

Voyager 1 took this picture of Europa, Jupiter's second Galilean satellite, early on the morning of March 1, 1979, from a distance of 3.66 million miles (5.9 million kilometers). The photo was taken through a violet filter and shows faint swirls and linear patterns in Europa's equatorial region. The hemisphere shown here is that which always faces Jupiter. North is up. The equatorial region is slightly darker than the poles. Although Europa is the brightest of the Galilean satellites, it exhibits low contrast on this hemisphere. Like Io, Europa has a density and size comparable to Earth's Moon. But unlike Io which is apparently dry, Europa shows Earth-bound observers many indications of water ice or ground water on its surface. JPL manages and controls the Voyager project for NASA's Office of Space Science