

Tim Peake

British Astronaut



Major Tim Peake became the first British astronaut in space for over 20 years when he blasted off for the International Space Station on 15th December 2015. He travelled in a Russian Soyuz rocket launched from Kazakhstan.

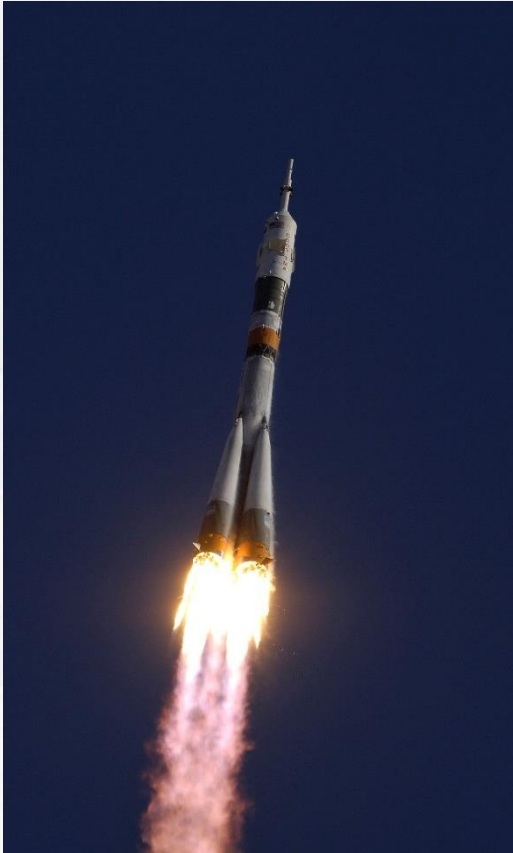


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Major Peake is 43 years old and married with two children. He spent 17 years in the Army as a platoon commander and then as a helicopter pilot.



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When he applied to be an astronaut he was selected from 8000 applicants. As part of his training he has learnt Russian, spent 12 days under the sea and completed a winter survival mission.



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Major Peake lived aboard the International Space Station for 6 months conducting experiments in microgravity and maintaining links with schools and children on Earth.

He used the gym on-board to ensure his muscles stayed strong.



The International Space Station (ISS) is the size of a football field. It travels at a speed of 17 500 mph at a height of 240 miles above Earth and completes an orbit every 90 mins!



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Major Peake returned to Earth on the 18th June 2016 via a Soyuz capsule which reached speeds of up to 28000 kilometres per hour or 25 times the speed of sound! The Soyuz capsule made a bumpy touchdown as a result of high winds affecting the region of Kazakhstan where the landing site was.

Major Peake's first impression of Earth was that the smells were really strong. Astronauts go through a period of readjustment when they return to Earth as their bodies get used to withstanding the full effects of Earth's gravity once again. Major Peake admitted to feeling 'terrible' shortly after his landing but quickly began to feel better.



Tim Peake's Mission in Numbers

186 – Days in Space.

10 – The ISS moves 10 times faster than the speed of a bullet.

2800 – Approximate number of orbits of the Earth made.

114,240,000 – Approximate number of kilometres travelled by Tim Peake during his time aboard the International Space Station.

5 cm – Temporarily, Major Peake could be up to 5cm taller than he was when he left Earth!

1 – Number of times Tim Peake dialled the wrong number from space and asked “Is that Planet Earth?”

What You Could Find Out:

When you can see the International Space Station.

What it looks like inside.

How astronauts sleep, eat and go to the toilet.

How you can apply to be an astronaut.

Click on these links to find out more about Time Peake:

<https://www.theguardian.com/science/gallery/2016/nov/22/hello-is-this-planet-earth-by-tim-peake-international-space-station-in-pictures>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/watch/bp-barney-meets-astronaut-tim-peake>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zw44jxs/articles/z822hv4>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/36560356>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p03yn0fk>



