

Image: Hubble peers through the elliptical haze

December 7 2015



Credit: ESA/Hubble, NASA and S. Smartt (Queen's University Belfast)

Like a lighthouse in the fog, the luminous core of NGC 2768 slowly fades outwards to a dull white haze in this image taken by the NASA/ESA Hubble Space Telescope.

NGC 2768 is an [elliptical galaxy](#) in the constellation of Ursa Major (The Great Bear). It is a huge bundle of stars, dominated by a bright central region, where a supermassive black hole feasts on a constant stream of gas and dust being fed to it by its galactic host.

The galaxy is also marked by a prominent plume of dust reaching out from the center and lying perpendicular to the galaxy's plane. This [dust](#) conceals a symmetrical, S-shaped pair of jets that are being produced by the [supermassive black hole](#) as it feeds.

Provided by European Space Agency

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