Virgin Galactic Spaceflight Brochure

PIONEER HUMANITY’S NEW SPACE AGE.

Spaceflight has the unique ability to shift our perspectives, our technology, and even our trajectory as a species.

As the spaceline for Earth, our mission is to transform access to space for the benefit of humankind; to reveal the wonder of space to more people than ever before.

Join us, and help pioneer this exciting new space age for humanity.

FIND YOUR SPACE IN HISTORY.

Fewer than 700 humans have ever experienced space. As a Virgin Galactic astronaut, your journey marks the dawn of a new space age, where leaving Earth’s atmosphere is an experience no longer reserved solely for professional astronauts.

From the moment you join our global community of pioneering adventurers, to the day you earn your astronaut wings, to the years of telling the greatest story off Earth, your spaceflight can change the world for good.

“Taking more and more passengers out into space will enable them, and us, to look both outwards and back, but with a fresh perspective in both directions.”

— Professor Stephen Hawking
A FIRST-OF-ITS-KIND FLIGHT.  
A ONE-OF-A-KIND EXPERIENCE.

Our unique and innovative Spaceflight System enables you and your fellow astronauts to enjoy the most thrilling and awe-inspiring journey of your life, in unparalleled comfort and ease.

FLIGHT PATH

01
MATED CLimb
When together, the mothership and spaceship climb through the thickest parts of the atmosphere.

04
FEATHER
The spaceship’s tailbooms rotate in preparation for re-entry. The pilots orientate the spaceship’s seventeen cabin windows for breathtaking views of Earth.

07
RE-ENTRY
The spaceship’s unique feathered configuration lets gravity do the work. We come back belly first, minimizing the build up of heat, controlling stability and reducing speed by aerodynamic drag.

02
RELEASE
Around 50,000 feet, with final safety checks complete, the mothership releases the spaceship. Shortly after, the spaceship’s hybrid rocket motor ignites.

05
APOGEE
At more than 300,000 feet, astronauts experience the majesty of space: a spectacular view of Earth, a precious blue jewel against the inky black of space.

08
GLIDE
Once back in the thickest parts of the Earth’s atmosphere, the spaceship effortlessly glides back down to Spaceport America.

03
BOOST
Propelling vertically toward the stars, the spaceship quickly reaches speeds of 3x the speed of sound.

06
WEIGHTLESSNESS
Once in space, astronauts are free to unbuckle and float about the spacious cabin for several minutes in the effortless freedom of zero gravity.

09
LANDING
The spaceship touches down for a smooth runway landing, the same runway it took off from.
VMS Eve is a custom-built, four-engine, dual-fuselage jet carrier aircraft with a unique high-altitude, heavy-payload capability. It is also the world’s largest all-carbon aviation vehicle in service.

Our hybrid propulsion system combines the inherent stability of a solid rocket motor and the controllability of a liquid rocket motor. It is simpler and safer by design.

Your individually size-adjusted seat has been built to enhance your comfort and experience dynamically during each stage of flight.

A minute of high-octane, high-g euphoria is followed by absolute silence, absolute space.

17 windows — more than any other spacecraft in history – with built-in hand grabs to optimize zero-g viewing.

Astronauts frequently report a cognitive shift in awareness and perspective brought about by viewing the Earth from space. This has become known as the Overview Effect.

While in space, astronauts are free to leave their seats for the effortless freedom of zero gravity.

Virgin Galactic currently offsets emissions for each spaceflight, and we are always working towards innovations that make our flights and daily operations more sustainable.
As the spaceline for Earth, we’re pleased to offer you an elegant spaceflight system designed for safety, reusability and customer experience. You’ll be in the expert hands of our highly experienced pilots, all with long flight careers behind them.

OUR PILOTS GO ABOVE AND BEYOND.

As the spaceline for Earth, we’re pleased to offer you an elegant spaceflight system designed for safety, reusability and customer experience. You’ll be in the expert hands of our highly experienced pilots, all with long flight careers behind them.
At Virgin Galactic, safety has always been our North Star and an ethos that’s deeply embedded into our culture, evidenced by an exhaustive test flight program and highly experienced operational teams drawn from the world of aerospace and aviation.

The Virgin Galactic spaceflight system has been specifically designed to reduce and make risk more manageable, throughout the entire flight.

Vital to this is an air-launched, winged and piloted spaceship with a fully controllable propulsion system, enabling us to cut a flight short, safely and comfortably at any stage.

“Feeling the power of the motor behind me, and seeing the sky change from blue to black ahead – it was an experience unlike any I’ve ever had. While the speed and force was exhilarating, I felt safe and comfortable at all times.”

-Sirisha Bandla, Virgin Galactic Astronaut 004
WE’LL MAKE SURE ALL SYSTEMS ARE GO. INCLUDING YOU.

A TRIP OF A LIFETIME

Our pre-flight Space Readiness Program consists of specific events, activities and training designed to leave you physically, mentally and spiritually ready for space. Start to finish, you’ll be guided through every step to ensure your safety and comfort.

WELCOME TO THE WORLD’S FIRST SPACEPORT AMERICA.

Ahead of your spaceflight, you will spend several days training with your fellow astronauts and the Virgin Galactic team at the world’s first purpose-built commercial spaceport in New Mexico.

Designed by renowned architectural firm Foster + Partners, Spaceport America incorporates a super hangar, crew zones and world-class astronaut areas for a truly unforgettable experience. This is your gateway to space.

BE THE FIRST ASTRONAUT IN YOUR FAMILY. WITH YOUR FAMILY.

Going to space is the kind of major life event you’ll want your family to be a part of. It’s why we invite all our astronauts to bring up to three guests with them so they can share in the love, awe, and wonder of your spaceflight.

While you participate in pre-flight training your loved ones will enjoy curated activities and top-tier amenities, and on flight day they will get to spectate from grandstand seats. Planned for completion by the time of your flight, you will stay together in all-inclusive, luxury astronaut accommodations in the beautiful New Mexico desert.

Larger groups can also be accommodated by request.
Preparation for your spaceflight begins when you join us. As part of the Future Astronaut community, you will have the option to participate in a structured calendar of readiness actions, culminating in several days of training, all designed to fully prepare you for space. From start to finish, you’ll be guided through every step to ensure your safety and comfort.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>T-12 MONTHS</th>
<th>T-6 MONTHS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Community Experience, inclusive of optional High-G and Zero-G flight training, and other membership benefits.</td>
<td>Pre-flight retreat: Dedicated time to define your personal flight mission</td>
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<td>Medical checks supervised by our Chief Medical Officer</td>
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<td>Custom spacesuit fitting and tailoring</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Pre-flight training program: Several days of preparation with our NASA-experienced instructors</td>
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**CHECKING YOU’RE SHIPSHAPE.**

You’re never too old to go to space, but our rigorous health tests will verify you’re fit to fly, whatever your age. That’s why we have a detailed pre-flight medical screening and a last-minute checkup for all astronauts to ensure you’re good to go.

We also have a Flight Readiness Program, designed to help you prepare in every way possible for your trip to space. Our Virgin Galactic team will support you during your completion of zero-g and centrifuge training and acclimatization.
**PRE-FLIGHT**

**FAQs**

**When will I fly?**

Virgin Galactic has spent more than 17 years designing, building and testing the spaceline for Earth. We’ve successfully completed multiple spaceflights and were the first commercial space company to receive full FAA licence approval to fly paying customers to space.

Demand is high for our spaceflights and we will fly our Future Astronauts in the order which reflects the timing of their reservations - “first-come, first-served.” With several hundred customers already in line, we expect to expand flight rates rapidly during the early years of commercial operations without sacrificing safety or experience. We want you to experience space at the earliest possible opportunity and will be working hard to achieve that.

We will also make sure that the period before your spaceflight is a highly valuable part of your journey with us. The anticipation and preparation for any life event, particularly spaceflight, is of great importance to the experience itself. We recognize that importance by helping you to anticipate and prepare within the Future Astronaut community, alongside others who are making the same journey.

**What are the pre-flight fitness requirements?**

Completion of a traditional fitness test is not required, but the flight is a relatively intense sensory and physical experience. If you are able-bodied and cleared by a medical practitioner, you should be able to enjoy both your training and your spaceflight. However, like many things in life, being in the best possible shape is likely to enhance your experience, and we will help you achieve that in our Flight Readiness program.

**What can I expect during the spaceflight preparation?**

Immediately prior to your spaceflight, a multi-day training and preparation period at Spaceport America will ensure you fly safely, and that you are equipped to savor every second of it.

We want you to have fun, to enjoy incredible hospitality and to bond with your fellow astronauts and pilots. A warm welcome awaits all friends and family accompanying you to New Mexico to share your experience, and to support you as you approach the long-anticipated day of spaceflight.

**What will the training entail?**

The mission of the preparation schedule is to bond and collaborate as a team to create a group that is fully equipped to enjoy themselves during spaceflight. Training will be completed alongside your fellow astronauts, where you will cover everything from weightlessness preparation, G-force readiness, emergency procedures, sensory saturation and more. Executed by NASA-experienced instructors, you will familiarize yourself with our cabin and learn everything you need to know about the Virgin Galactic flight path and experience. As part of the Virgin Galactic flight team, you’ll be able to spend time with mission operations, pilots, engineers and others. This preparation will be balanced with time to reflect and unwind with loved ones and crew at the astronaut campus.
Human spaceflight is a profound and transformative experience and the pinnacle of the Virgin Galactic astronaut offering. But the true value lies in the entire astronaut experience, from the moment you book until well after your flight. When you secure your reservation to space, you will also gain membership to a unique and long-established global community of Future Astronauts with a shared love of adventure and passion for positive change.

Together, you’ll anticipate and prepare for your spaceflight, sharing incredible events and experiences along the way.
A LIFETIME OF BENEFITS

Beyond invitations to exclusive events and experiences, the Virgin Galactic membership is an opportunity to create a lasting impact and legacy, recognized with unique insignia and mementos.

Connect with a fascinating network of people who are on the Virgin Galactic journey to space—including Sir Richard Branson, the community’s founder.

Gain exclusive access to unique money-can’t-buy events, experiences, activities and membership perks.

Connect with the Virgin Galactic team and enjoy exclusive access to our manufacturing and operational facilities.

Give back through our nonprofit program Galactic Unite—using the inspiration of human spaceflight as a power for good.
It is imperative to us that you are able to completely immerse yourself in your spaceflight. That’s why we’ll provide a full media package of images & video from the flight, captured by 16 cameras in the cabin, to allow you to relive and share your experience with the world. You will also leave Spaceport America with training gear and a personalized spacesuit.

All those who fly will be recognized as commercial astronauts by the Association of Space Explorers with specially commissioned insignia. Since 1985, the organization counts over 400 astronauts from 27 different countries as members. The insignia is awarded with your unique Virgin Galactic astronaut wings, post-flight.

The community offers the potential for lifelong membership. Share your experience with others as the first generation of commercial astronauts and use your renewed perspective to collaborate on post-flight missions.
WHAT OUR FUTURE ASTRONAUTS ARE SAYING

“The reason I wanted to go Galactic is quite simple... I have a chalkboard of life. Things I want to achieve in my few years on this planet... Nothing could be bigger or better than going into space.”

-Peter S.

“Being a part of the Virgin Galactic family of Future Astronauts has always pushed my goals to be that much more bold. We all share an inspiration that is felt among the people building this.”

-Kevin K.

“I will experience what it means to make a childhood dream a reality! To be so closely involved with this historic project is fascinating! I am able to see from very close up how a new era of space travel begins.”

-Marcia C.

“I love flying and this is going to be the ultimate flight. To experience the thrill of riding a rocket into space and then being able to wonder in silence at the incredible beauty below is the opportunity of a lifetime.”

-Francesco L.
BECOME AN ASTRONAUT, BECOME MORE HUMAN.

All those who fly will be recognized as commercial astronauts by the Association of Space Explorers with a specially commissioned pin. Since 1985, the organization counts over 400 astronauts from 27 different countries as members. The pin is awarded with your unique Virgin Galactic astronaut wings, post-flight.

YOUR SPACEFLIGHT CAN CHANGE THE WORLD.

From the moment you join us, your space experience can inspire positive change through your participation with Galactic Unite, Virgin Galactic’s outreach initiative. Born out of a collaboration with our very own Future Astronauts, Galactic Unite has invested more than $2 million through scholarship, fellowship and grant programs, to support and inspire young people to pursue an education in STEM.

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT GALACTIC UNITE

- Fund a scholarship or grant
- Support existing programs like BLAST (Black Leaders in Aerospace Scholarship and Training)
- Participate in a virtual online ‘Spacechat’
- Volunteer time as a mentor
- Run Spacechats with local schools
RESERVE YOUR PLACE IN HISTORY.

This is your opportunity to be among the founding Virgin Galactic astronauts. Your reservation includes more than a spaceflight.

You’ll enjoy a Future Astronaut community membership, a multi-day training and preparation retreat at Spaceport America with family and friends, bespoke flightwear, astronaut insignia, photographs and video, opportunities to give back to future generations and more.

PAYMENT PROCESS & TIMELINE

By submitting your Spaceflight Application and placing a $10,000 temporary credit card authorization, you will guarantee your place in line for a reservation. Once your application is accepted, you’ll be invited to discuss details and questions in a personal call with our Astronaut Office. If you decide to make a firm reservation, you will then complete preliminary paperwork and pay the full $150,000 deposit. At that point, your journey to space will be confirmed and you’ll be officially welcomed into our global Future Astronaut community.

*In the year before you fly, the remaining $300,000 balance and documentation is due.

**PAYMENT PROCESS & TIMELINE**

Initial deposit: $150,000*  
Final deposit: $300,000  
Total Flight Cost: $450,000

*Includes $125,000 fully refundable deposit plus $25,000 nonrefundable Future Astronaut community access fee.  
All costs are listed in USD.
READY TO BECOME AN ASTRONAUT?

Start your spaceflight application at virgingalactic.com/sign-up