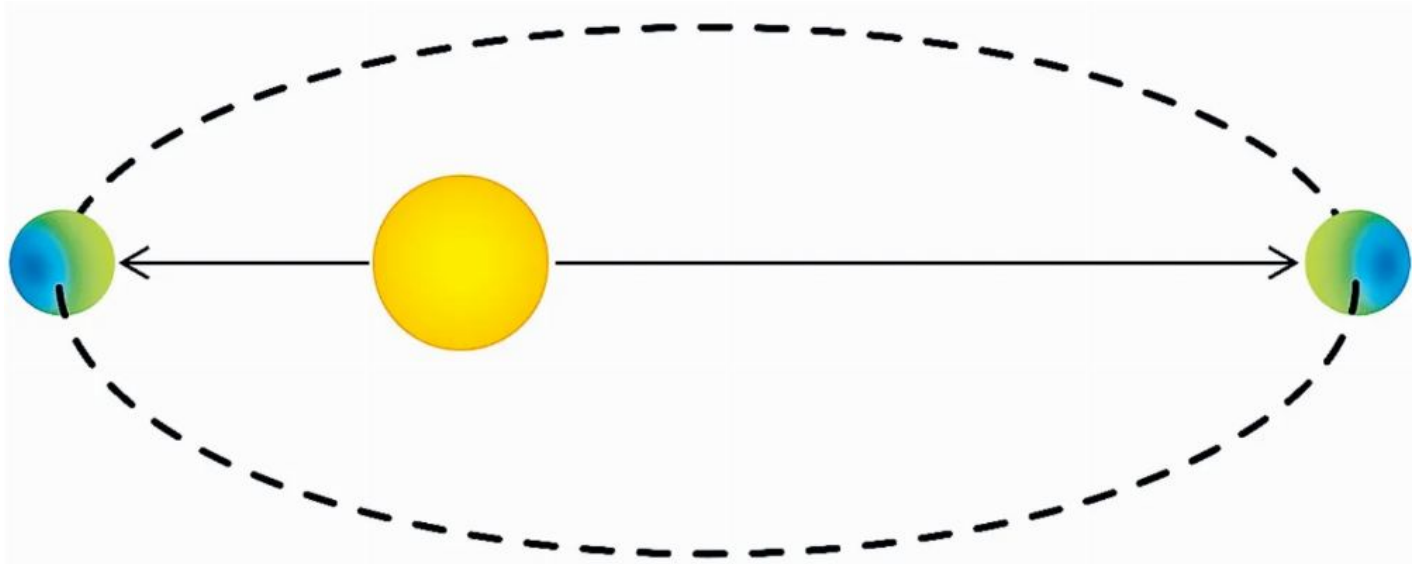


What is Aphelion?

July 6, 2024 • vajiramandravi.com



About Aphelion:

- It is the point of the **Earth's orbit** that is **farthest away from the Sun**.
- It always happens in early July, about two weeks after the June solstice.
- **Why does it occur?** Earth has an aphelion as a result of its **orbit being elliptical**, rather than circular.
- At aphelion, Earth's distance from the Sun is **about 152.1 million km**.
- Six months later, in early January, Earth reaches **perihelion** — the point at which it is closest to the Sun. At perihelion, the distance between Earth and the Sun is roughly 147.1 million km.

Does aphelion affect temperatures on Earth?

- We **get 7% less sunlight** at aphelion compared to what we are exposed to at perihelion, leading to slightly milder summers and winters in the **Northern Hemisphere**.
- But this effect is offset by Earth's **tilt on its axis** — at different points along its orbit the hemispheres slant either toward or away from the Sun.

Q1: What is perihelion?

The term “perihelion” refers to the point in the orbit of a planet or other astronomical body, at which it is closest to the sun. The word comes from Greek and literally means around (peri) the sun (helios).

Source: [What is Aphelion?](#)

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/aphelion/>

© Vajiram & Ravi. For personal use only.