

Uranus [by Stefanos-Gr]

The seventh planet from the sun with the third largest diameter in our solar system, Uranus is very cold and windy. The ice giant surrounded by 13 faint rings and 27 small moons as it rotates at a nearly 90-degree angle from the plane of its orbit. This unique tilt makes Uranus appear to spin on its side, orbiting the sun like a rolling ball.

The first planet found the aid of a telescope Uranus was discovered in 1781 by astronomer William Herschel although he originally thought it was either a comet or star. It was 2 years later that the object was university accepted as a new planet, in part because of observations by astronomer Johann Elert Bode.

William Herschel tried unsuccessfully to name his discovery Georgium Sidus after King George III. Instead the planet was named for Uranus, the Greek god of the sky, as suggested by Johann Bode.

