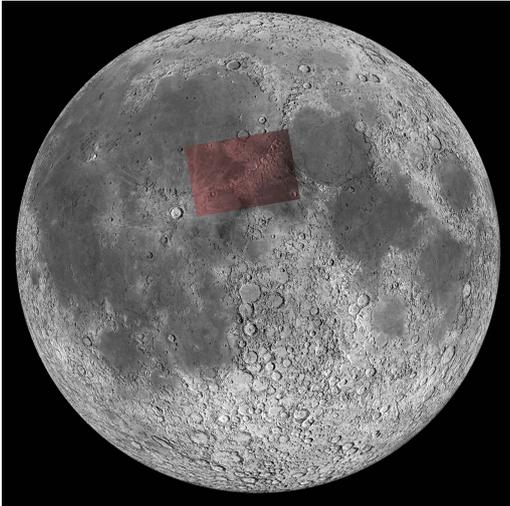


The Moon Up Close

Rima Hadley

WOUTER D'HOYE

We are visiting the Apennines mountains on the moon today. This mountain range, like most mountain ranges on the Moon, is named after a mountain range on Earth, and is one of the most fascinating regions on the lunar near side.



On the upper left image I have marked the area shown on the right image. The entire Apennines mountain range.

The Apennines mountains make up the South-Eastern border of Mare Imbrium. At the Southern end one finds the large crater Eratosthenes. The Northern border is formed by Promontorium Fresnel.

It's in this Northern area one finds Rima Hadley, Named after the nearby mountain Mons Hadley Which lends his name from the English mathematician John Hadley. Besides being a mathematician he also was the inventor of the octant, built several telescopes and developed ways to parabolize telescope mirrors.



Rima Hadley is the meandering gorge on the Left image. It's origin is at the Southern end, just north of the crater Béla. Parallel with Béla there is the elongated crater Taizo. The hornlike protrusion north of Béla is Carlos. All are, like Rima Hadley itself of volcanic origin, and not impact craters.

Rima Hadley is either a lava channel, or a collapsed lava tube.

From Béla Rima Hadley meanders on for 130km. The width of Rima Hadley is on average about 1,2km and the depth varies between 180 en 270m, but near the Apollo 15 landing site it is as deep as 370m.

About halfway Rima Hadley there is the small crater Hadley C. This one has a diameter of only 6km.

From Hadley C the Rima meanders on to make a sharp turn north-west at Mons Hadley Delta. Mons Hadley Delta elevates itself no less than 3500m above the Rima Hadley plain. Just past this turn, Between Rima Hadley and Mons Hadley one finds the landing site of the Apollo 15 mission. Mons Hadley is the highest point of the region with 4200m above the surrounding plain. At the base Mons Hadley has a diameter of about 25km.

All images in this article are made by the author on September 20th 2019. The author used a CFF 300mm f//20 telescope and a ZWO ASI 174MM camera. 3000 frames were captured of which 600 were stacked in Autostakkert! 3. On the resulting image a Lucy-Richardson deconvolution was applied to increase image sharpness. Final processing, sharpening, noise reduction and contrast enhancement was done in Adobe Photoshop CC.

