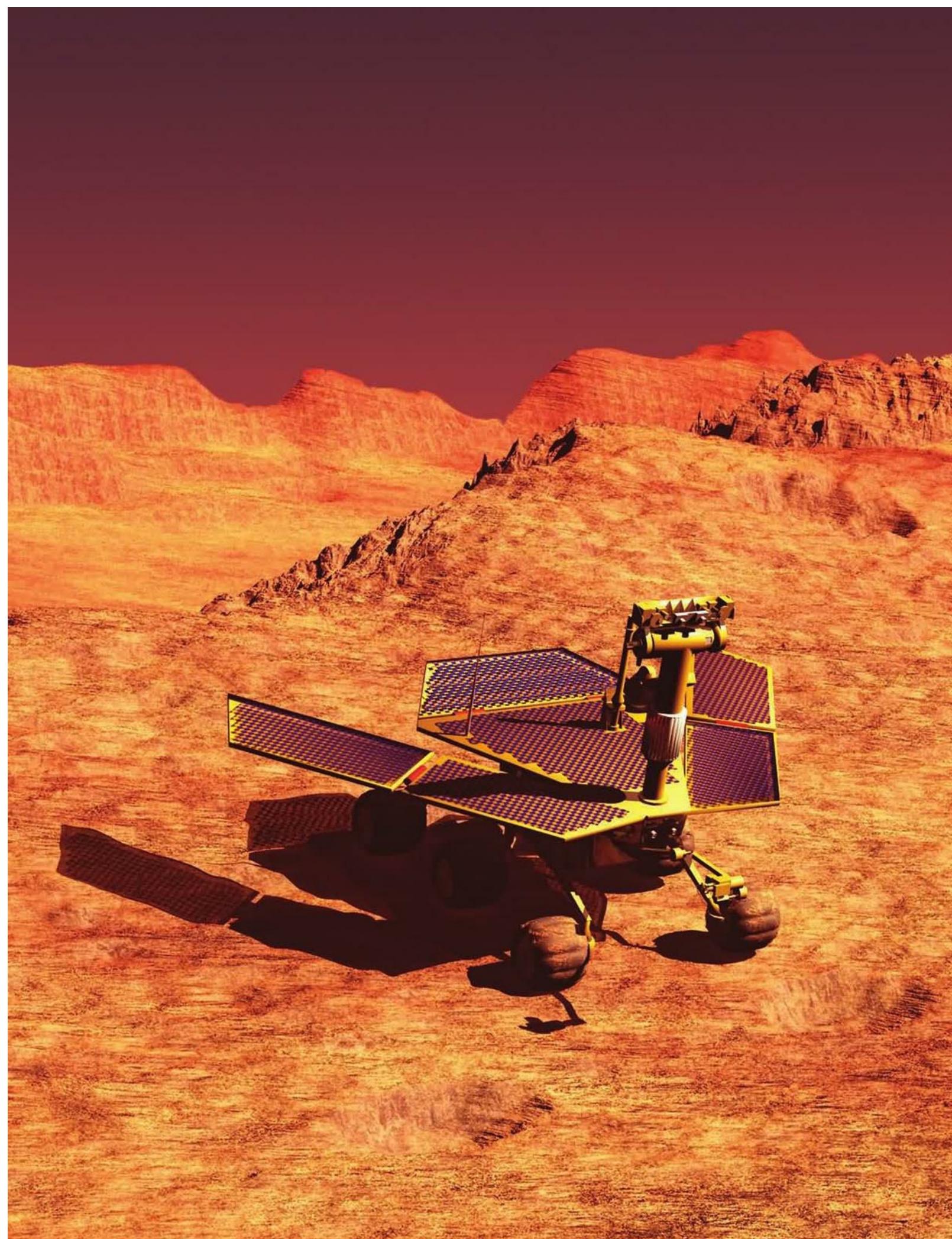


The solar system



Mars Facts...

Until the first successful Mars flyby in 1965 by Mariner 4, many speculated about the presence of liquid water on the planet's surface.



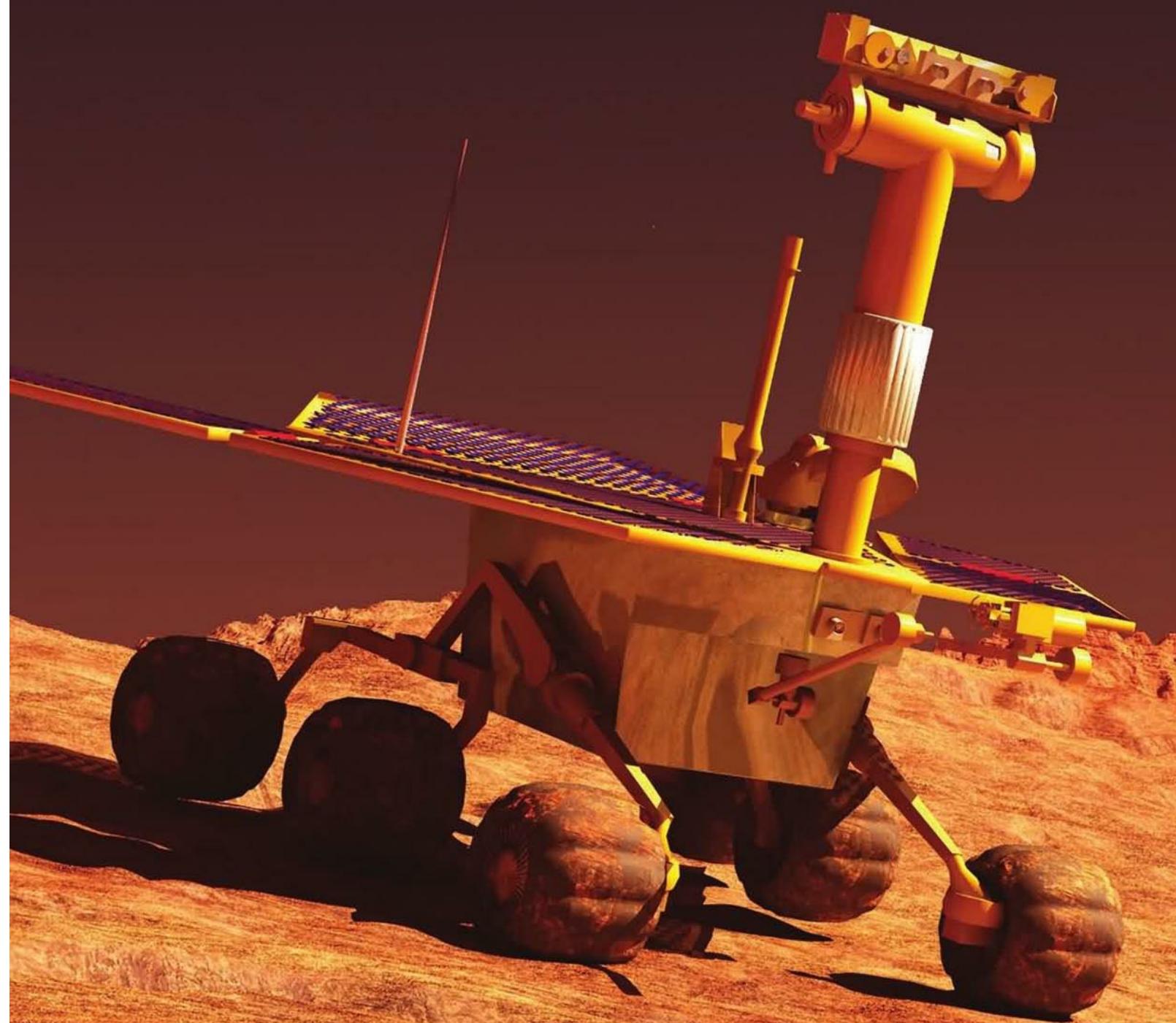


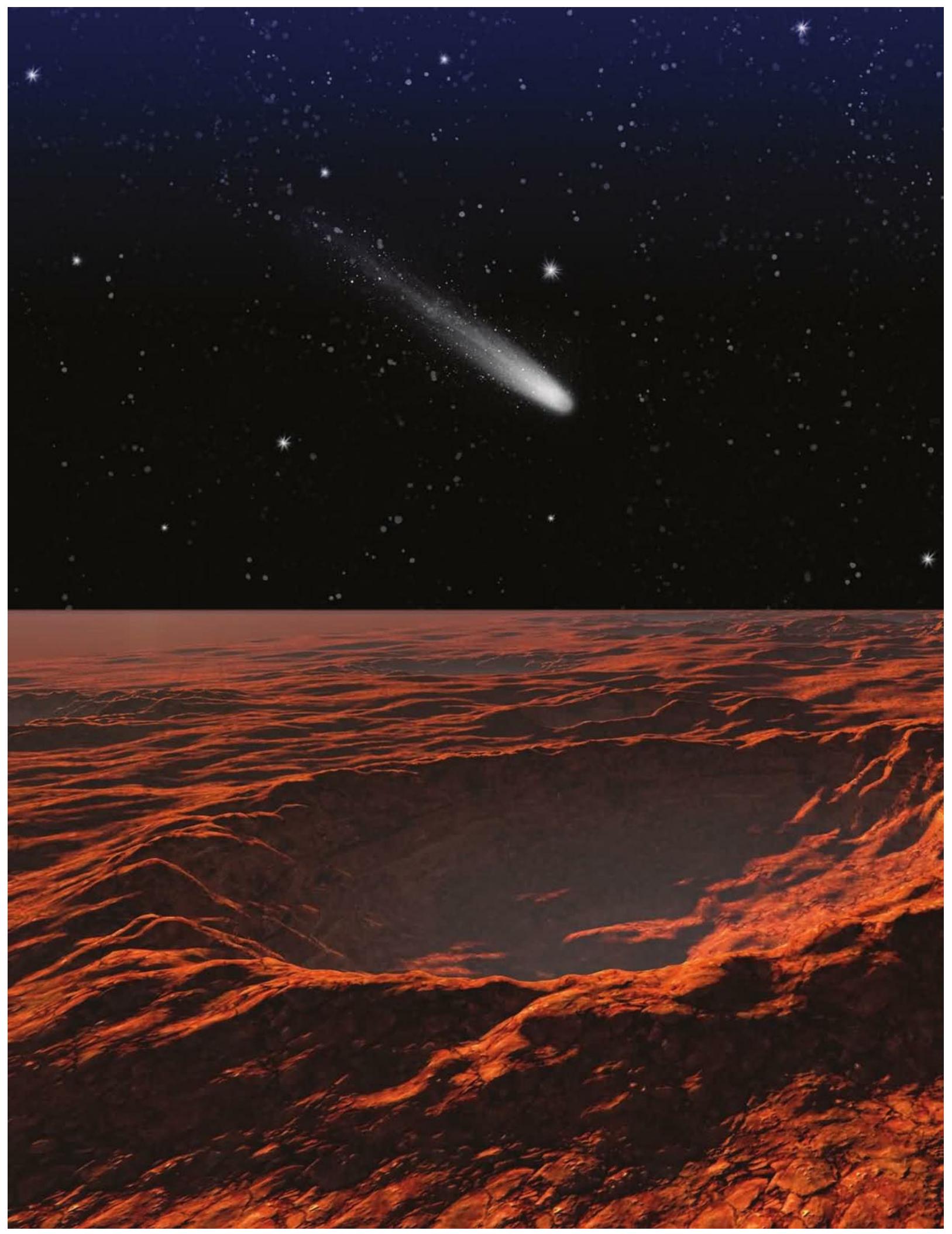
Mars Facts...

The Mars rover Spirit sampled chemical compounds containing water molecules in March 2007. The Phoenix lander directly sampled water ice in shallow Martian soil on July 31, 2008.

Mars Facts...

Mars is host to seven functioning spacecraft: five in orbit – the Mars Odyssey, Mars Express, Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter, MAVEN and Mars Orbiter Mission – and two on the surface – Mars Exploration Rover Opportunity and the Mars Science Laboratory Curiosity.



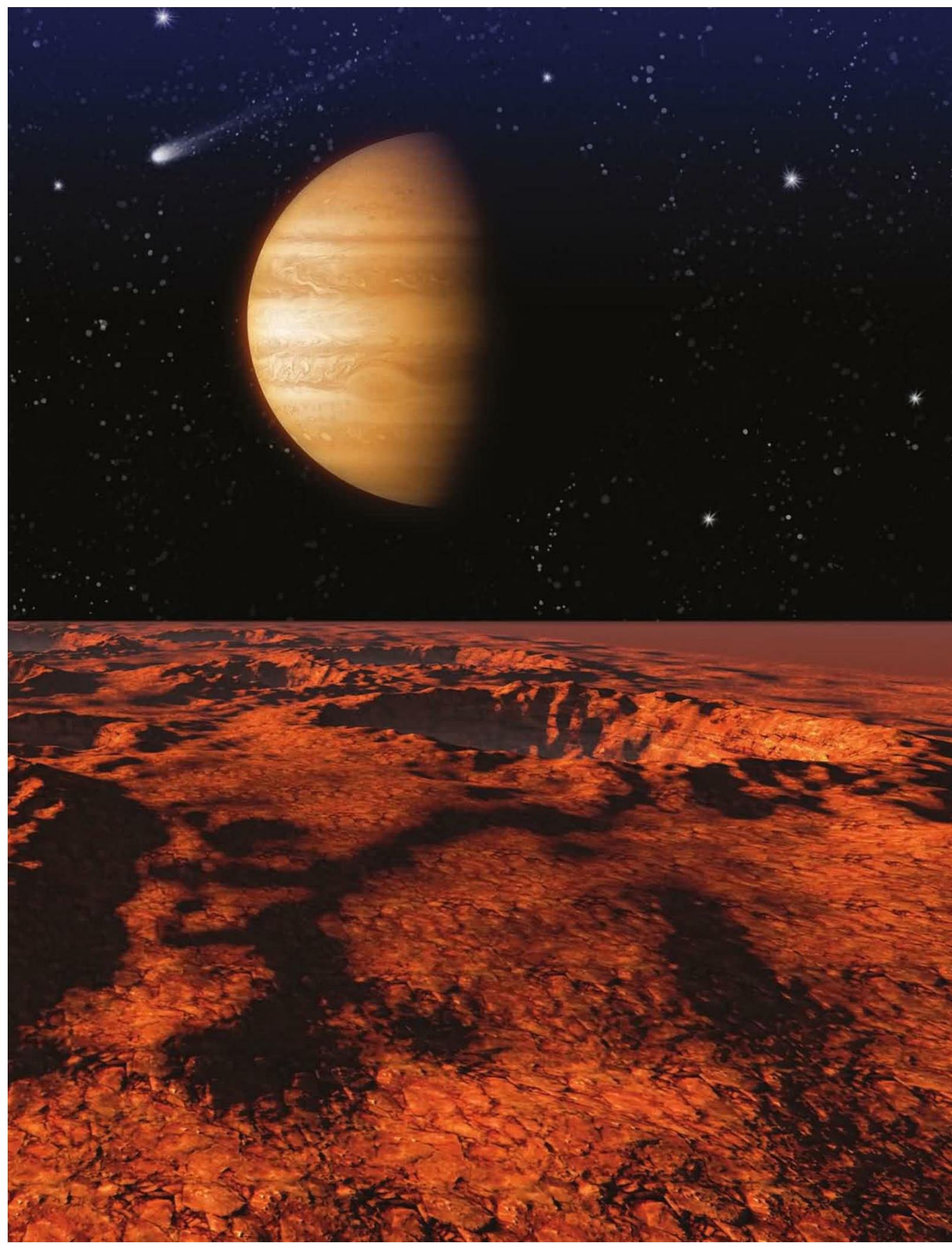


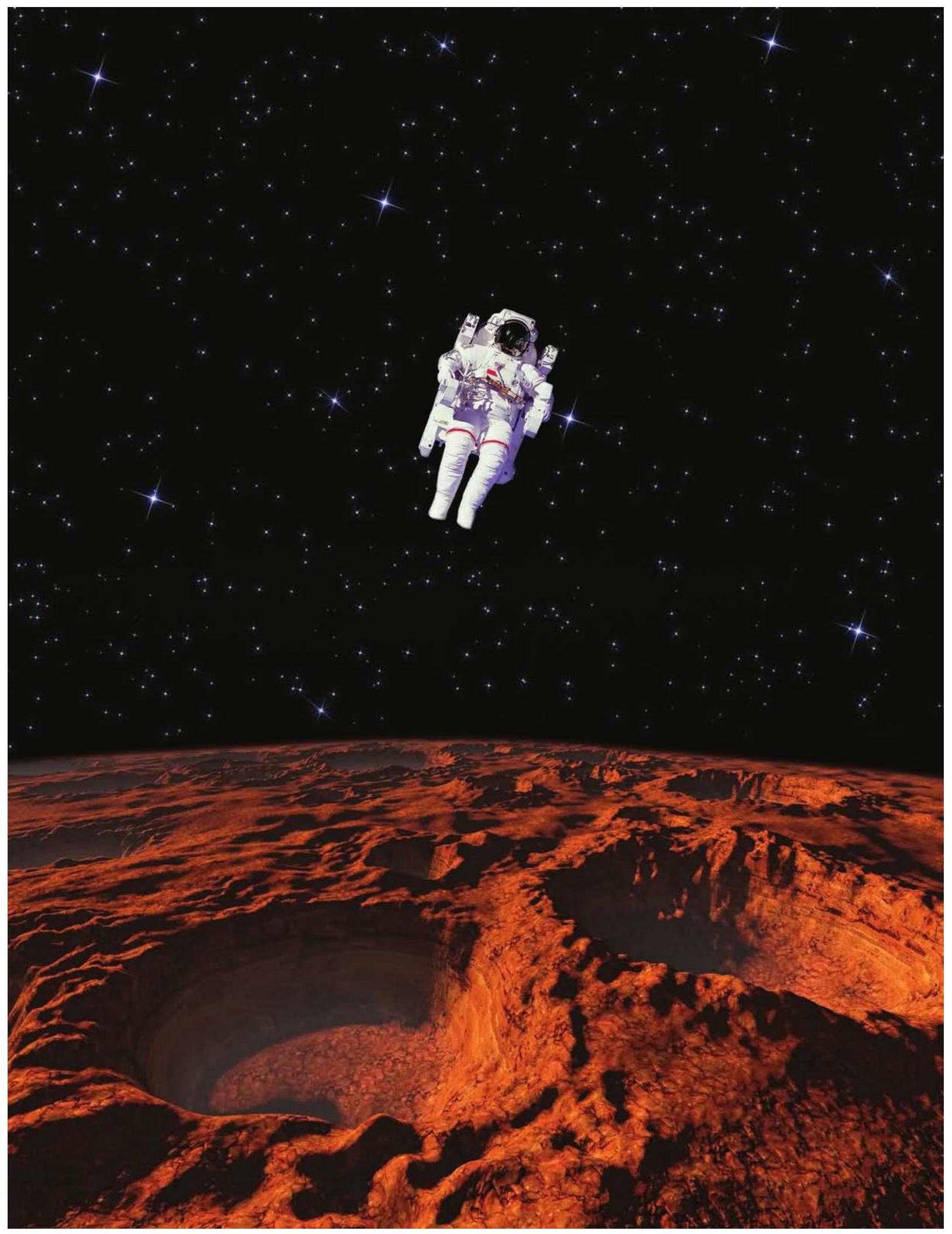
Mars Facts...

Mars can easily be seen from Earth with the naked eye, as can its reddish coloring.

Mars Facts...

Mars has approximately half the diameter of Earth. It is less dense than Earth, having about 15% of Earth's volume and 11% of the mass. Its surface area is only slightly less than the total area of Earth's dry land.



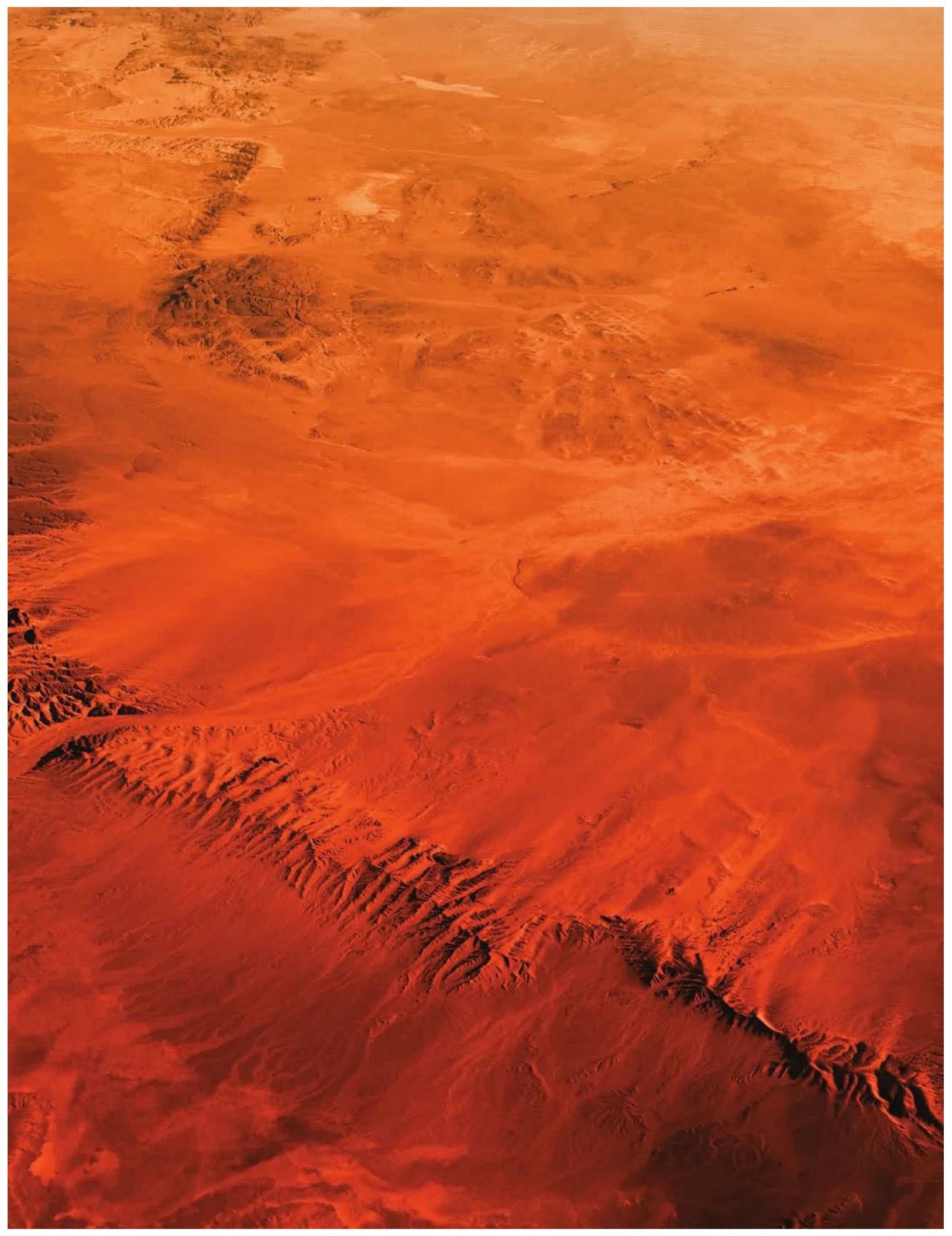


Mars Facts...

While Mars is larger and more massive than Mercury, Mercury has a higher density. This results in the two planets having a nearly identical gravitational pull at the surface – that of Mars is stronger by less than 1%.

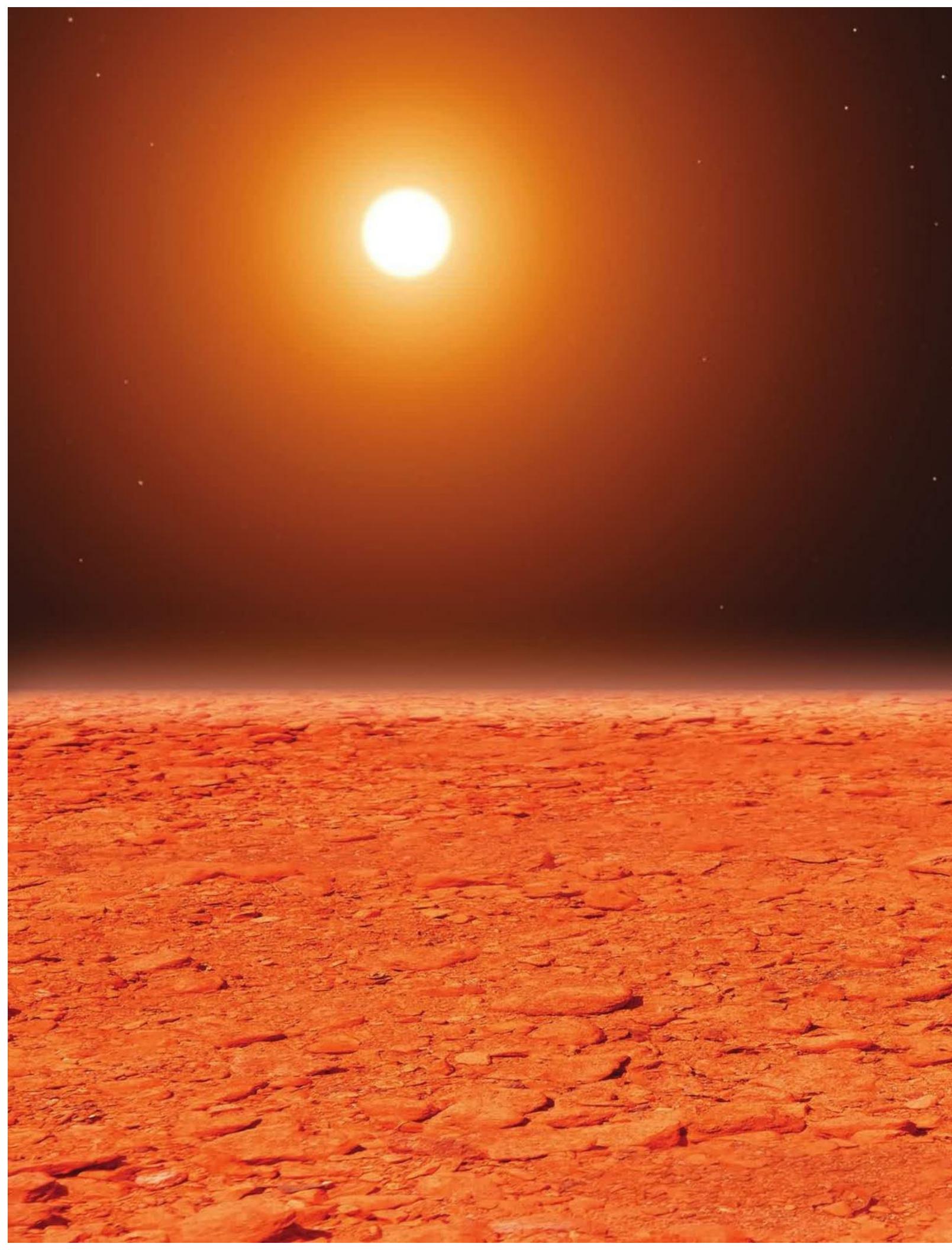
Mars Facts...

The red-orange appearance of the Martian surface is caused by iron(III) oxide, more commonly known as hematite, or rust. It can also look butterscotch, and other common surface colors include golden, brown, tan, and greenish, depending on minerals.







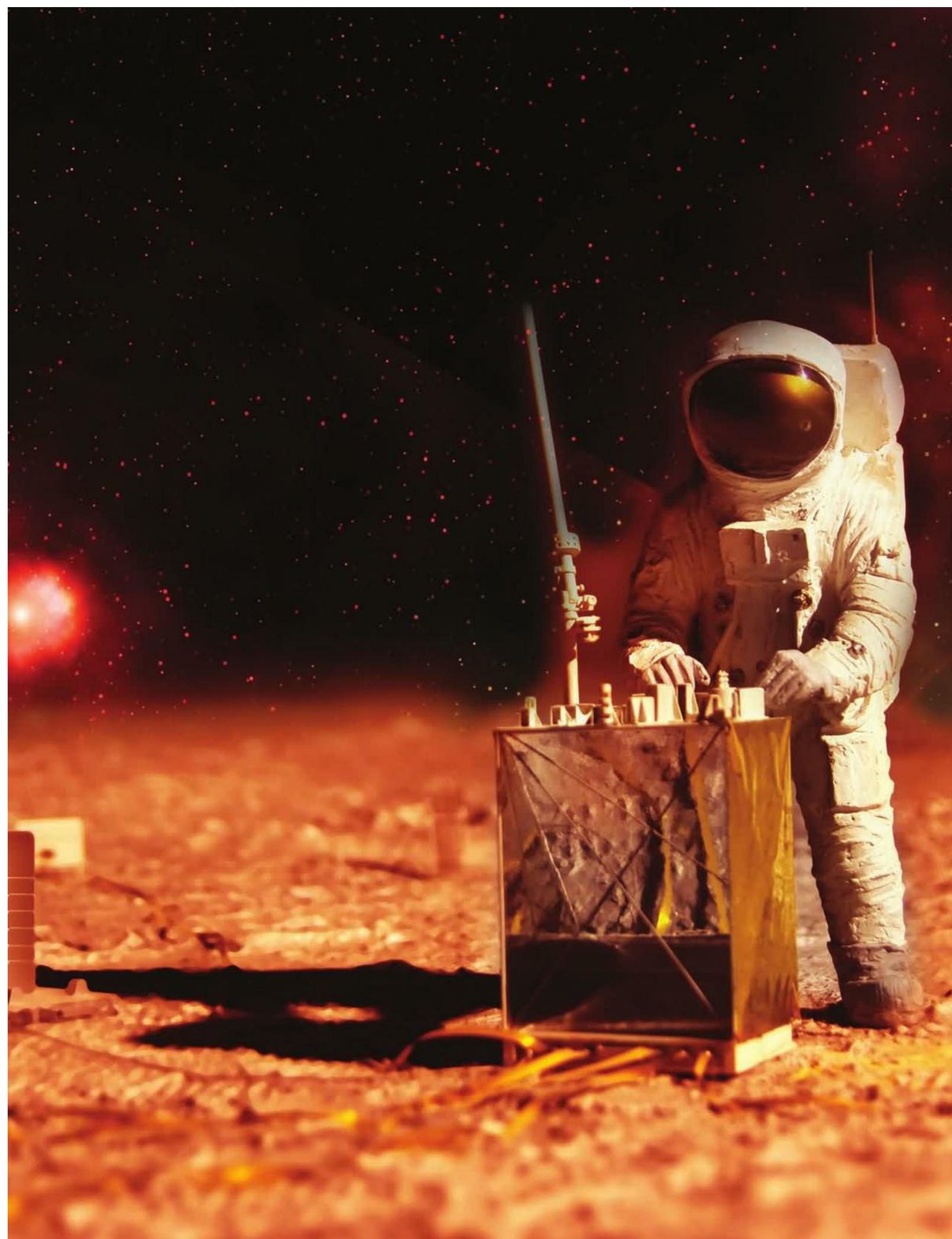


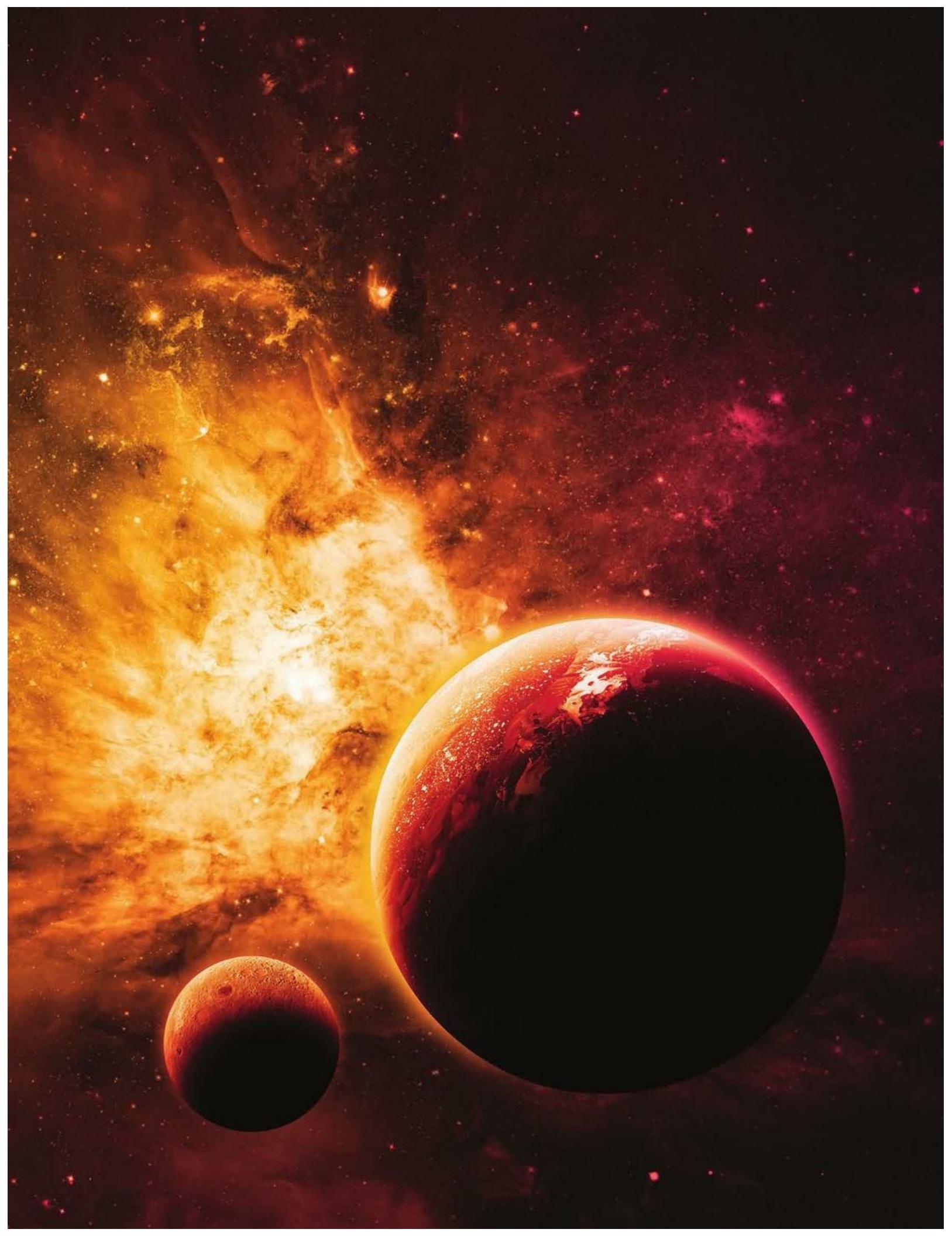
Mars Facts...

Mars's average distance from the Sun is roughly 230 million km (1.5 AU, or 143 million miles), and its orbital period is 687 (Earth) days.

Mars Facts...

**Evidence suggests
that Mars was once
significantly more
habitable than it is
today, but whether living
organisms ever existed
there remains unknown.**





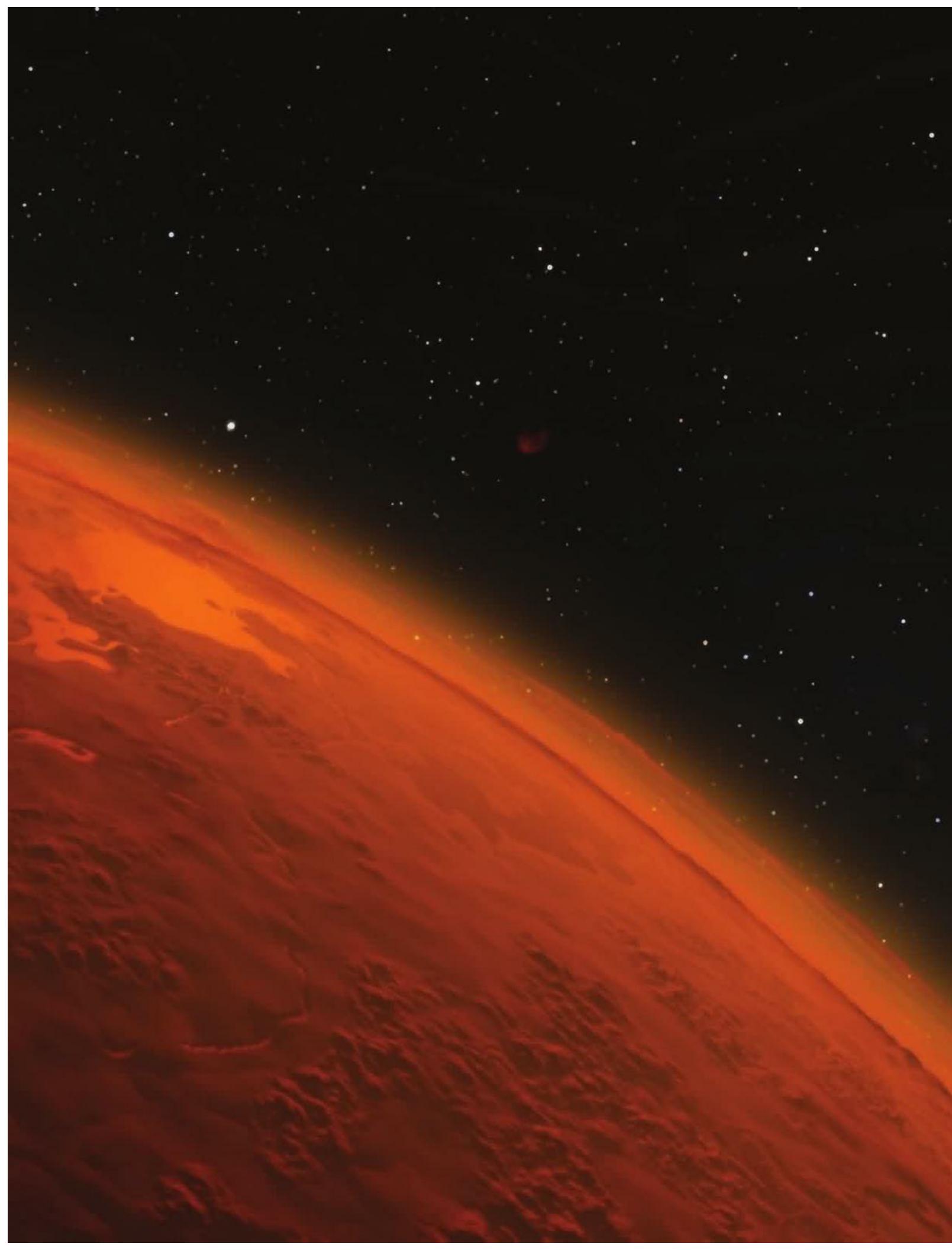
Mars Facts...

The lack of a magnetosphere and extremely thin atmosphere of Mars are a challenge: the planet has little heat transfer across its surface, poor insulation against bombardment of the solar wind and insufficient atmospheric pressure to retain water in a liquid form (water instead sublimates to a gaseous state).

Mars Facts...

**Mars is also nearly,
or perhaps totally,
geologically dead; the
end of volcanic activity
has apparently stopped
the recycling of chemicals
and minerals between
the surface and interior
of the planet.**





Mars Facts...

Mars is named after the Roman god of war. In different cultures, Mars represents masculinity and youth. Its symbol, a circle with an arrow pointing out to the upper right, is also used as a symbol for the male gender.



