

## **Starship: Elon Musk's SpaceX has another version of its rocket to take humans safely to and from the moon and Mars!**



Starship Mars entry, Credit: SpaceX

Elon Musk has just announced that his company, Space X, will launch a rocket into space which can carry passengers and cargo to anywhere in the solar system. Then it will be able to land back on Earth completely intact! The rocket is called 'Starship'. This is huge news as this will not only reduce [space junk](#), but will also allow space tourists to go to the moon and come back! These are very exciting times for space fanatics!

**Have we heard about space tourism before?** Yes, we have:

- Last year, a [Japanese billionaire had booked a ticket to the moon](#) aboard this very same Starship. This was scheduled for 2023.
- [NASA also announced that it would be working with Jeff Bezos's company, Blue Origin, to make space tourism possible to the International Space Station.](#)

**How do astronauts currently come back to Earth?** The spaceship breaks apart, and the section of the spaceship that the astronauts are in enters the atmosphere. A parachute then opens and the vessel lands on the ground. However, the rest of the spaceship is still floating around in space.

**How is Starship different?** Starship does not break apart in space. Instead, the full rocket enters the atmosphere and lands perpendicular to the ground. That way there is nothing floating around in space, and it will be easier for future space tourists to land back on Earth.

**When will this happen?** Starship's test flight will happen in a month or two. The Japanese billionaire has booked the ticket to the moon for 2023 so let's hope that the deadline will be maintained.

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