#### The Known Planets..

<u>Mercury</u>

<u>Venus</u>

Earth

<u>Mars</u>

<u>Jupiter</u>

Saturn

Uranus

Neptune Pluto

## Mercury

Mercury is the inner-most planet in the solar system. It has a <u>sidereal</u> period of 88 earth-days.

**Sidereal**: The term sidereal pertains to the stars; hence a sidereal period is the amount of time it takes a planet to go around our star, the sun.

#### Venus

Venus is second from the sun, and has a nearly circular orbit. Venus exhibits considerable volcanic and seismic activity.

### Earth

Earth is third from the sun, and is the only planet in the solar system known to support life.

#### Mars

Mars is the fourth planet from the sun, and appears to have had water at one time. There is much carbon dioxide on Mars, which could someday support plant life. Mars also has two moons. See also:

**Phobos** 

<u>Deimos</u>

# Phobos

Phobos is one of two Martian moons. It completes an orbit around Mars in 7 hours and 39 minutes.

## Deimos

Deimos is one of two Martian moons. It completes an orbit around Mars in 1 day, 6 hours and 21 minutes.