

SPACE RACE HISTORY TIMELINE

Major Milestones 1957 - 1975

OCT 4, 1957

Sputnik 1

USSR launches the first artificial satellite into Earth orbit.

JAN 31, 1958

Explorer 1

First successful U.S. satellite launch; discovers Van Allen radiation belts.

APR 12, 1961

Vostok 1

Yuri Gagarin becomes the first human in space and to orbit Earth.

MAY 5, 1961

Freedom 7

Alan Shepard becomes the first American in space during a sub-orbital flight.

JUN 16, 1963

Vostok 6

Valentina Tereshkova becomes the first woman to fly in space.

JUL 20, 1969

Apollo 11

Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin perform the first crewed lunar landing.

JUL 17, 1975

Apollo-Soyuz

First international docking mission, symbolizing the end of the Space Race.