

SPACE TOURISM

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WHAT IS SPACE TOURISM?

- Space tourism is the term that is used to mean that ordinary members of the public travel to space and back for entertainment or “business” purposes. However, up until now it is limited to very rich people because of the large amount of money needed to make it happen for them.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

- There are now many developing companies that have expanded their services to provide space travelling as an alternative option to tourism. Together, they form the space tourism industry that is now official and open for business.
- There are already several tourism companies planning to built suborbital vehicles and orbital cities within the next few decades.
- These companies have invested millions in space tourism believing in its taking off within the next year.

WHY SPACE TOURISM MATTERS:

It will provide us with a new “view” of our presence on our planet and our existence as a whole. Every astronaut who has visited the moon has noticed how impressive earth is. So, imagine to what extent people’s way of thinking will change if they see planet earth from up above. Apollo 8 astronaut, Bill Anders, said “We came all this way to explore the moon, and the most important thing is that we discovered the earth”.

COST:

- As you can imagine, the price of a ticket is exorbitant. But NASA predicts that the cost of space tourism in 10 years will be reduced to allow many people to participate in such projects. They also claim that space tourism will be preferred to an exotic trip to Africa.

DON THOMAS:

- According to former NASA astronaut Don Thomas, the future of space tourism is incredibly bright owing to the building and development of new vehicles and facilities: “We have commercial space companies who will be sending tourists up. The more people who can get up there do so, the better off our world will be. It takes 15 seconds to look out of the window, and it forever changes the way you look at the planet. Space travel will be more in line with an exotic trip to Antarctica”.

- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xEKxwy31DRI&index=index=136&list>