

# Venus

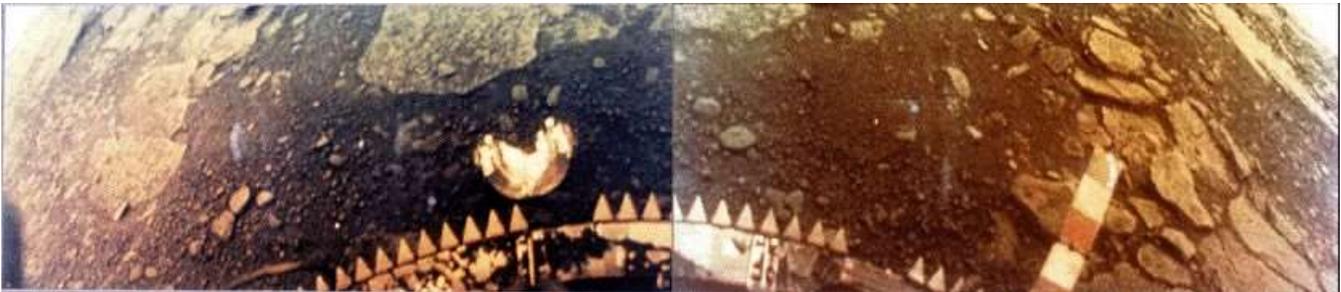
Venus' atmosphere blocks our view of the planet's surface. The atmosphere is mostly carbon dioxide with clouds of sulfuric acid droplets.



To see beneath the clouds, we use radar. This is what Venus looks like under the cloud layer:



Only a few pictures have been taken from the surface of Venus. This picture was taken from the Venera 13 spacecraft in 1982. Parts of the spacecraft are visible in the lower part of the photo.



More complex cloud formations can be seen in the 2018 image at right when compared with the image above.

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[https://planetary.s3.amazonaws.com/assets/images/z\\_changeover/venus\\_mariner10\\_color\\_globe\\_malmer.jpg](https://planetary.s3.amazonaws.com/assets/images/z_changeover/venus_mariner10_color_globe_malmer.jpg)

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