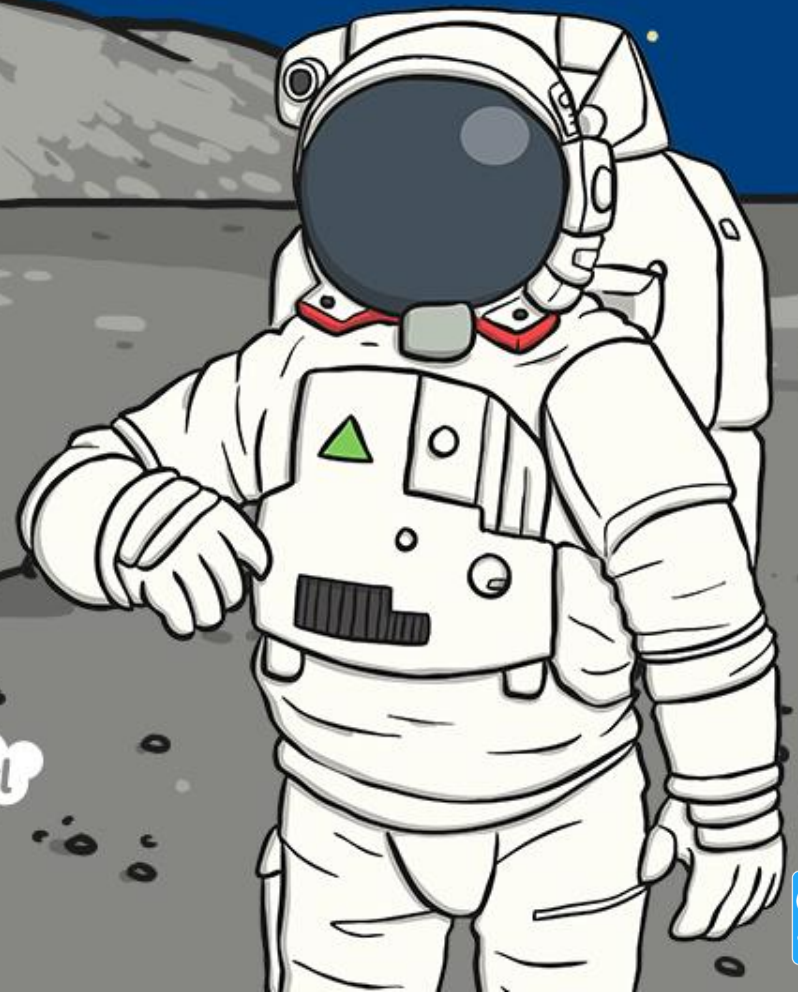


# Space Travel Timeline

1940 - 2020



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**1942**

The first rocket called the V2 was launched. It was designed by a German engineer called Wernher Von Braun.

**1949**

The first monkey is sent to space. His name was Albert II and was a Rhesus monkey. He flew 83 miles away from Earth!

**1940**

**1945**

**1950**

**1947**

The first animals were sent to space to see how they would react. The fruit flies were sent to space with some corn for food.



**1957**

Laika, the Russian space dog, became the first animal to orbit the earth. Her name means 'barker' in Russian.

**1957**

On the 4th October, Russia launched Sputnik, the first satellite into space. 'Sputnik' means 'satellite' in Russian. From this day on, the space age had begun!

**1950**

**1955**

**1960**

**1959**

Russian and American scientists were in a competition to send a spacecraft to the moon. Russia succeeded first. A space probe called Lunar 2 was sent and it travelled at such an immense speed that it would have killed a person if they were inside it!



**1961**

Yuri Gagarin became the first man in space.

**1963**

Valentina Tershkova was the first woman in space and a crater on the far side of the moon is named after her!

**1960**

**1965**

**1970**



**1969**

Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin set foot on the moon! The first words said on the moon were 'the Eagle has landed'.



**1973**

A Russian probe is sent to explore Mars. It stayed in orbit for a year but it was destroyed when the parachute failed to open upon landing.

**1970**

**1975**

**1980**





1980

1985

1990

**1986**

A terrible tragedy occurs as a rocket explodes shortly after it launches, killing seven astronauts. This happened on 28<sup>th</sup> January and reminded everyone just how dangerous space travel is and how brave astronauts are.



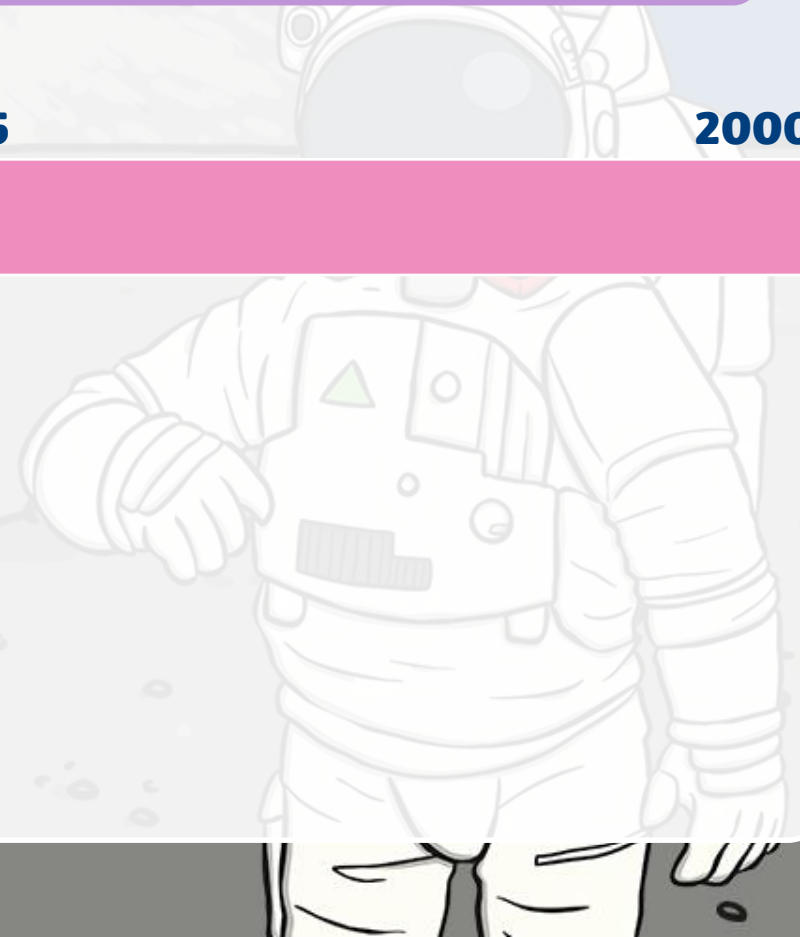
**1991**

Helen Sharman, born in 1963, Sheffield, won a competition to become the first British astronaut in space. She had to undergo 18 months of intensive training and was part of a mission to the MIR space station.

**1990**

**1995**

**2000**



A background illustration featuring a space shuttle in the upper left corner and an astronaut in a white spacesuit in the lower right corner, set against a dark blue space background with white stars and a grey lunar surface.

**2001**

American millionaire, Dennis Tito, became the first space tourist in a Russian spacecraft. He paid 20 million dollars for the privilege!

**2000**

**2005**

**2010**

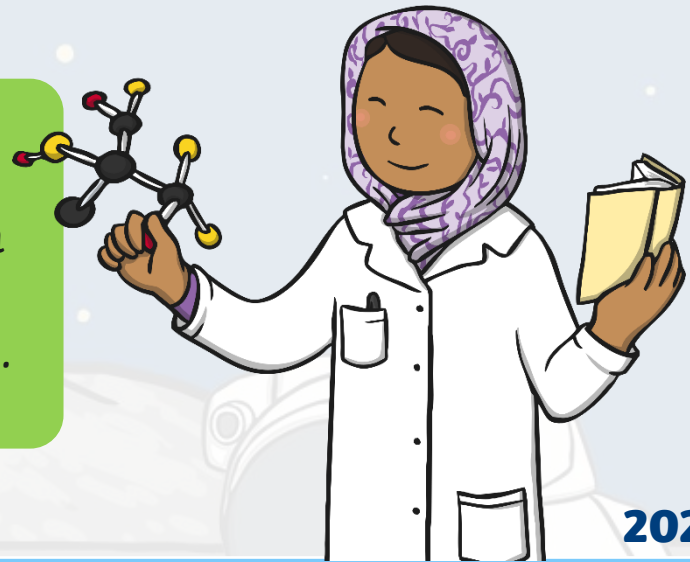
**2004**

The first private space flights became available. Tickets for places on the spacecraft are available to buy now!



**2015**

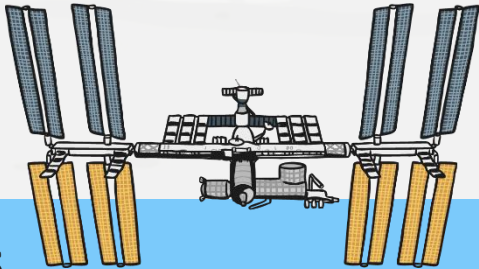
Scientists find evidence of liquid water on Mars for the first time. This furthers the possibility of sustaining life on the planet.



**2010**

**2015**

**2020**

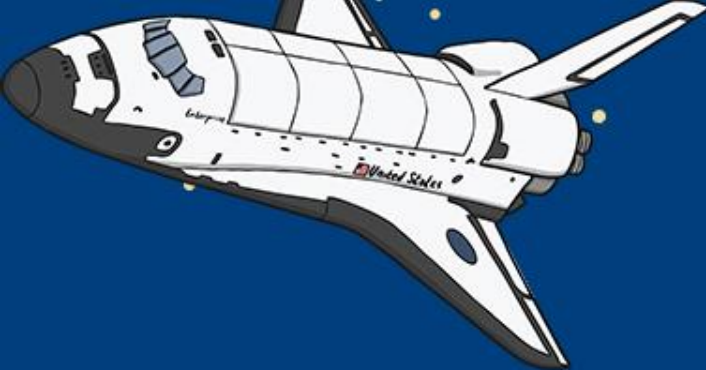


**2015**

Tim Peake became the first British ESA Astronaut to visit the International Space Station.

**2020**

The European Space Agency's Solar Orbiter probe takes the closest ever photographs of the Sun. The probe gets to within 77 million km of the surface of the sun!



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