



ROYAL
OBSERVATORY
GREENWICH

Saturn

Solar System

Holiday



Solar System Holiday



Saturn

Saturn is the second largest planet in the Solar System and can fit more than 750 Earths inside it. Saturn is another gas giant planet, meaning it is both huge and made of gas with no solid surface. As Saturn is made of gas it means that it is also very light for its size and would actually float in a bathtub full of water — if you had one big enough that is!

When people think of Saturn, they usually also think about its stunning rings. Here you will find vast numbers of ice and rock chunks that could be as small as your fingernail or as big as your house! Like Jupiter, Saturn has lots of moons, 62 have been found so far.

Some of these are between the rings of Saturn and called shepherd moons because they keep the rings in the shape we see just like a shepherd controls a flock of sheep.

Saturn is a very stormy place to be with some of the storms taking a very strange shape indeed. Instead of the round storms we get on Earth, Saturn's storms can be in the shape of a hexagon and astronomers do not understand why — very strange.

Type of object	Planet
How many Earths can you fit inside it?	763
Number of moons	62
What is it made of?	Gas
Main colour	Yellow
How long is a year?	29.5 Earth years
How long is a day?	Almost 11 hours
Does it have seasons?	Yes
Minimum temperature (°C)	-150 (at top of atmosphere)
Maximum temperature (°C)	11,700 (at centre)

