

Venus



This mosaic of Venus was composed from Magellan images taken during radar investigations from 1990-1994, centered at 180° east longitude. Magellan spacecraft imaged more than 98% of Venus' surface at a resolution of about 100 meters. This image has an effective resolution of about 3 kilometers. Gaps in the Magellan coverage were filled with images from Earth-based Arecibo radar in a region roughly centered at 0° latitude and longitude and near the south pole. This mosaic was colour-coded to represent elevation. Missing elevation data from the Magellan radar altimeter were filled with altimetry from the Venera spacecraft and the U.S. Pioneer Venus missions. The Lighter areas denote rough terrain; the darker areas are smooth surfaces or possibly areas covered with dust. (Courtesy of NASA)