

# The Cassini-Huygens Mission in the Saturn System

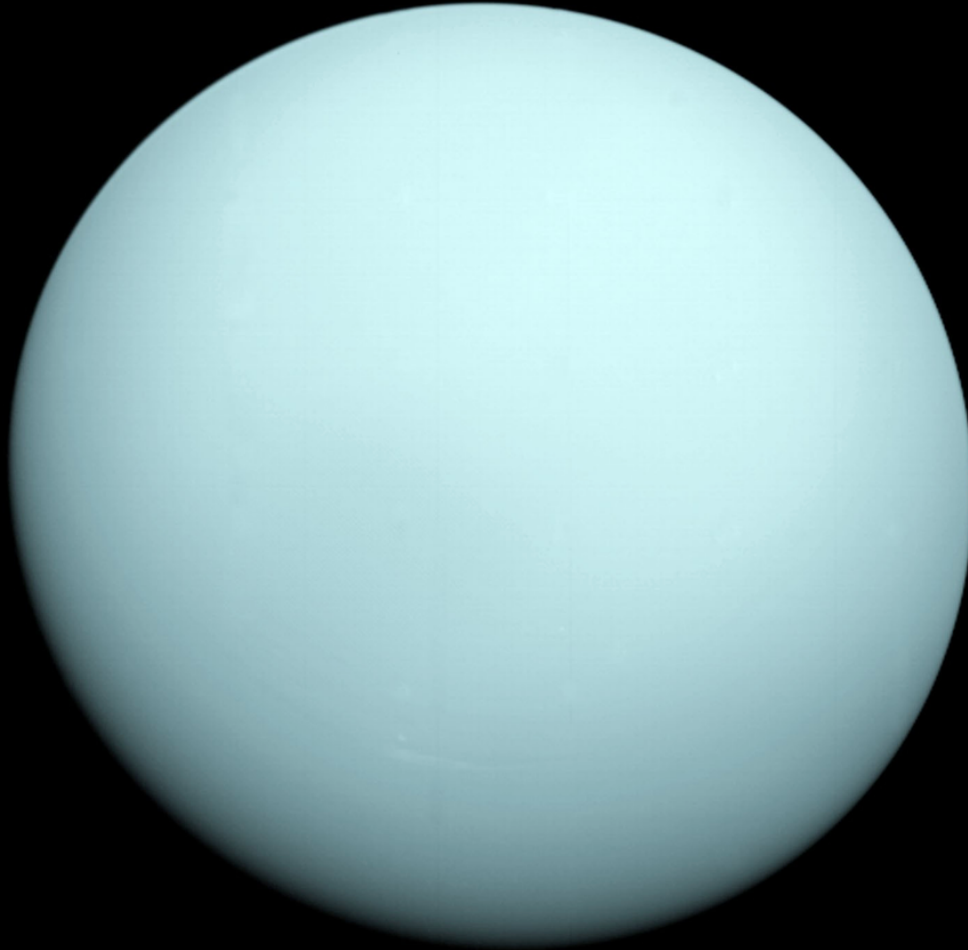
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# Planning for the Cassini mission ramped up when Voyager 2 flew by Uranus in January 1986



**NASA**  
National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

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## Announcement of Opportunity

### Cassini Mission: Saturn Orbiter

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Notices of Intent due: October 26, 1989

Proposals due: February 8, 1990

# Cassini-Huygens Spacecraft

- Comprised of the Huygens probe and the Cassini Orbiter
- The orbiter had 12 instruments and the probe had 6 instruments
- The high-gain antenna had to point at Earth to downlink data – it was also used as a shield to protect Cassini
- Cassini was powered by Radioisotope Thermoelectric Generators (RTGs)
- For large maneuvers, the main engines used a bi-propellant system, fueled by nitrogen tetroxide/monomethylhydrazine
- Hydrazine thrusters were used for attitude control and small trajectory control maneuvers

