

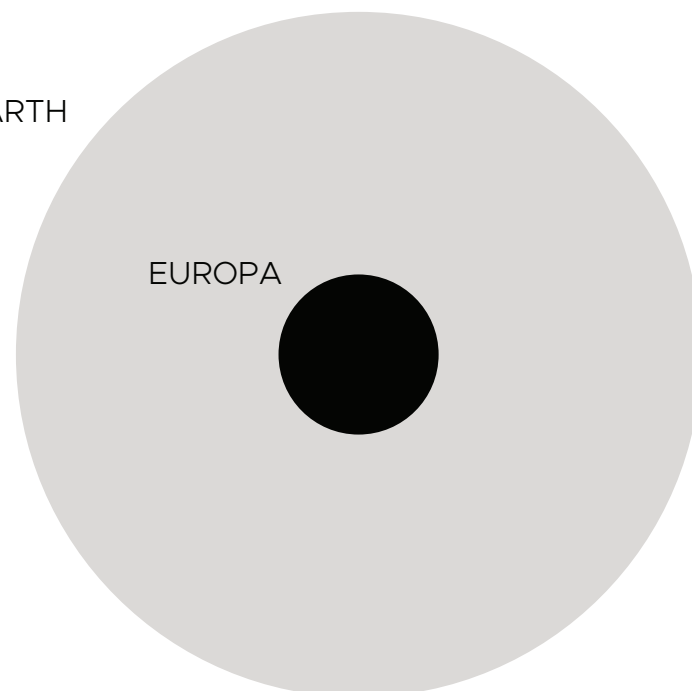
The Galilean moons—the four largest moons of Jupiter—are shown in their correct order of distance from Jupiter, and their correct relative orbital distances. The sizes of the bodies are greatly exaggerated relative to the orbital distances.

EUROPA is perhaps the most promising place to look for present-day environments suitable for life.

Slightly smaller than Earth's Moon, Europa's water-ice surface is crisscrossed by long, linear fractures. Like our planet, Europa is thought to have an iron core, a rocky mantle and an ocean of salty water. Unlike Earth, however, Europa's ocean lies below a shell of ice probably 10 to 15 miles (15 to 25 kilometers) thick and has an estimated depth of 40 to 100 miles (60 to 150 kilometers).

Europa is named for a woman abducted by the god Zeus in Greek mythology—Jupiter to the Romans.

EARTH



Europa is 0.24x (or 24%) the size of Earth

NASA EXPLORES

EUROPA

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