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Mars: The Pristine Beauty Of The Red Planet



Synopsis

HiRISE is the most powerful camera ever sent to another planet, showing us Mars in astonishing detail. Featuring an outstanding and never-before-published collection of HiRISE high-resolution color images with explanatory captions in twenty-four languages, this book offers a unique volume produced from an active NASA mission. Mars enthusiasts will appreciate these perfect snapshots of our current understanding of Mars, with soon-to-be classic pictures that have come to define our vision of the Red Planet. These images and their interpretations will be held as a yardstick for future exploration as we learn more about the surface and geologic processes of the fourth planet from the Sun. With tantalizing and artistic glimpses at actively eroding slopes, impact craters, strange polar landscapes, avalanches, and even spectacular descent pictures of probes like the Phoenix Lander and the Mars Science Laboratory, we see what researchers are seeing. Through vivid and beautiful images, this book underscores the need for such a camera on future orbiters, especially as more landing missions are planned. Mars: The Pristine Beauty of the Red Planet provides a stunning keepsake of one of humanity's greatest accomplishments in space travel.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Mars is one of the best places to search for signs of life beyond Earth, and it is a world that humans may one day call home. It is also a world of staggering beauty. The HiRISE camera on NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter has revealed the stark and sometimes bizarre landscapes of Mars in spectacular high resolution and vivid color for the first time. In Mars: The

Pristine Beauty of the Red Planet, the best of those images are gathered together, providing the most dramatic views of the red planet ever seen. It's a book that belongs on the shelves of anyone who cares about Mars's ancient past, or about its role in humanity's future.

•Steve Squyres, Principal Investigator, Mars Exploration Rovers

Alfred S. McEwen is a planetary geologist and director of the Planetary Image Research Laboratory (PIRL) within the Lunar and Planetary Lab of the University of Arizona. He is principal investigator of HiRISE for the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO). Dr. Candice Hansen-Koharcheck is a planetary scientist at the Planetary Science Institute. She is the deputy principal investigator of HiRISE. Ari Espinoza is the media contact, outreach lead, and content producer for HiRISE at the University of Arizona. He is also the coordinator of HiRISE's Beautiful Mars Project.

Got this for my 78 year old Dad for Father's Day, on the outside chance he'd find it interesting. He's not especially into space or astronomy, but the pictures are so varied, detailed and surprising that he's read through the whole book twice and had many questions for me. I hadn't seen the book myself, just heard it discussed among space aficionados on Twitter, so when I saw it in person I was shocked at how huge and heavy it is. Very, very nicely done. Very interested readers can look up a host of technical data online for each photo, including 3D images, raw (unfiltered) sensor images, and images of the surrounding area. The authors (and NASA) have outdone themselves. Would love to see a similar book with recent high-res images from the Moon!

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