

Video: Fly over Neukum crater

May 10 2018

This movie, based on images taken by ESA's Mars Express, showcases the 102 km wide Neukum Crater in the southern hemisphere of Mars.

The [crater](#) is named for the German physicist and planetary scientist, Gerhard Neukum, one of the founders of ESA's Mars Express mission who inspired and led the development of the high-resolution stereo camera on Mars Express.

This complex impact crater has a diverse geologic [history](#), as indicated by various features on the crater rim and floor. Particularly striking are the dark dune fields, likely made up of volcanic material blown in and shaped by strong winds.

The crater's shallow interior has been infilled by sediments over its history. It is also marked with two irregular depressions that may be a sign of a weaker material that has since eroded away, leaving behind some islands of more resistant material.

Over time the crater rim has undergone varying degrees of collapse, with landslides and slumped material visible in the crater walls. Many smaller craters have also overprinted the rim and pockmarked the interior since Neukum Crater was formed, highlighting its long history.

Neukum Crater is situated in Noachis Terra, one of the oldest known regions on Mars, dating back to at least 3.9 billion years.

Provided by European Space Agency

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