



## The Velvety Blue Dunes of Melas Chasma

This enhanced color image shows sand dunes in Melas Chasma, located within the Valles Marineris canyon system. The dark-blue and purple colors indicate coarse-grained sands that are comprised of basalt, an iron and magnesium-rich volcanic rock that formed from cooled lava millions of years ago when volcanism was an active process on Mars. (NASA/JPL/University of Arizona. 251 km above the surface; less than 1 km across.)

[uahirise.org/ESP\\_055322\\_1680](http://uahirise.org/ESP_055322_1680)

