

DESERT PLAINS

Mojave Desert, Earth

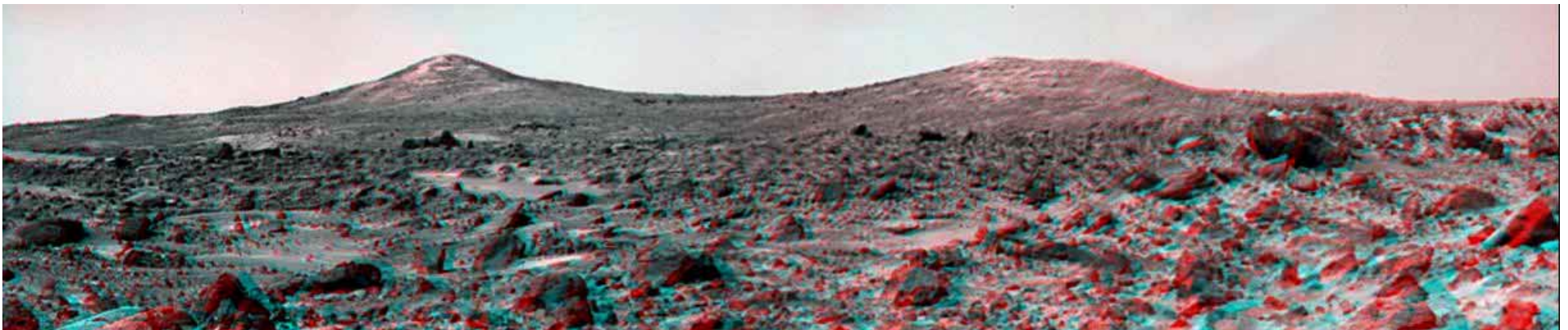
Part of the Twentynine Palms Marine Corps base, Lavi Lake is a dry lake bed bordered by a geologically recent lava flow, and pock-marked by craters created by military practice bombing. It was used for the Mars Rover testing of the prototype Rocky 7 rover. The area encompassing Twentynine Palms is the Morongo Basin and is classified as having an arid, upland desert climate. There are also several dune areas, lava flows, and dry lakes, which make it a good site for testing Mars vehicles.



NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory

Ares Vallis, Pathfinder Landing Site, Mars

The Twin Peaks are modest-sized hills to the southwest of the Mars Pathfinder landing site. The Mars Pathfinder landing site is at the mouth of Ares Vallis, a large outflow channel that emptied into the Chryse Basin. Vast floodwaters poured over this site several billion years ago. The peaks are approximately 30–35 meters (100 feet) tall. North Twin is approximately 860 meters (2800 feet) from the lander, and South Twin is about a kilometer away (3300 feet).



use 3-D glasses to view image

*Lunar and Planetary Institute
<http://www.lpi.usra.edu>*