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Hyperion: The rosy Saturn Moon

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Unlike most of the dull grey moons in the Solar System, Hyperion's colour is a rosy tan, as this view shows.

The origin of the moon's unusual hue is not known. Some scientists suspect the colour comes from falling debris from moons farther out. A similar origin has been suggested for the dark reddish material on Saturn's moon Iapetus.

Images taken using red, green and blue spectral filters were combined to create this natural colour view. The images were taken in visible light with the Cassini spacecraft narrow-angle camera on 28 June 2006 at a distance of approximately 291 000 kilometres from Hyperion. Image scale is 2 kilometres per pixel.

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