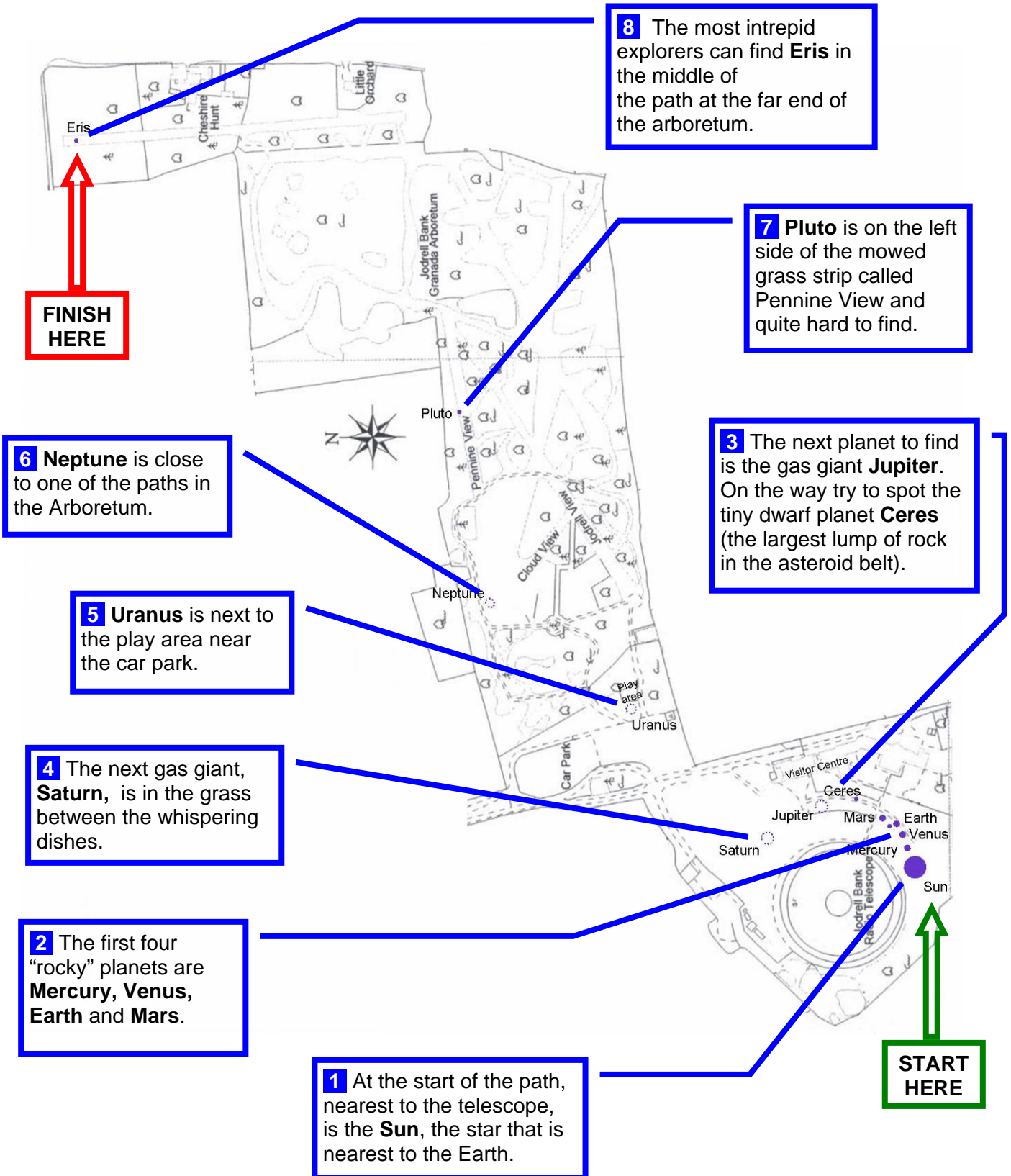


Jodrell Bank Planet Path Map



Explore the Solar System on foot!

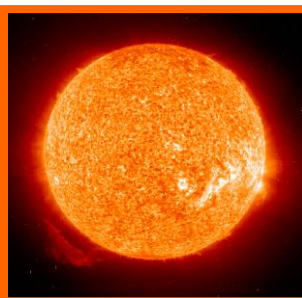
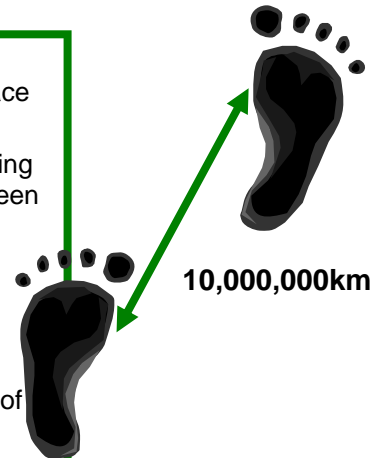
Relative Sizes

When it comes to representing the Solar System, we don't have much space here at Jodrell Bank.

In order to squeeze everything in, we've had to use two ways of representing the sizes involved. We use one to give you an idea of the **distances** between planets and another one to give you a sense of the relative **sizes** of the planets.

In our **distance scale model**, every metre you walk away from the Sun represents about 10 million km – those are big strides!

In our **size scale model** we imagine that the Sun is the size of the Lovell Telescope, about 109 times the size of our model Earth and 10 times that of Jupiter. Each centimetre in this model represents about 180 kilometres.



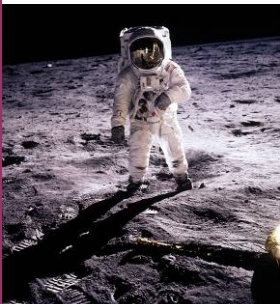
About one million Earths would fit inside the **Sun** and the temperature at its centre is 15 million degrees! It is the source of all our energy and life depends on it.

There are 8 planets in our Solar System but we now know of hundreds of planets orbiting other stars.



Mercury's temperature varies from a rather chilly minus 180 degrees Celsius to a baking 430 degrees Celsius.

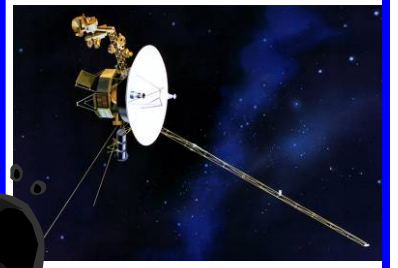
Venus has clouds made of sulphuric acid and is often visible as the brightest "star" in the sky.



The **Earth** is the only place in Universe so far known to have the life – let's look after it!

Between 1969 and 1972, twelve astronauts walked on the surface of the **Moon**.

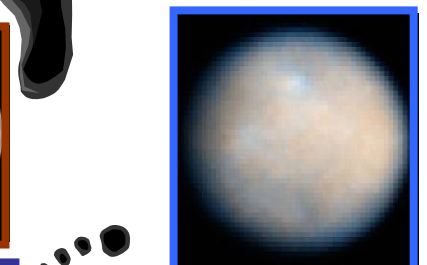
Notice how the inner planets are much closer together than the outer planets. **Voyager 2**, launched in 1977, visited Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune between 1979 and 1989.



Jupiter is the biggest planet. Mostly made of gas, it has a giant storm called the Great Red Spot. The storm itself is bigger than two Earths!



Saturn's rings are made mostly of small chunks of ice and rock. They're 250,000 km across but only 1 km thick.



Pluto is smaller than our Moon. Pluto and Eris, like Ceres, are dwarf planets.