

Thaxted Astronomical Society

News

Features

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SpaceX To Launch Four
Astronauts To The ISS

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-8785577/NASA-SpaceX-set-launch-four-astronauts-International-Space-Station-Halloween.html>

NASA and Elon Musk's SpaceX are set to launch four astronauts to the International Space Station aboard a Falcon 9 rocket on Halloween

Daily Mail 29th September 2020 >

- **NASA announced a new target for the Crew-1 mission - October 31 at 2:49am ET**
- **This mission will send four astronauts aboard a SpaceX rocket to the ISS**
- **The event follows the successful mission of Demo-2 in May**
- **The new team will spend six months on the ISS conducting research**

NASA announced four astronauts will launch to the International Space Station aboard a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket during the early hours of Halloween Day.

The Crew-1 mission is set to liftoff at 2:40am ET, which follows the successful Demo-2 test flight in May that was manned by NASA astronauts Bob Behnken and Doug Hurley.

The new mission will be flown by Michael Hopkins, Victor Glover and Shannon Walker of NASA and Soichi Noguchi of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA).

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The team will travel to the station in the SpaceX Crew Dragon capsule and spend six months on the orbiting laboratory conducting research.

The event marks the first time an international crew will fly aboard a NASA-certified, commercially-owned and operated American rocket and spacecraft from American soil.

SpaceX also announced that Crew-1 will overlap with Crew-2 that is set to launch next year, which will be the first time two Dragon capsules have been docked on the ISS simultaneously.

This mission was the precursor for next month's journey, as the team was tasked with testing the Crew Dragon capsule to validate its performance.

This included tests with the environmental control system, displays, maneuvering thrusters and other technologies.

However, when Behnken and Hurley returned from a two month stay on the ISS, NASA began moving forward with its plans for Crew 1.

The four astronauts in Crew-1 are set to spend six months on the ISS, where they will conduct a number of experiments and perform a range of tasks.

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The new mission will be flown by Michael Hopkins (second from right), Victor Glover (second from left), and Shannon Walker (left) of NASA and Soichi Noguchi (right) of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency

