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Book Review: The International Atlas of Mars Exploration: From Spirit to Curiosity: V.2: 2004 to 2014

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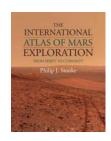
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The international atlas of Mars exploration: from Spirit to Curiosity: v.2: 2004 to 2014



Stooke, Philip J. Cambridge, 2016

444p bibl index, 9781107030930 \$145.00, 9781139344470

LC Call Number: G1000

Mars is literally crawling with robotic explorers. Stooke (Univ. of Western Ontario, Canada), a planetary scientist and cartographer, has prepared the definitive guide to the exploration of Mars outside the NASA archives. A sequel to his first volume on earlier Mars missions (CH, Apr'13, 50-4190), this new volume documents missions from roughly 2004 to 2014. In telling his story, the author draws directly from NASA mission activity logs, technical operations blogs, imaging archives, and scientific meetings. Each mission's day-to-day activities are presented in travelogue form, richly illustrated with detailed images and maps drawn by the author for each site. Images of the landing sites and movements of the landers taken from orbit put the accounts of the ground-based explorations in perspective. The huge amount of detail in each chapter is nicely summarized by chronologically ordered tables. Not a science book, this historical atlas narrates the rovers' adventures through maps and images. This invaluable reference for practicing planetary scientists is, by design, easily accessible to laypersons. If one ever plans to explore Mars vicariously or in person, this is the travel guide to take along.

Summing Up: Essential. All libraries/levels.

Reviewer: T. D. Oswalt, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Recommendation: Essential

Readership Level: All Readership Levels

Interdisciplinary Subjects:

Subject: Reference - Science & Technology

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