

# Image: Cliffs of Comet 67P/Churyumov–Gerasimenko

July 12 2016

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Credit: ESA/Rosetta/NavCam – CC BY-SA IGO 3.0

This striking view of Comet 67P/Churyumov–Gerasimenko reveals portions of both comet lobes, with dramatic shadows on the 'neck' region between them. It was taken by Rosetta's navigation camera (NavCam) on 30 June 2016, from a distance of 25.8 km, and measures about 2.3 km across.

Since reaching the comet on 6 August 2014, Rosetta has extensively mapped its surface. The [comet nucleus](#) has a curious shape consisting of two lobes that are often referred to as the 'head' and the 'body'.

Depicted in the lower right part of the image is the region Hathor, a very intriguing portion of the comet head, named after the ancient Egyptian deity of love, music and beauty. In this region, the head declines steeply towards the neck and body of the comet.

This view shows a good fraction of the 900-m high cliff that forms Hathor, with marked linear features crossing the region from left to right. Perpendicular to these, additional streaks and even small terraces can be seen.

Beyond the cliff of Hathor, on the right, are hints of the Ma'at region, named after the ancient Egyptian goddess of truth and balance.

In the upper right corner, smoother patches of the large comet lobe, or body, are visible, covered in dust and boulders. The large lobe casts its shadow on the comet's neck, which separates the two lobes and is hidden from view in this image.

You can use the [comet viewer tool](#) to aid navigation around the comet's

regions.

Currently, Rosetta is on a 27 km x 9 km elliptical orbit around the nucleus; this weekend, it will move to a less eccentric, 9 km x 10 km orbit, ahead of entering the end-of-mission orbit. The mission will continue its close-up investigation of the comet environment until the grand finale, a controlled descent of the spacecraft to the surface of the [comet](#) on 30 September.

Provided by European Space Agency

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