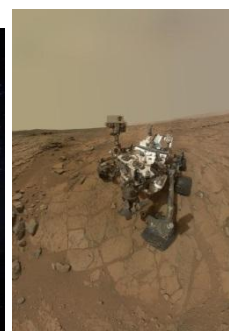
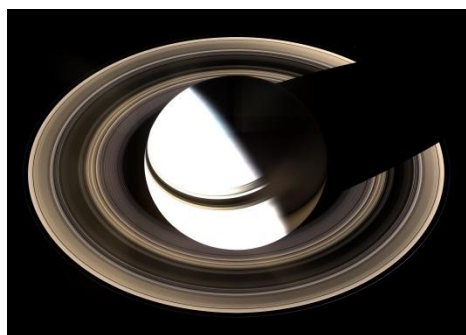


Websites to Obtain Astronomical Images

Compiled by Andrew Fraknoi (*Fromm Institute, U. of San Francisco*)
[Apr. 2019]

© copyright 2019 by Andrew Fraknoi. Permission to use for any non-profit educational purpose, such as distribution in a classroom or workshop is hereby given. For any other use, or publication, you must contact the author at: [fraknoi {at} fhda {dot} edu](mailto:fraknoi@fhda.edu)



1. The Top Image Sites

Many of these images are free of copyright because they are distributed by government agencies. Always read their copyright and distribution policies to see where your intended use fits under their guidelines.

Astronomy Picture of the Day: <https://apod.nasa.gov/> (Two scientists scour the Internet and feature one interesting astronomy image each day. You can search for terms that take you to categories of objects.)

Hubble Space Telescope Images: <http://hubblesite.org/categories/news> (Select news releases by subject.) Or use the European ESO site, which has broad category boxes at the top: <https://www.spacetelescope.org/images/>

National Optical Astronomy Observatory Image Gallery: https://www.noao.edu/image_gallery/ (Archive of images from the many telescopes that are at the U.S. National Observatories.)

Planetary Photojournal: <https://photojournal.jpl.nasa.gov/> (Thousands of images from NASA's planetary exploration missions; use the menus or images on the top page to narrow your search.)

European Southern Observatory Photo Gallery: <https://www.eso.org/public/images/>

Magnificent color images from ESO's largest telescopes, including VLT and ALMA. See the topical menu at the top.

European Space Agency Gallery: <http://www.esa.int/spaceinimages/Images> (More than 24,000 images from European space missions; you can search by topic or click on space science in the menu lower down to narrow things to astronomy.)

2. Other Useful General Galleries

Anglo-Australian Observatory: <https://images.datacentral.org.au/> (This archive includes the famous images taken by David Malin, the renowned astro-photographer. Note these are copyrighted and require permission.)

Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope:

<http://www.cfht.hawaii.edu/HawaiianStarlight/HawaiianStarlight-Archive.html> (Beautiful images, but be sure to click on "copyright policy" at left.)

Gemini Observatory Images: <https://www.gemini.edu/gallery/all> (Note the search box above the first row of images.)

Isaac Newton Group of Telescopes Image Gallery: http://www.ing.iac.es/PR/images_index.html (Images from the Herschel, Newton, and Kapteyn telescopes on La Palma.)

National Radio Astronomy Observatory Image Gallery: <https://public.nrao.edu/gallery/> (Images from radio telescopes; select by category.)

The World at Night: <http://www.twanight.org/newTWAN/index.asp> (Great night-sky images by professional photographers who are amateur astronomers. These are copyrighted images; you need permission to use them.)

Wikimedia: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Main_Page (A world-wide library of copyright-free images; you can search on any topic)

3. Some Galleries on Specific Subjects

Astronaut Photography of the Earth: <https://eol.jsc.nasa.gov/SearchPhotos/> (Allows you to search by any geographical feature on our planet.)

Chandra X-ray Observatory Images: <http://chandra.harvard.edu/photo/category.html> (Images of the x-ray sky; organized by topic.)

Cool Cosmos: <http://coolcosmos.ipac.caltech.edu/> (Infra-red images of things in daily life, and of objects in space)

NASA Human Spaceflight Gallery: <https://spaceflight.nasa.gov/gallery/> (Astronauts and missions of the past; no longer updated)

NASA Johnson Space Flight Center Flickr account:
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/nasa2explore/albums> (Including astronaut and space flight images, this site is still updated)

Robert Gendler Gallery: <http://www.robgendlerastropics.com/> (Among amateur astro-photographers, Gendler perhaps comes closest to being professional)

Segre Visual Archives at the American Institute of Physics: <https://photos.aip.org/history-programs/niels-bohr-library/photos> (Not free, but has a rich collection of 30,000 historical photos, that include astronomers)

SETI Institute Gallery: <https://www.seti.org/gallery> (Galleries of images related to the search for life in the universe)

Sloan Digital Sky Survey Images: <https://www.sdss.org/science/image-gallery/> (Images from one of the largest surveys; note the link to the older “classic” survey’s images at right)

Solar Dynamics Observatory Gallery (Sun images): <https://sdo.gsfc.nasa.gov/gallery/main> (Good images of the Sun at different wavelengths)

Spitzer Infrared Telescope Images: <http://www.spitzer.caltech.edu/images> (Images from the infrared orbiting observatory)

Subaru Telescope Images: <https://subarutelescope.org/Gallery/> (A variety of images from the National Astronomical Observatory of Japan’s telescope on Mauna Kea)