

Planets

[Introduction](#)

[Terrestrial planets](#)

[Mars](#)

[Venus](#)

[Sources](#)

Introduction

A planet is a **celestial** body, orbiting a star, that is massive enough to be gravitationally **rounded** and has “cleared the neighbourhood” around its orbit.

“I think of space not as the final frontier but as the next frontier.”

— Neil Degrasse Tyson

Unfortunately, Pluto is no longer a planet but a dwarf planet. Sometimes I think, **Pluto still deserves full planet hood**.

Terrestrial planets

Mercury

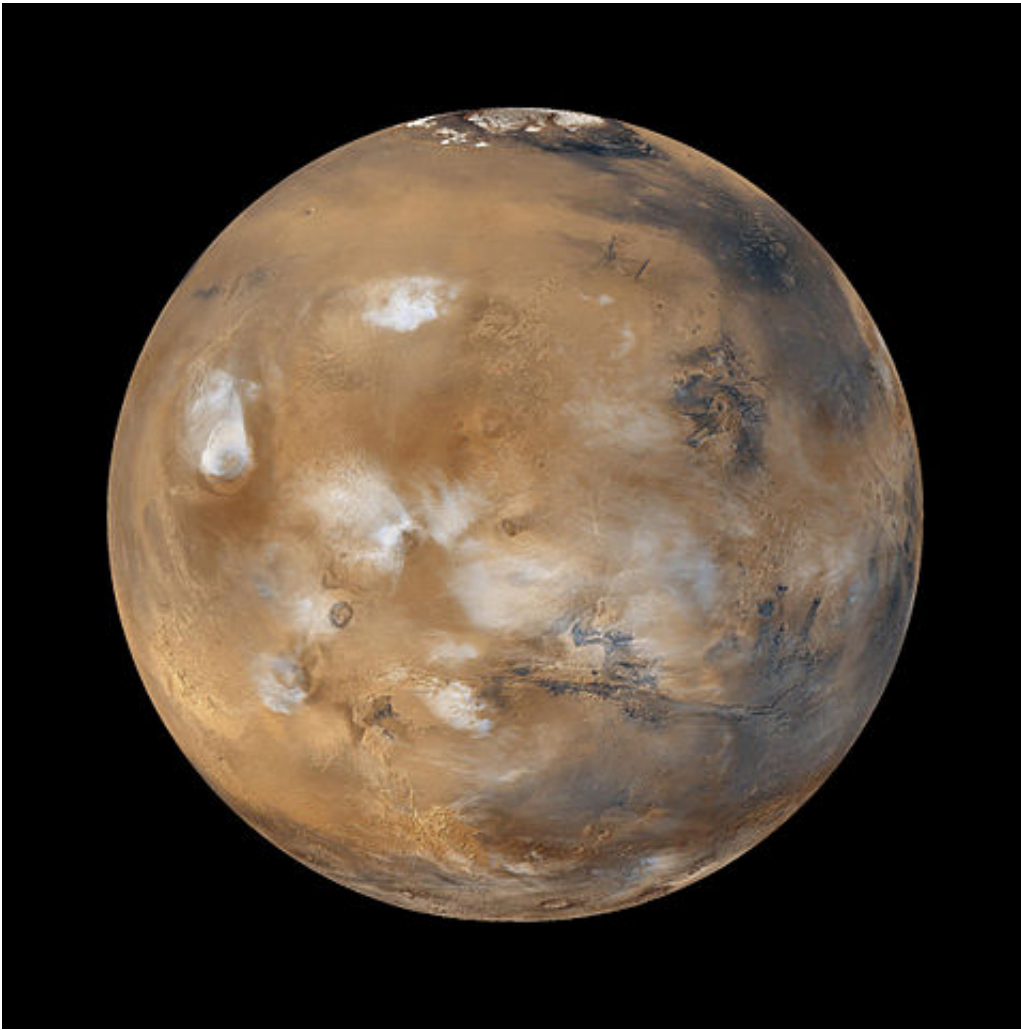
Venus

Earth

Mars

Mars

Mars is 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.



A computer-generated image of Mars from real data.

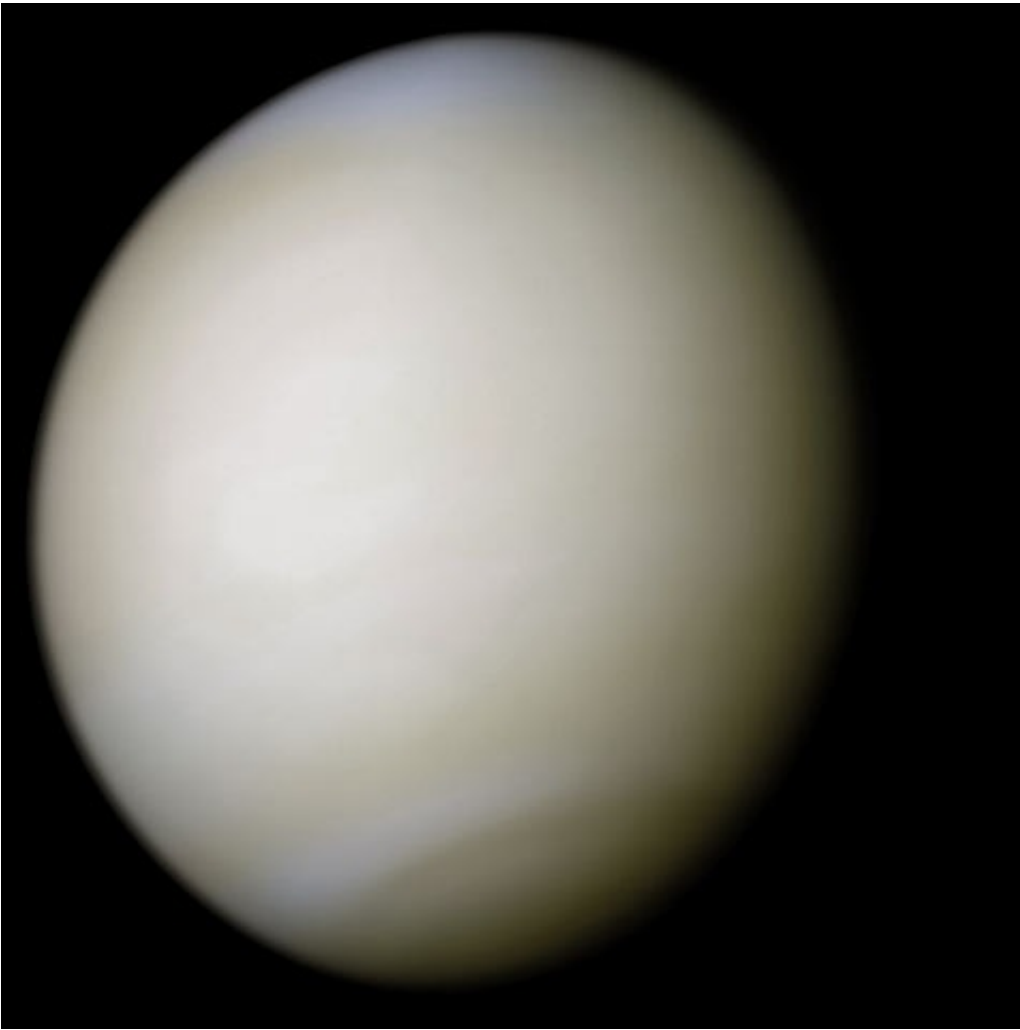
Semi-major axis: 227 939 100 km

Orbital period: 686.971 d

Mean radius: 3389.5 km

Venus

Venus is the second planet from the Sun, orbiting it every 224.7 Earth days.



A real-colour image of Venus processed from two filters. The surface is obscured by a thick blanket of clouds.

Semi-major axis: 108 208 000 km

Orbital period: 224.701 d

Mean radius: 6051.8 km

Sources

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mars>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Venus>