
BACK TO EARTH WITH A BUMP!

Reported by Amanda Kelper, Media Correspondent, London

After a six month stay on the International Space Station (ISS), astronauts Tim Peake, Yuri Malenchenko and Timothy Kopra have finally returned home to Earth.

Last week, British astronaut Tim Peake returned home from an incredible six month stay aboard the ISS, alongside his crewmates Yuri Malenchenko and Timothy Kopra. He is the first British astronaut to have lived on the ISS.

The International Space Station is a large spacecraft that travels around the Earth. It is a home where astronauts can live while in Space. The Space Station was built in pieces and many nations were involved in its construction. For example, the first piece was launched in November 1998 by the Russians. Construction of the space station was finally completed in 2011.

The men were launched into space on 15th December 2015. The mission involved conducting experiments, testing out new technology and inspiring the next generations of space travellers. Peake told reporters that the best part of his mission was a spacewalk where he had to make a repair on the space station.

Having circled the planet nearly 3,000 times, the crew returned home to Earth in a capsule, which reached speeds of up to 28,000 kilometres per hour. The touchdown was bumpy due to high winds, however the astronauts landed safely in Kazakhstan, all returning in good health. Having arrived back on solid ground, the astronauts were pulled out of the capsule and carried as their leg muscles were too weak to walk. While sitting in their space suits, the men were checked over by medical staff. During these checks, Peake



Landing with a bump! Tim Peake lands safely in Kazakhstan.

was asked how it felt to be home. 'The smells of Earth are so strong and it's wonderful to be back in the fresh air'.

Tim later flew from Kazakhstan to the headquarters of the European Space Agency in Germany where he is getting used to life back on Earth. Scientists and doctors are carrying out tests to see how his body has been affected by his time in space. Being in space can have a serious impact on the human body. When astronauts return home, they have to readapt to the gravity on Earth as the lack of gravity in space can also cause your bones and muscles to weaken.

Peake recently commented on how he'd missed family and friends, and even the rain. Tim said he was now looking forward to spending some quality time with his family. When asked if he'd return to space in the future, he replied, '...in a heartbeat'.

Having been recognised by the Queen for his services to science, Tim is now a CMG, or Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George. He dedicated this award to his entire team.

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The St. George Times



Laika the dog is the first living being to go into space. Yesterday, she departed in Sputnik 2 and orbited the Earth. She is a Russian dog and lives in Moscow. Laika was sent to space as part of an experiment carried out by astronauts, who wanted to know if a living being could survive the process.

Feature	Check	Example
Who?	✓	Laika the dog
What?	✓	Dog is sent into space.
Where?	✓	Mos- cow
When?	✓	Yesterday (which would have been 3rd November 1957, as dated)
Why?	✓	Because the astronauts wanted to know if a living being could survive the process.

Space Independent



Yuri Gagarin is the first man to go into space! Today, the Russian cosmonaut made history by being the first person to complete a full orbit of the Earth. His spacecraft, named Vostok 1, departed from the Russian Space Centre near Moscow. The USA and Russia had been battling to win 'the space race' and put the first man into space. With Gagarin's success, Russia won the space race.

Feature	Check	Example
Who?		
What?		
Where?		
When?		
Why?		

The World Today



Tim Peake has returned from his famous mission as the first astronaut from the European Space Agency to stay at the International Space Station. He returned to Earth two days ago, after completing 125 million kilometres in orbit over 195 days. He went into space to complete maintenance on the space station and launched from the ESA in Cologne.

Feature	Check	Example
Who?		
What?		
Where?		
When?		
Why?		