

8.6: Jupiter's Satellites

Jupiter currently has the largest known number of satellites in the solar system, with 67 known moons (as of August 2014). The four largest moons were discovered by Galileo Galilei and are called the Galilean Satellites or moons. They are Callisto, Europa, Ganymede, and Io, with Io having the closest orbit to Jupiter. And Ganymede is larger than planet Mercury.

Jupiter's Galilean Satellites

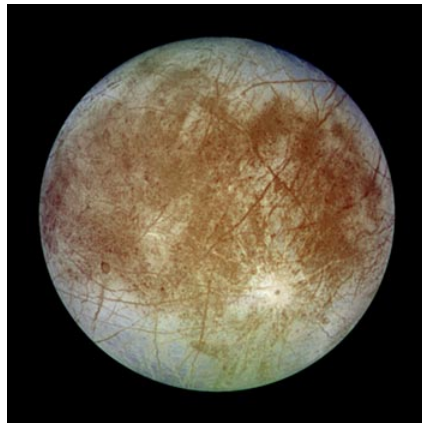
Brief Descriptions

Callisto

- Europa
 - Ganymede
 - Io
 - Most active volcanoes in the solar system, Sulfur



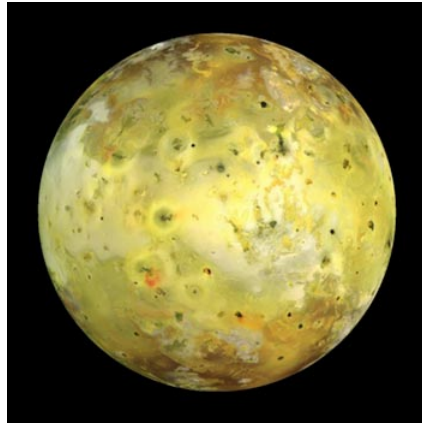
Callisto via NASA Galileo SpacecraftPublic Domain | Image courtesy of NASA.



Europa via NASA Galileo SpacecraftPublic Domain | Image courtesy of NASA.



Ganymede via NASA Galileo SpacecraftPublic Domain | Image courtesy of NASA.



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