

Volcano Stamps of the ~~World~~

SOLAR SYSTEM

Eruption on Io as captured by NASA's Galileo spacecraft, 1997

EARTH

The Pacific Ring of Fire marks the boundary of several tectonic plates. Earth is the only planet with active plate tectonics, driven by slow-moving convection currents in the mantle.



Ghana

c100

Voyager 2

Volcano on Io

IO, MOON OF JUPITER

Io is the most volcanically active planet in the solar system. It has a 50km layer of magma under its crust that regularly erupts onto the surface. Voyager 1 accidentally photographed an eruption in 1979.

SALUTING THE COMING EXPLORATION OF MARS

OLYMPUS MONS

SIERRA LEONE LE175

MARS

Olympus Mons is the largest volcano (mountain) in the solar system. It stands 22km high - Mt Everest is 8.8km. It is a shield volcano that started erupting 350 million years ago and last erupted 2 million years ago. Which means it may erupt again.....

VENUS

Venus is volcanically active right now, with over 80,000 volcanoes detected. Its surface is 90% basalt, emitted mostly from shield volcanoes.

EARTH'S MOON

The dark patches of the moon are vast ancient lava plains that erupted 4.2-2.8 billion years ago. There are no active volcanoes now, but significant magma may persist under the surface.

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Moon

15.00

Mercury



FOREVER USA

MERCURY

Volcanoes were active 3-4 billion years ago then stopped. Mercury seemingly cooled faster than other planets and its crust became too rigid for volcanism. The orange patch on the left is a giant ancient lava field.

By Glenn Marshall



Image: NASA/ESA