

NASA SPACE EXPLORATION TIMELINE

1958

Establishment of NASA

The National Aeronautics and Space Act is signed, creating NASA to lead civilian space pursuit.

1961

Freedom 7

Alan Shepard becomes the first American in space during a suborbital flight.

1969

Apollo 11

Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin become the first humans to walk on the lunar surface.

1977

Voyager 1 & 2

Launch of the twin probes to study the outer solar system and interstellar space.

1981

STS-1 (Space Shuttle)

Launch of Columbia, the first orbital flight of the Space Transportation System.

1990

Hubble Space Telescope

Deployment of the telescope that revolutionized our understanding of the universe.

2012

Mars Curiosity Rover

Successful landing in Gale Crater to investigate Martian habitability.

2021

James Webb Space Telescope

Launch of the premier observatory designed to solve mysteries in our solar system and beyond.