

The New Frontier

Season 4

10 x 30'



MERCURY OR BUST

The ESA - JAXA joint Bepi-Colombo Mission is moments away from launch. The target is Mercury which has been too long neglected; this mission will shed new light on this strange world of light and dark.



SET COURSE FOR THE HEART OF THE SUN

NASA'S Parker Solar Probe Mission is on its way and will be shortly followed by Europe's Solar probe Mission. No spacecraft have traveled so fast or so close to a star before. It is hoped to reveal the source of the solar winds that effect us here on Earth.



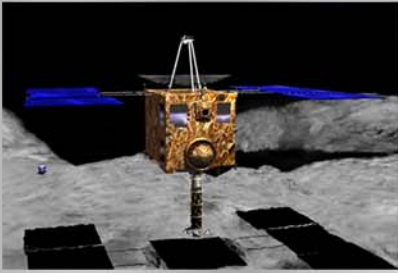
TICKETS PLEASE

The commercial space flight companies are edging closer and closer to flight readiness. Paying customers will soon be launching into space; tourists and their money is thought to be a major step forward into space and beyond.



PLANET X

The New Horizons mission continues deeper into space, it's next target looming close, some speculate there may be evidence of a mysterious new planet, one long zsteeped in folklore: planet X could it be out there?



HYABUSA

The Japanese Asteroid sample return mission has reached its target and is surveying the space rock ready to dip down and take a sample. The return of asteroid material to Earth will aid scientists in the planetary defense systems.



FRESH EYES

Two new space telescopes are in orbit and completing their shakedown; Gaia and TESS they too will be joined by the James Webb Telescope. Together they will be opening up a whole new vista into time and space.



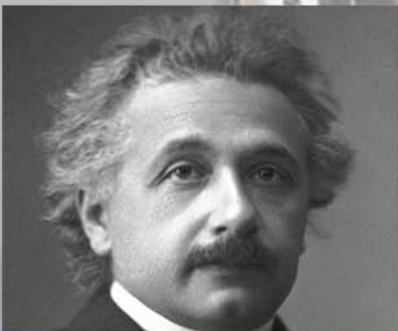
MARTIAN ATTRACTIONS

The Latest in Martian exploration from orbit and on the ground, new sources of water and planetary dust storms are a few of the stories unfolding on to the Red Planet.



HEAVY LIFT

New heavy lift rockets are taking to the sky. Falcon Heavy, SLS, Ariane 6 and Vega C rockets are primed to begin the next phase of space expansion.



PROVING EINSTEIN

Some of the proof of Einstein's theories had long been elusive, beyond the capabilities of technology, until now. It appears that Einstein is once again triumphant with the latest in deep space observations.



WHERE ARE ALL THE ALIENS?

We're looking hard, but the numbers aren't stacking up, is life on other planets that hard to find? Even signals from an advanced race elude us. Maybe we really are alone in our neck of the galaxy!