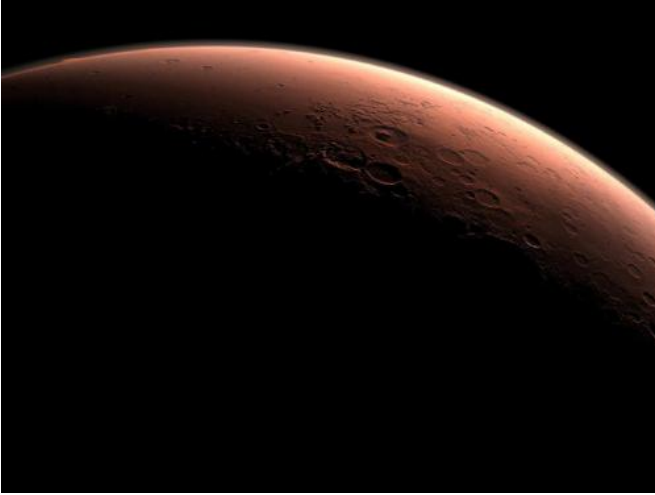


Daybreak at Gale crater

25 August 2011

Provided by JPL/NASA



Credit: NASA/JPL-Caltech

This computer-generated image depicts part of Mars at the boundary between darkness and daylight, with an area including Gale Crater, beginning to catch morning light.

Northward is to the left. Gale is the crater with a mound inside it near the center of the image. NASA selected Gale Crater as the landing site for Curiosity, the Mars Science Laboratory. The mission's rover will be placed on the ground in a northern portion of Gale crater in August 2012.

Gale Crater is 96 miles (154 kilometers) in diameter and holds a layered mountain rising about 3 miles (5 kilometers) above the crater floor. The intended landing site is at 4.5 degrees south latitude, 137.4 degrees east longitude.

This view was created using three-dimensional information from the [Mars Orbiter Laser Altimeter](#), which flew on NASA's [Mars Global Surveyor](#) orbiter. The vertical dimension is not exaggerated. Color information is based on general Mars color characteristics.

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