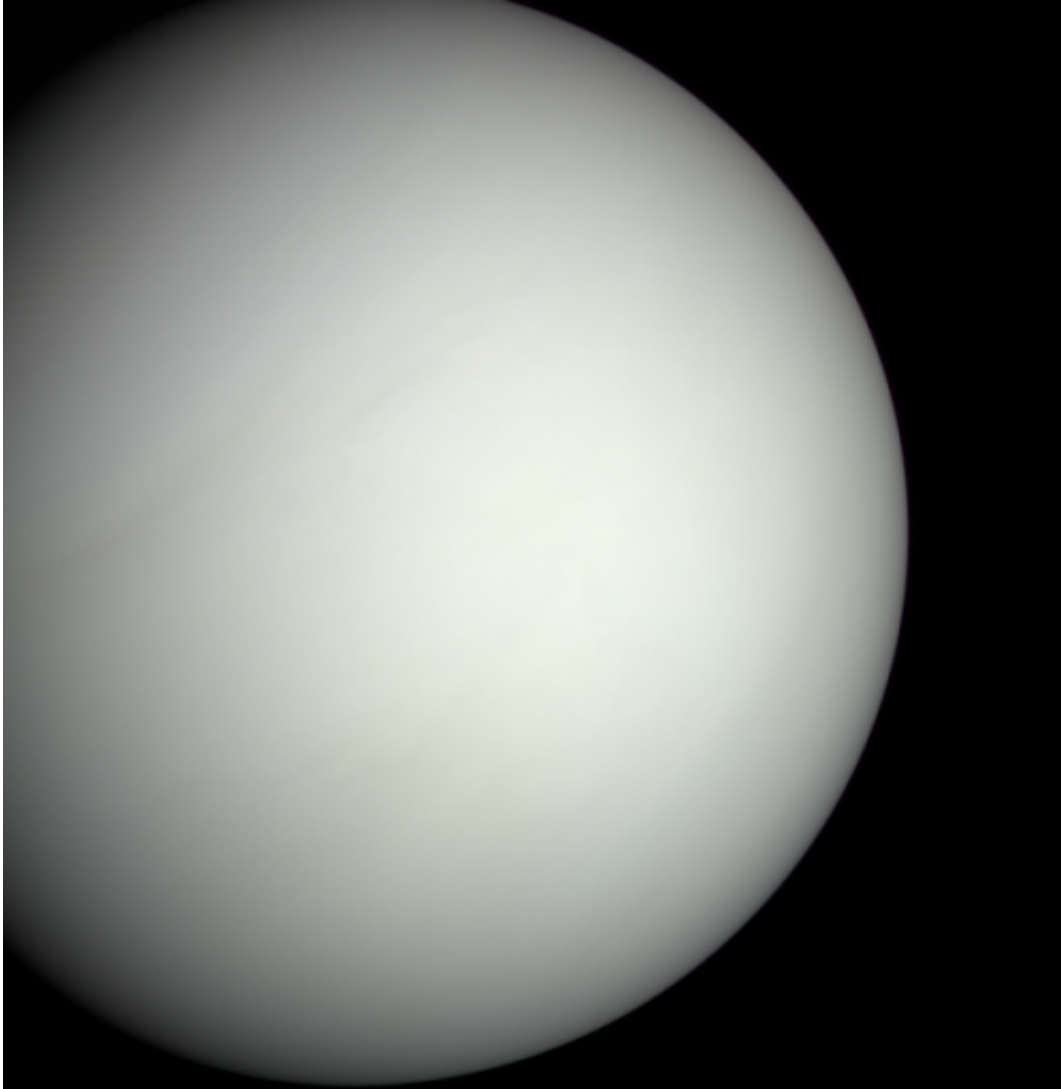


ESA: Unveiling Venus

May 25 2012, by Jason Major



The featureless face of Venus, as seen by MESSENGER. Credit: NASA/Gordan Ugarkovic

With Venus about to get its day in the Sun — very much literally — the European Space Agency has assembled an excellent video about our planetary neighbor.

Watch the video below:

Once thought to be similar to Earth, possibly even having liquid water and plant life on its surface, [Venus](#) has since been discovered to be anything but hospitable to life. Beneath its cream-colored clouds lies a hellish hothouse of searing temperatures and crushing pressure, making attempts at exploration difficult at best. But ESA's Venus Express, currently in orbit around the planet, has helped scientists learn more about Venus than ever before, opening our eyes to what really lies beneath — and within — its opaque atmosphere.

Venus is still a planet shrouded in mystery (and sulfuric acid clouds!) but we are gradually pulling away the veil.

Source: [Universe Today](#)

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