

Water and the Moons

In our solar system, some moons hide water in the form of ice or underground oceans.



Enceladus

Moon of Saturn

Ice crust with a warm, salty underground ocean. There are geysers that blast water and ice into space.



Titan

Moon of Saturn

Titan is a special moon because it has an atmosphere like Earth. It is very cold there (-180°C): the water ice is as hard as rock, and there are strange seas made of hydrocarbons.



Europa

Moon of Jupiter

Ice crust with a warm, salty underground ocean. 2 space probes are currently on their way to Europa, arriving around 2030 (Juice, Europa Clipper).



Callisto

Moon of Jupiter

Callisto has a very ancient, icy surface.

Water is in the form of ice on the surface and liquid below due to the heat from the core.



Ganymede

Moon of Jupiter

Ganymede resembles a giant layer cake made of alternating layers of ice and liquid water. It is also the largest moon in the solar system.

Life on the moons?

We look for water on other planets and moons because where there is water, there can be life.

