

Celebrating Apollo: Remembering the Past as We Prepare for the Future

Join us as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of NASA's Apollo program. The Apollo lunar flights may have ended in 1972, but the Moon has remained of great interest to NASA and scientists around the world. Explore with us as we take a look back at the historic program while we prepare to send humans back to the Moon, this time to stay. You can watch any session live at 2 p.m. EDT on the dates listed below at:

https://go.nasa.gov/DEEP

You can tweet questions using #NASADEEP or use the chat window next to the media player.

May 2 EXPLORE THE PAST

Join NASA's Chief Historian, Bill Barry, for a look back at NASA's Apollo Program. "That's one small step for a man. One giant leap for mankind." Nearly five decades after the historic Moon landing we will look at the national effort that enabled astronaut Neil Armstrong to speak those words as he stepped onto the lunar surface and fulfilled a dream as old as humanity. That dream continues today as NASA turns its attention to putting human explorers on the Moon once again before continuing to reach out to Mars and beyond.

May 16 EXPLORE SPACE TECH

NASA technologies developed for space flight benefit our everyday life. Learn about how the cutting-edge technology of 1969 that allowed humans to walk on the Moon has forever shaped the way we live. We will then explore the ways in which new lunar missions are providing a proving ground for new technologies, maturing capabilities, and reducing the risk for exploration for Mars and beyond.

May 30 EXLPORE LUNAR SCIENCE

The Moon is a treasure chest of science. The lunar samples returned during the Apollo Program dramatically changed our view of the solar system, and scientists continue to unlock new secrets from the samples. Yet we are just scratching the surface of knowledge about the Moon. We believe the poles of the Moon hold millions of tons of water ice. That ice represents power. It represents fuel. It represents great scientific discovery. The farther humans venture into space, the more important it becomes to manufacture materials and products with local resources. We know the Moon can tell us more about our own planet, and even our own Sun. Hear about what we have learned and what we are hoping to discover about our world as we prepare to return to the Moon.

June 13 EXPLORE HUMANS IN SPACE

Exploration is in our DNA – the desire to discover and inhabit distant worlds, whether across Earthly oceans or vast regions of space. It also is critical to the continuation of our species. Humanity must build a path to an Earth-independent existence. Come with us to the place where humans left Earth for another world and explore the challenges associated with human space flight.

June 27 EXPLORE ROCKETS AND SPACECRAFT

Learn about how NASA is going forward to the Moon to stay and on to Mars. Travel back in time as we look at the Saturn V rocket that allowed astronauts to place footprints on another world. Then we will take a look at NASA's next big rocket, the Space Launch System, along with the Orion spacecraft and the mobile lunar command module Gateway, which will be our backbone for deep space exploration.

July 11 EXPLORE MOON TO MARS

We are dreaming big and accomplishing more as we push the boundaries farther. NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine sums it up best, "We will go to the Moon in the next decade in a way we have never gone before. We will go with innovative new technologies and systems to explore more locations across the surface than was ever thought possible. This time, when we go to the Moon we will stay. And then we will use what we learn on the Moon to take the next giant leap—sending astronauts to Mars." Grab your shades—our future looks bright, really bright. The new Space Launch System in its initial configuration has 8.8 million pounds of thrust—that's almost a million more pounds than the Saturn V rocket that propelled us to the Moon. Forget sunglasses, I think we will need a heat shield. Have no fear, NASA has a team working on that too.