

# 10.2 Recent and Future Missions

Let's check  
your book  
answers:

## Explain

1. What is a goal of future space exploration?

One goal is to extend human space travel in the solar system.

## Differentiate

2. What is the purpose of each type of probe?

Solar

help scientists understand the hazards of solar radiation

Lunar

help scientists collect data to determine the best location for a future lunar outpost

## Identify

3. What do scientists want to learn about the inner planets?

Scientists want to learn how they formed, what geologic forces are active on them, and whether any of them can support life.

# 10.2 Recent and Future Missions

## Describe

4. Why are missions to the outer planets difficult?

They are difficult because the outer planets are so far from Earth.

## Connect

4. Highlight why it is important for scientists to investigate the conditions for life on Earth.

## Relate

5. Underline how exploring space can help scientists learn about Earth.

## Conditions Needed for Life

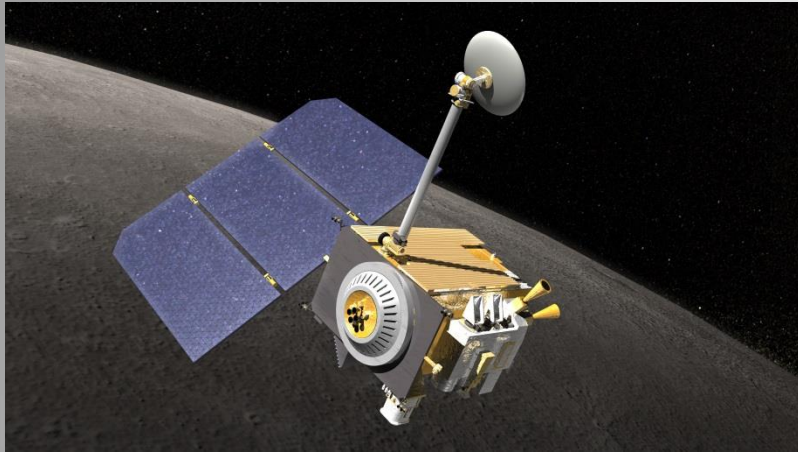
**Astrobiology** is the study of life in the universe, including life on Earth and the possibility of extraterrestrial life. Investigating the conditions for life on Earth helps scientists predict where they might find life elsewhere in the solar system. Astrobiology also can help scientists locate environments in space where humans and other Earth life might be able to survive.

## Understanding Earth by Exploring Space

Space provides frontiers for the human spirit of exploration and discovery. The exploration of space also provides insight into planet Earth. Information gathered in space helps scientists understand how the Sun and other bodies in the solar system influence Earth, how Earth formed, and how Earth supports life. Looking for Earthlike planets outside the solar system helps scientists learn if Earth is unique in the universe.

# LRO

## Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter



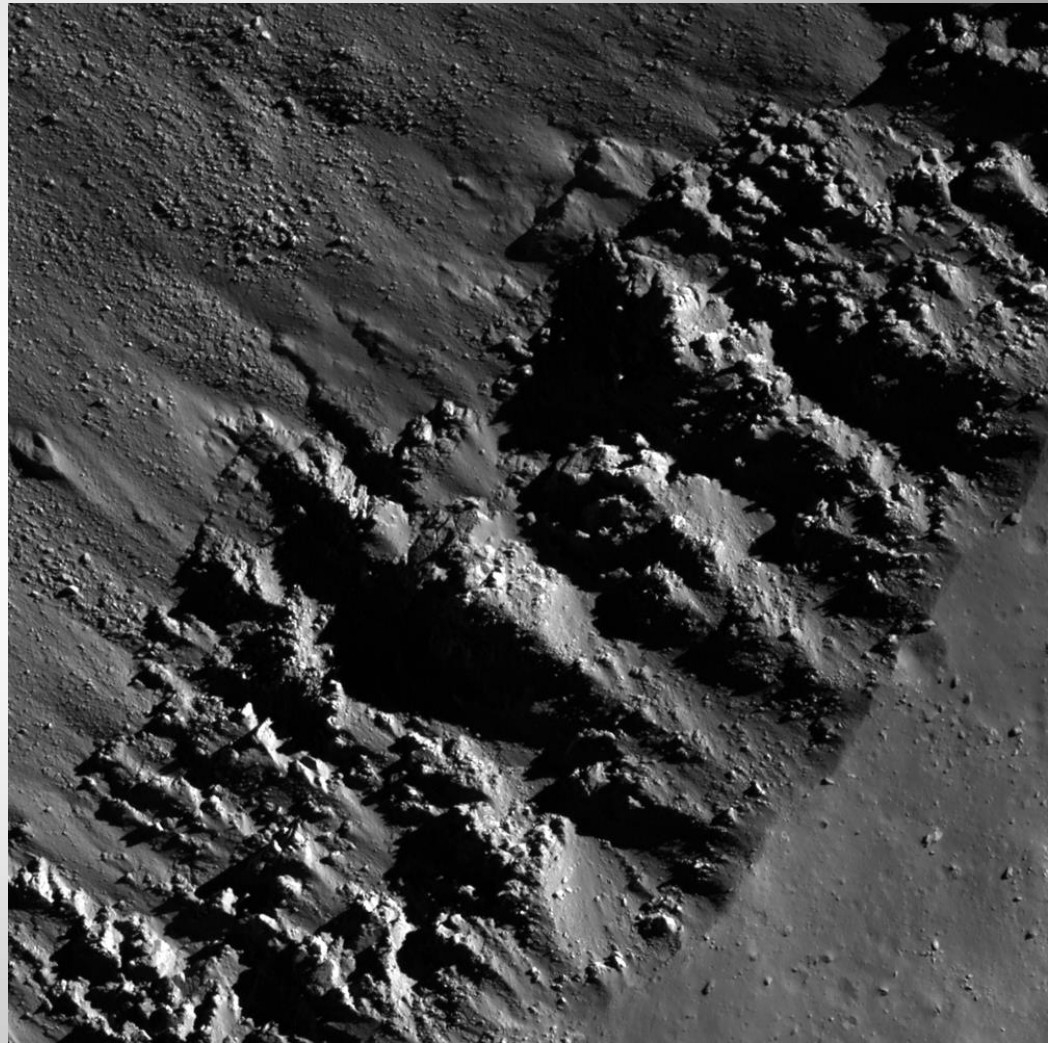
**Launch Date:** June 18, 2009

**Destination:** Earth's moon

**Reached Moon:** June 23, 2009

**Type of craft:** Orbiter

**Intended purpose:** to map the surface of the moon like never before

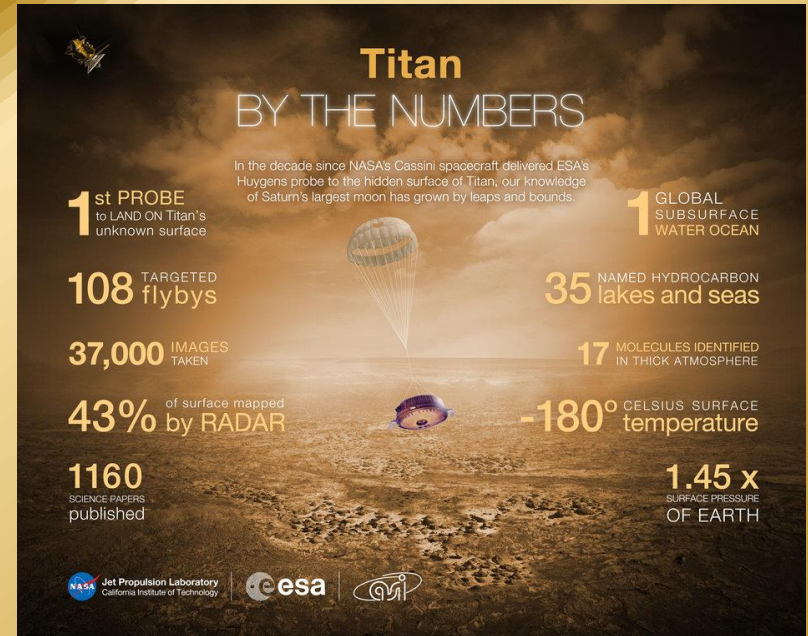
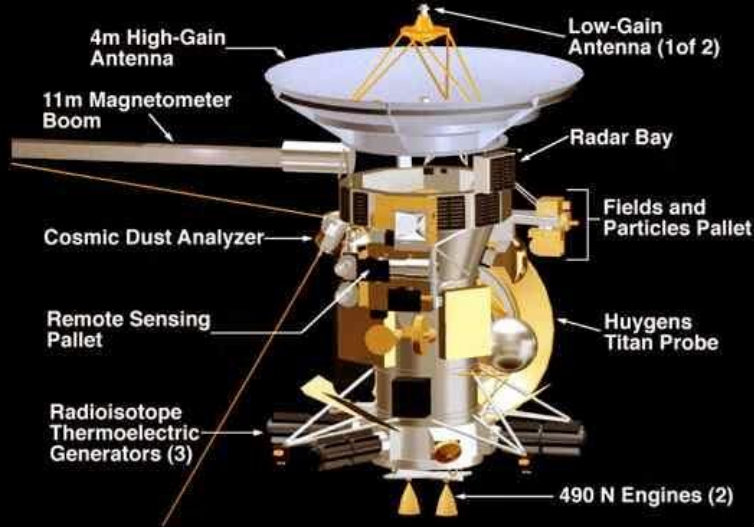


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# Cassini-Huygens



## CASSINI CRUISE CONFIGURATION



**Launch Date:** October 15, 1997

**Destination:** Saturn and its system

**Reached Saturn:** June 30, 2004

**Type of craft:**

Cassini = Orbiter

Huygens = Lander

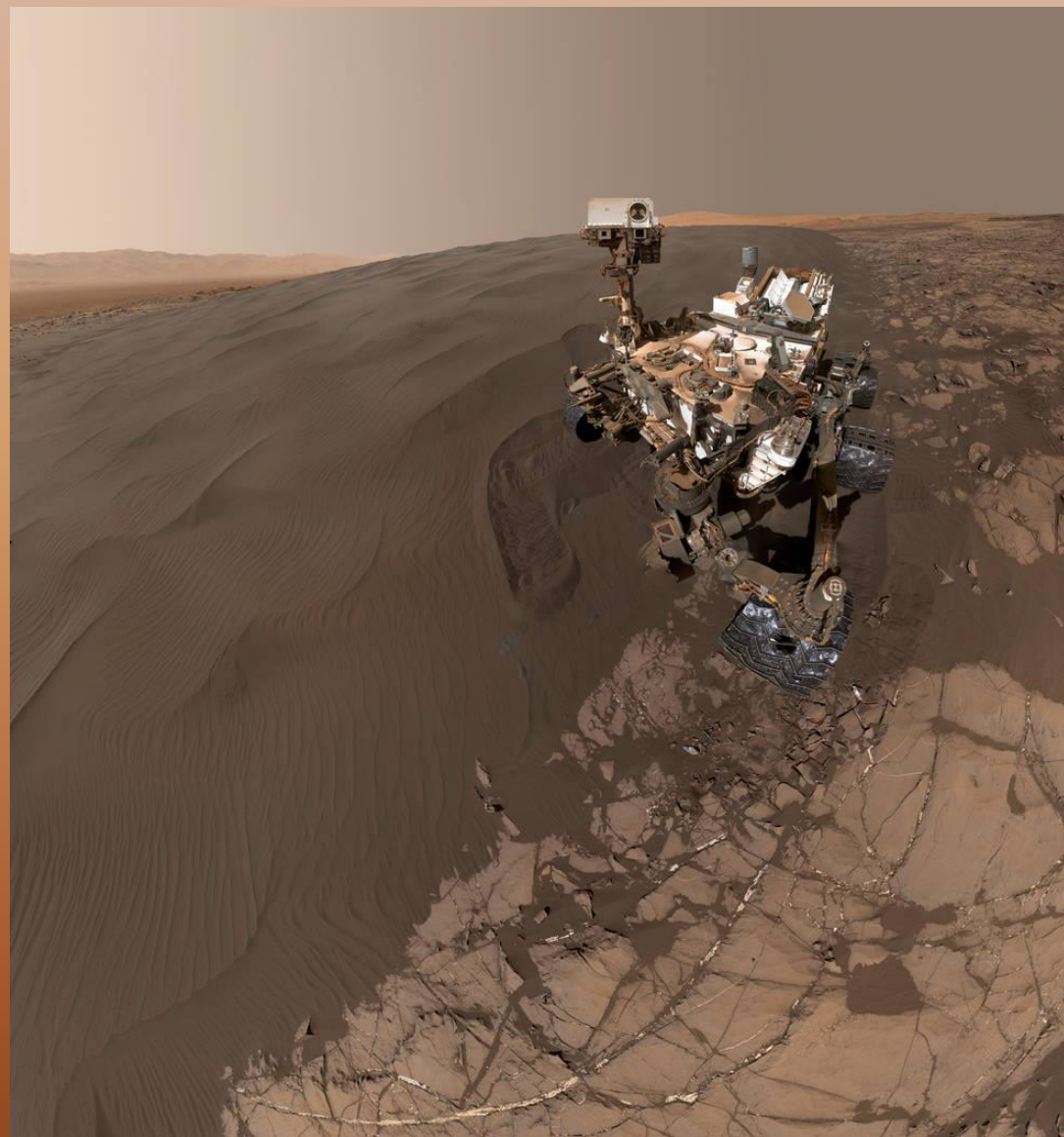
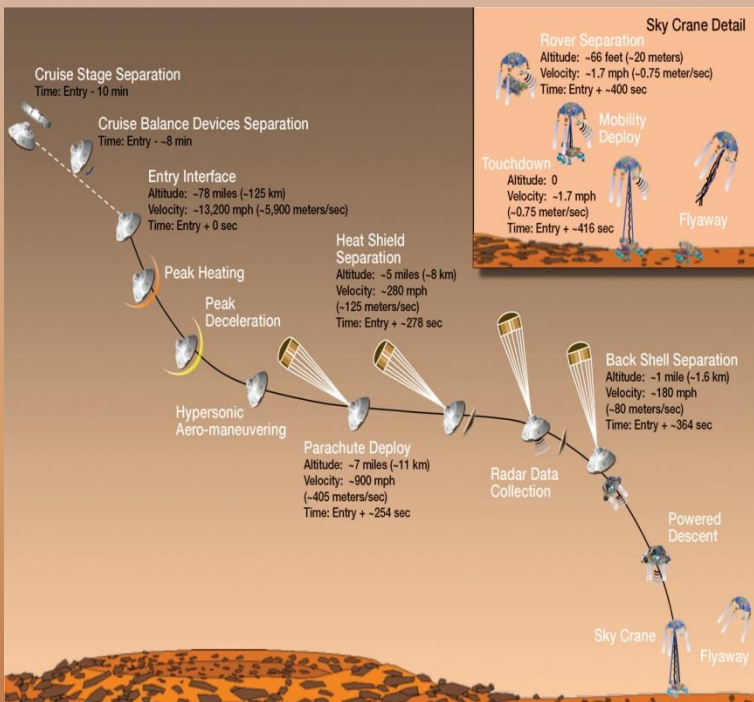
**Intended purpose:**

**Cassini** orbits Saturn, studying the ringed planet and its moons in detail.

The **Huygens** probe landed on Saturn's largest moon, Titan, in January 2005 to study clouds, atmosphere, and surface.

In late 2016, the Cassini spacecraft began a daring set of orbits called the Grand Finale, which will be in some ways like a whole new mission

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**Launch Date:** November 6, 2011

**Destination:** Mars

**Landed on Mars:** August 6, 2012

**Type of craft:** Lander / rover

**Intended purpose:** Determine if Mars was ever able to support microbial life.

# Curiosity

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# Hubble Space Telescope

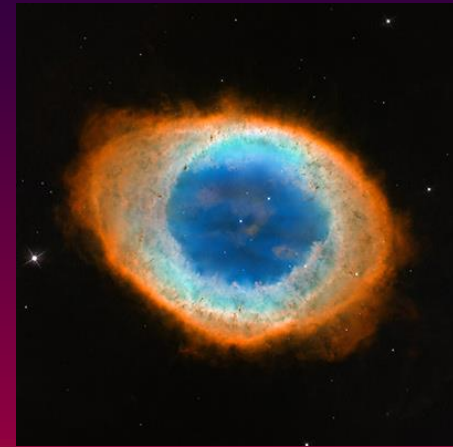
**Launch Date:** April 24, 1990 by Space Shuttle Discovery

**Destination:** in orbit 353 miles above Earth

**Type of craft:** orbiting telescope

**Intended purpose:** Hubble has reshaped our perception of the cosmos with clear and deep views from above Earth's atmosphere.

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Ring Nebula

← Astronaut Steve Smith works on Hubble during the second servicing mission in 1997 with a ratchet. NASA specially designed the power tool to withstand the harsh environment of space, making it an essential item during three different Hubble missions. Hubble was specifically built to be serviced in orbit with replaceable parts and instruments. Astronauts performed four days of spacewalks during the second servicing mission to replace instruments and repair the telescope.

# Juno

**Launch Date:** August 5, 2011

**Destination:** Jupiter

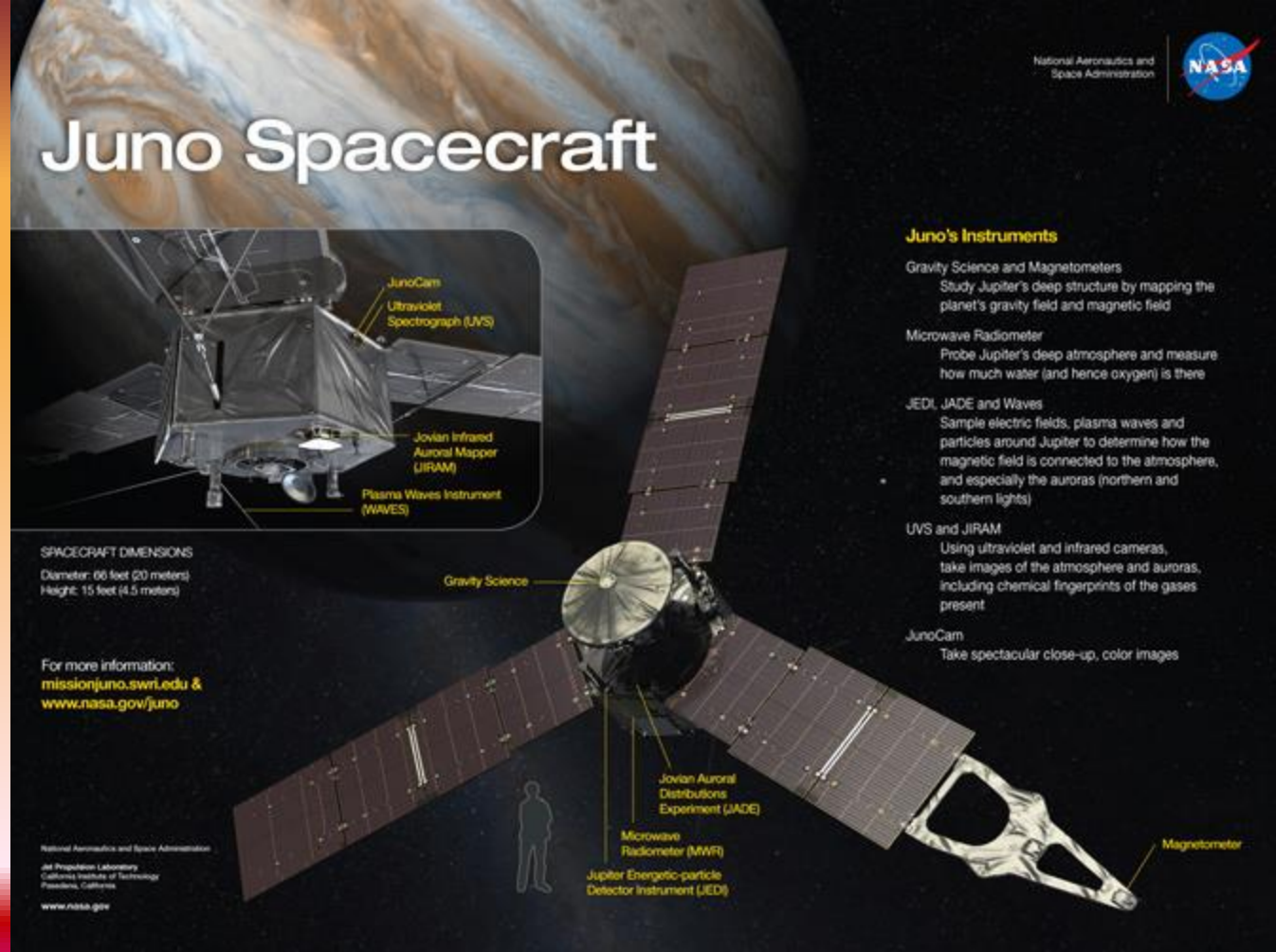
**On January 13, 2016**

NASA's Juno mission to Jupiter broke the record to become humanity's **most distant solar-powered probe.**

**Arrived:** July 4, 2016

Juno has now travelled 1.71 billion miles since launch, and has another 48 million miles to go before entering orbit around Jupiter (as of 2/16/16.)

**Type of craft:** Orbiter



**Intended purpose:** Understand origin and evolution of Jupiter, look for solid planetary core, map magnetic field, measure water and ammonia in deep atmosphere, observe auroras.

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# Dawn

**Intended purpose:** Learn more about formation and makeup of early solar system.

**First mission to orbit two targets.**

Ceres



**Launch Date:** September 27, 2007

**Destination:** Ceres and Vesta  
Currently orbiting dwarf planet Ceres.

**Reached Vesta:** July 16, 2011

**Reached Ceres:** March 2015

**Type of craft:** Orbiter

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# ISS International Space Station



**Construction began:** November 20, 1998

**Destination:** in orbit between 205-255 miles above Earth where it orbits Earth once every 90-minutes

**Type of craft:** Orbiter

ISS has been continuously occupied since November 2000, where it has housed over 200 people from 15 countries. Crew members spend about 35 hours each week conducting research in many disciplines to advance scientific knowledge in Earth, space, physical, and biological sciences for the benefit of people living on our home planet.

**EXPEDITION 50** Expedition 50 began October 30, 2016 and ends March 4, 2017. This expedition includes biotechnological research, human research and Earth and space science. Two spacewalks are tentatively planned during Expedition 50.

## THE CREW:

Soyuz MS-02 Launch: October 19, 2016 • Landing: March 4, 2017

Soyuz MS-03 Launch: November 17, 2016 • Landing: April 20, 2017



**Robert Shane Kimbrough (NASA) – Commander**

**Born:** Killeen, Texas  
**Interests:** baseball, golf, weightlifting and running  
**Spaceflights:** STS-126, Expedition 49  
**Bio:** <http://go.nasa.gov/2eolHTG>  
**Twitter:** @astro\_kimbrough  
**Instagram:** @astro\_kimbrough



**Peggy Whitson (NASA) – Flight Engineer**

**Born:** Mount Ayr, Iowa  
**Interests:** weightlifting, biking, basketball and water skiing  
**Spaceflights:** STS-111, STS – 113, Expeditions 5 and 16  
**Bio:** <http://go.nasa.gov/2eoOV8r>  
**Twitter:** @AstroPeggy



**Andrey Borisenko (Roscosmos) – Flight Engineer**

**Born:** Leningrad, Russia  
**Interests:** fishing, badminton and road trips  
**Spaceflights:** Expeditions 27, 28, and 49  
**Bio:** <http://go.nasa.gov/2eo0oDC>



**Thomas Pesquet (ESA) – Flight Engineer**

**Born:** Rouen, France  
**Interests:** basketball, jogging, swimming, squash, mountain biking, kite surfing, skiing, sailing and mountaineering  
**Spaceflights:** Expedition 50 marks his first space station mission  
**Bio:** <http://go.nasa.gov/YSS3Jl>  
**Twitter:** @thom\_astro  
**Instagram:** @thom\_astro



**Sergey Ryzhikov (Roscosmos) – Flight Engineer**

**Born:** Bugulma, Tatarstan, Russian  
**Interests:** sports, games and music  
**Spaceflights:** Expedition 49  
**Bio:** <http://go.nasa.gov/2eoLUoC>



**Oleg Novitskiy (Roscosmos) – Flight Engineer**

**Born:** Cherven, Minsk Region, Belorussia  
**Interests:** football, tourism, hunting, fishing, table tennis and reading  
**Spaceflights:** Expeditions 33 and 34  
**Bio:** <http://go.nasa.gov/2eoG0su>

## THE SCIENCE:

What are some of the investigations the crew is operating?

During Expedition 50, researchers will investigate how lighting can change the overall health and well-being of crew members, how microgravity can affect the genetic properties of space-grown plants, and how microgravity impacts tissue regeneration in humans.

Current  
Crew of ISS

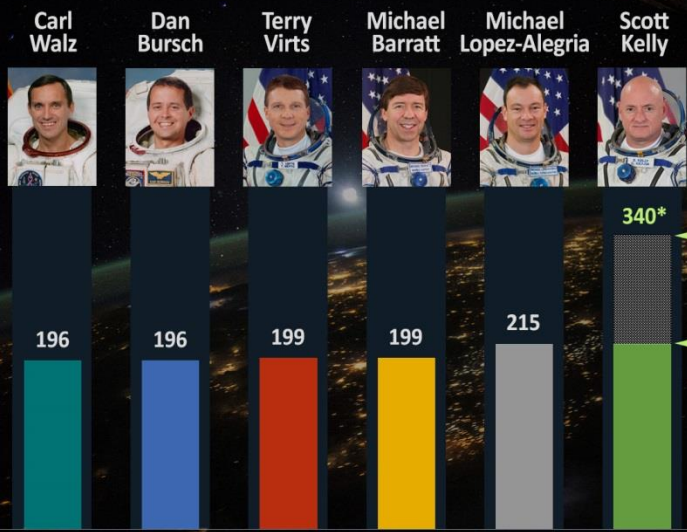


### THE MISSION **PATCH:**

The Expedition 50 patch encompasses the spirit of human exploration from previous missions to the moon to current exploration on the International Space Station (ISS). The red border symbolizes future human exploration of Mars – the Red Planet. Our home planet Earth is prominent in the patch to remind us that everything done on the mission is to help people on Earth – “Off the Earth, For the Earth.” The background colors of red, white, and blue represent the national colors of all six crew members – United States, Russia, and France. The six stars represent the families of all six crewmembers. Finally, the numeral 50 signifies the 50th Expedition to the ISS.



# Scott Kelly and His #YearInSpace

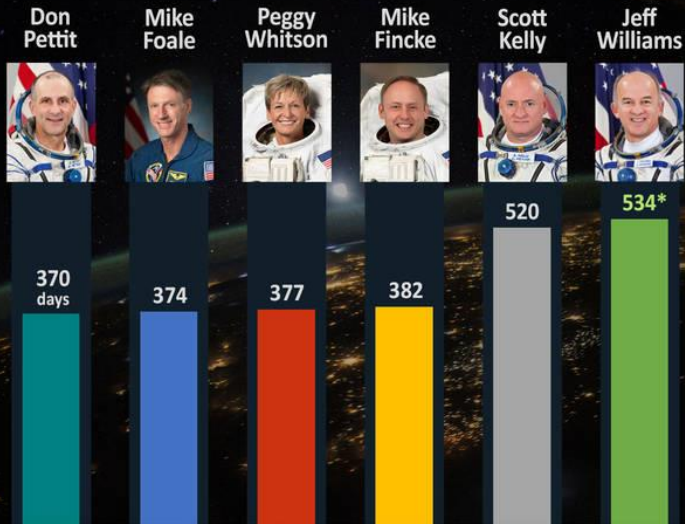


\* Kelly is scheduled to land March 1, 2016

Kelly surpasses Lopez-Alegria Oct. 29, 2015

**NASA Astronaut Single Spaceflight Record Holders**

Currently on the ISS!



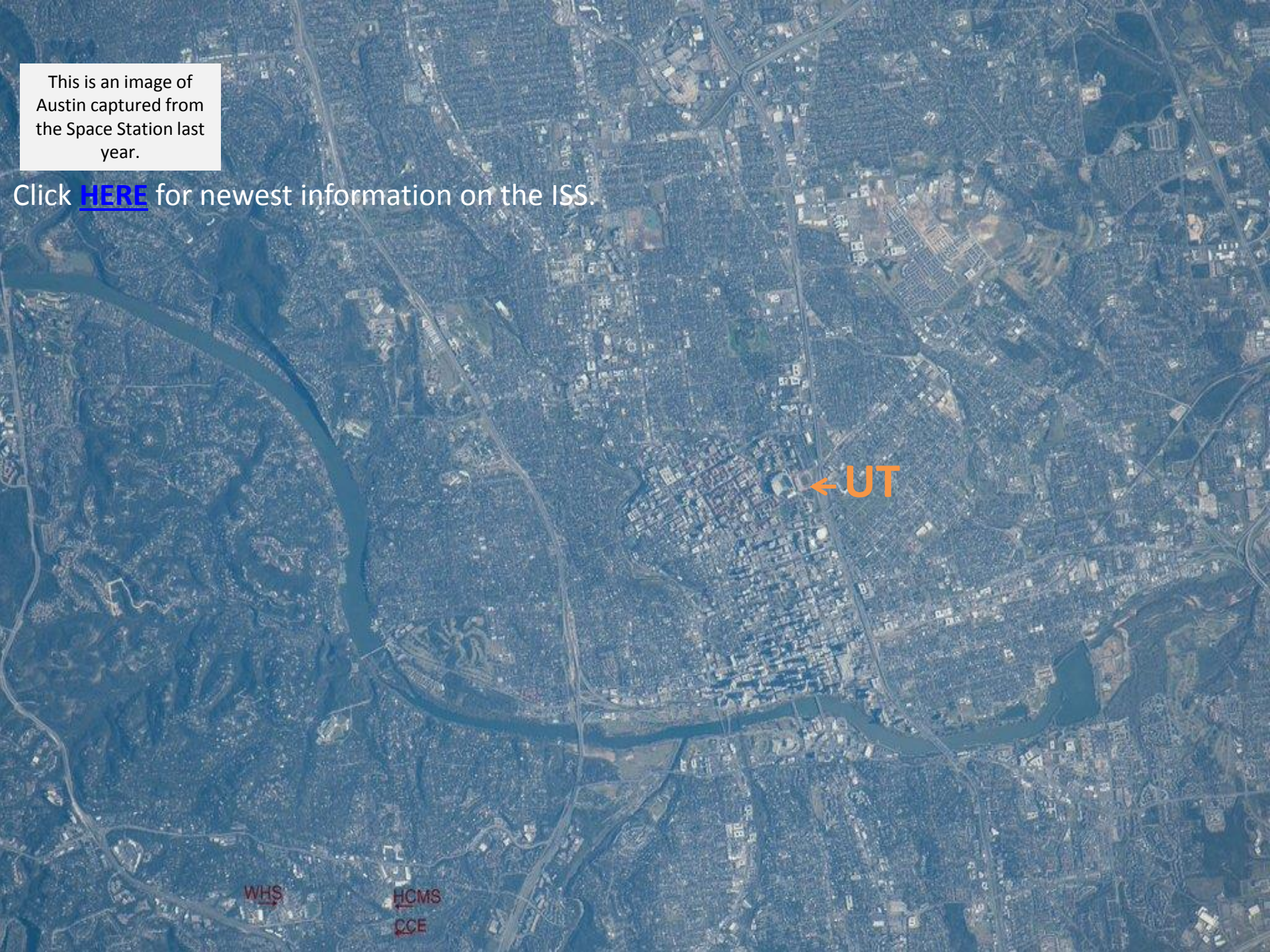
\* Williams surpassed Kelly Aug. 24, 2016 and now has 534 days after landing Sept. 6, 2016

**NASA Astronaut Cumulative Days in Space Record Holders**

Cumulative = total

This is an image of Austin captured from the Space Station last year.

Click [HERE](#) for newest information on the ISS.



# Orion Spacecraft

**NASA's Orion spacecraft is built to take humans farther than they've ever gone before, like Mars.**

## Orion will:

- serve as the exploration vehicle that will carry the crew to space,
- provide emergency abort capability,
- sustain the crew during the space travel, and
- provide safe re-entry from deep space return velocities.

**First Flight** – December 5, 2014  
a two-orbit, four-hour flight that tested many of the systems most critical to safety like launch and high speed re-entry systems, attitude control, parachutes, and the heat shield. Results of the mission are a craft that is 500 pounds lighter with fewer parts.



# Orion Spacecraft

## What's next?

EM-1 (Exploration Mission-1) will test the unmanned vehicle in 2018 to prepare for a manned mission in 2023 – YOUR SENIOR YEAR!

Over the last 12 months and through the next 6 months, more than 100,000 components arrive at Kennedy Space Center. A team of engineers and technicians with NASA and Orion manufacturer, Lockheed Martin, will work together to build the craft.

The module will receive its:

- avionics (electronics systems)
- electrical power storage and distributions systems
- thermal controls
- cabin pressure control
- command and data handling
- communications and tracking
- guidance, navigation and control
- reaction control system propulsion
- flight software and computers

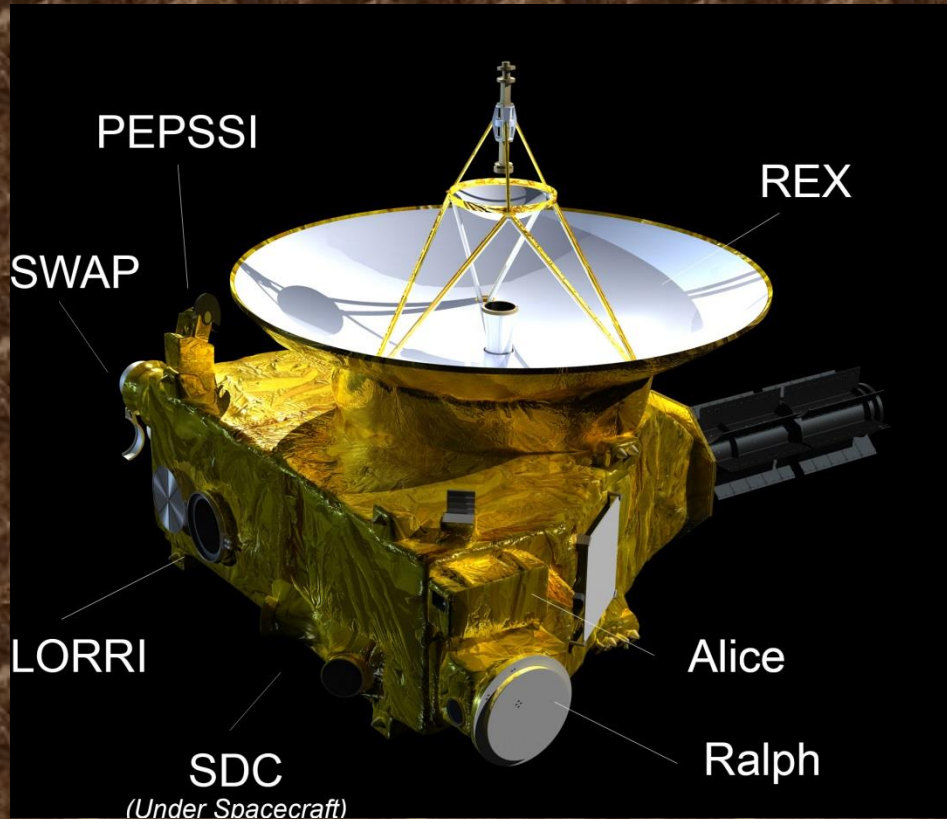
Click [HERE](#) for newest information.



Orion will launch on NASA's new heavy-lift rocket, the *Space Launch System*. More powerful than any rocket ever built, SLS will be capable of sending humans to deep space destinations such as an asteroid and eventually Mars.

**Exploration Mission-1 will be the first mission to integrate Orion and the Space Launch System.**

# New Horizons



**Launch Date:** January 19, 2006

**Gravity assist at Jupiter:** February 2007

**Reached Pluto:** July 14, 2015

**Destination:** Pluto and farther into the Kuiper Belt

**Type of craft:** Flyby

**Intended purpose:** Answer questions about Pluto, its moons, and Kuiper Belt objects

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# Rosetta-Philae

## Intended Purpose:

Rosetta's main objective was to meet up with, and enter orbit around, a comet named Churyumov-Gerasimenko (*"Cheery-im-off Gu-ris-i-menko"*)

It was to perform observations of the comet's nucleus and coma. The timing was perfect so that Rosetta was able to measure the comet at the peak of its activities while it was closest to the sun. On November 12, 2014, a lander named Philae was deployed and made the first soft landing on a comet. (*Read that again: We built something that landed on a comet!*)

Once it landed, the solar panels on Philae did not open to face the sun as expected, so we did not learn as much as we had hoped to.



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**Launch Date:** March 2, 2004

**Reached Comet:** August 6, 2014

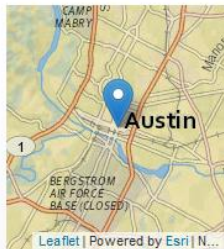
**Mission was scheduled to end:**  
September 2016

**Rosetta:** Orbiter      **Philae:** Lander

**If you finish the chart on page 1 of your handout AND completed the notes for the newest information, you may scroll through the next two pages on this presentation and explore those links provided.**

You can see the Space Station fly overhead at night; go to this site to see the times you can see it. You can also sign up for text alerts, and you will receive a text of when to look for it. Click on the image below for the schedule during any free time you have.

## Sighting Location



Location: Austin, Texas, United States

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The following ISS sightings are possible from Wednesday Feb 8, 2017 through Thursday Feb 23, 2017

Date	Visible	Max Height	Appears	Disappears	Share Event
Mon Feb 13, 7:07 PM	1 min	11°	10° above NNE	11° above NE	<a href="#">f</a> <a href="#">t</a>
Tue Feb 14, 7:49 PM	2 min	36°	11° above NW	36° above NNW	<a href="#">f</a> <a href="#">t</a>
Wed Feb 15, 6:57 PM	5 min	25°	11° above NNW	14° above E	<a href="#">f</a> <a href="#">t</a>
Thu Feb 16, 7:41 PM	4 min	42°	12° above WNW	22° above S	<a href="#">f</a> <a href="#">t</a>
Fri Feb 17, 6:48 PM	6 min	74°	11° above NW	12° above SE	<a href="#">f</a> <a href="#">t</a>
Sat Feb 18, 7:35 PM	1 min	14°	14° above SW	10° above SSW	<a href="#">f</a> <a href="#">t</a>
Sun Feb 19, 6:43 PM	3 min	31°	31° above SW	11° above SSE	<a href="#">f</a> <a href="#">t</a>

Last Updated: Oct 24, 2016

# Scott Kelly and His #YearInSpace

This time last year, we were eagerly awaiting Scott Kelly's return to Earth after being at the ISS for a year. He and his twin brother, Mark who is also an astronaut, are involved in medical studies to see how being in space for a prolonged period of time affects the body.

As time allows go here to read new results of this study:  
<https://www.nasa.gov/twins-study>

*Time Magazine* produced a documentary program on this mission. You can find it here and watch at home or with permission from teachers in free-time.

<http://time.com/space-nasa-scott-kelly-mission/>

