

# NASA rover nears Martian crater goal

NASA's Mars rover *Opportunity* is closing in on a key goal of its mission – a massive impact crater that scientists believe could yield a treasure trove of information about the geological history of the red planet

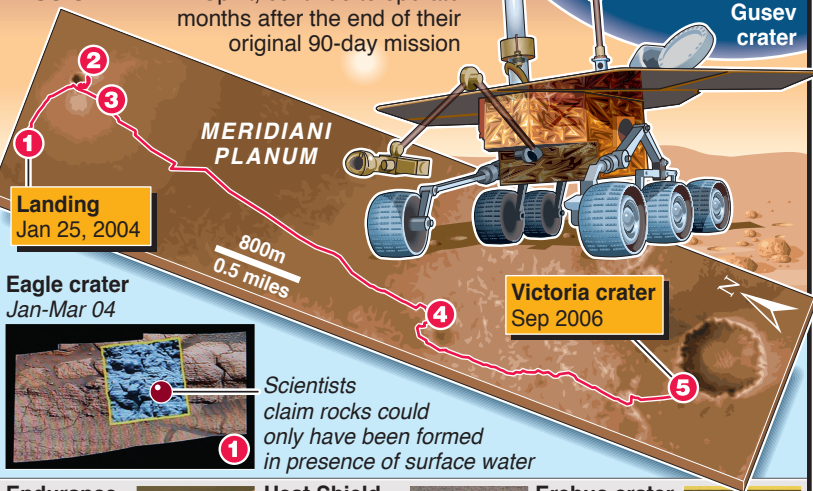
## OPPORTUNITY – MISSION MAP

Opportunity and its twin, Spirit, continue to operate months after the end of their original 90-day mission

Opportunity  
Meridiani  
Planum

MARS

Spirit  
Gusev crater



### Endurance crater

May-Dec 04  
Rock layers in crater rim



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### Heat Shield Rock

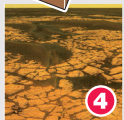
Jan 05  
First meteorite ever found on another planet



**3**

### Erebus crater

Oct 05-Mar 06  
Rocks formed by wind and surface water



**4**

**Victoria crater:** Engineers will study rover images to plot best route into crater



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