

Summary Information Sheet

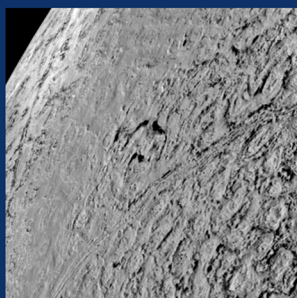
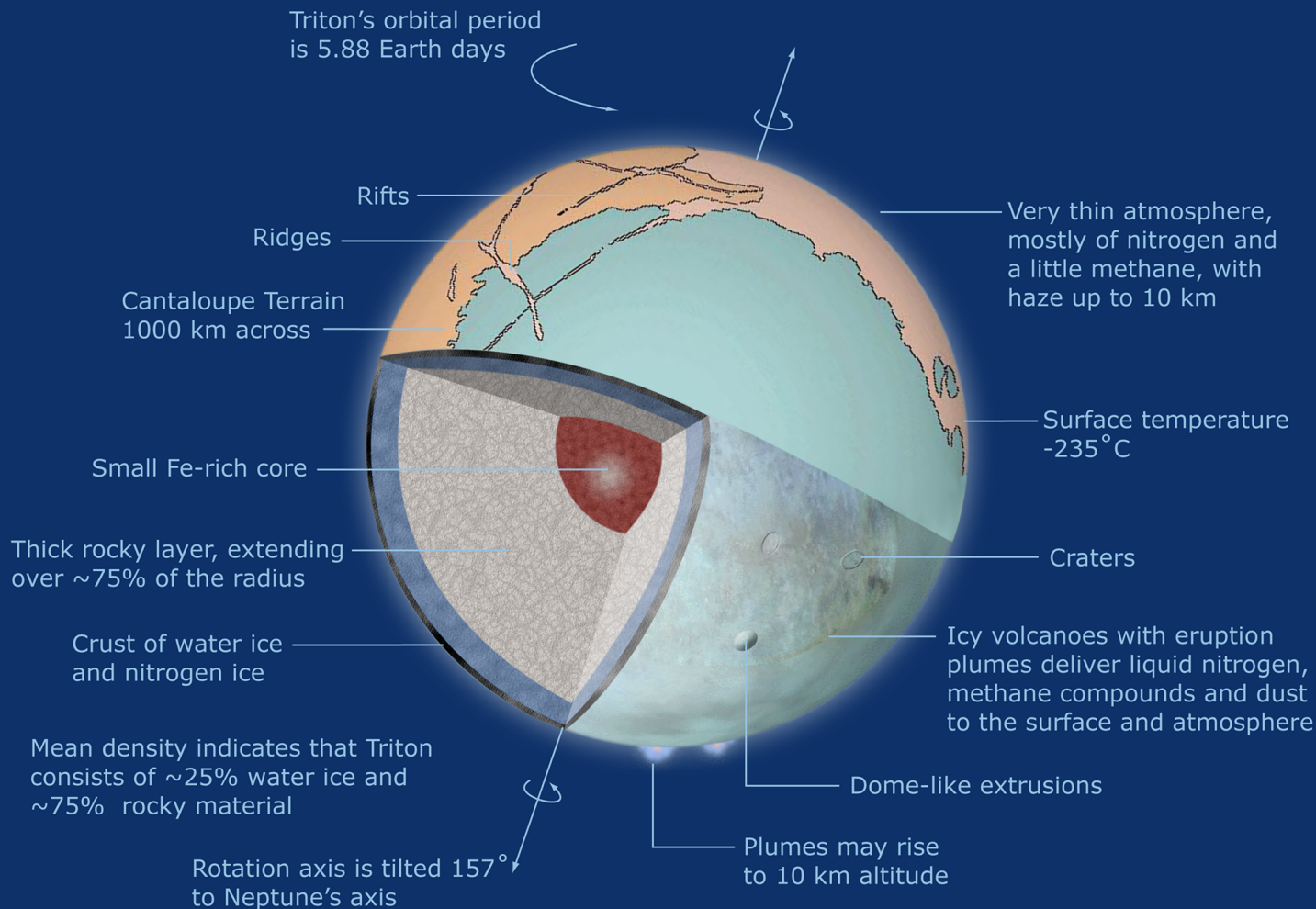
Triton



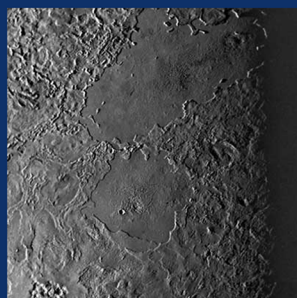
Triton is Neptune's largest moon. In Greek mythology, it is the son of the God of the Sea, Poseidon. Triton has an unusually bright, icy surface. There are craters, rifts and icy volcanoes. Voyager 2 approached Triton to within 3000 km in 1989. Triton moves in a retrograde orbit and is most likely a captured Trans-Neptunian Object.



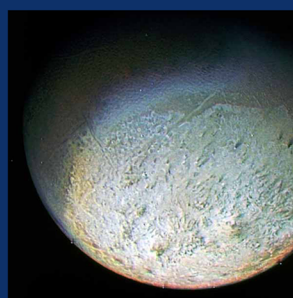
Triton's orbital period is 5.88 Earth days



Cantaloupe Terrain (NASA Voyager 2)



"Ice Lakes" with impact craters



South polar cap (mostly frozen nitrogen)



Ice Volcano (Space Art)

Physical Data

Property
Distance from the planet
Rotation period
Equatorial radius
Mass
Density

Triton
354,800 km
5.88 days
1352.6 km
2.14×10^{22} kg
2050 kg/m ³

For comparison

Moon
384,000 km
27 days 8 hrs
1738 km
7.35×10^{22} kg
3340 kg/m ³

Pluto
5966 mio km (from Sun)
6 days 9 hrs 18 min
1195 km
1.3×10^{22} kg
1100 kg/m ³

Images from ESO, ESA or NASA except otherwise stated

Concept: Bernhard Mackowiak