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our missions



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OUR MISSIONS

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athena Launch: 2028 Probing the hot and energetic Universe		plato Launch: 2024 Hunting planets beyond our Solar System		juice Launch: 2022 Europe's first mission to the Jupiter system		flex Launch: 2022 Global vegetation health	
metop-sg series First launch: 2021 MetOp Second Generation		electra First launch: 2021 Europe's first electric-propulsion telecom satellite		euclid Launch: 2020 Charting dark matter and dark energy's effects on the Universe		biomass Launch: 2020 Measuring forest biomass	
mtg series First launch: 2019 Meteosat Third Generation		neosat First launch: 2019 Next-generation telecom satellite platform		earthcare Launch: 2018 Studying the roles of clouds and aerosols in our climate		bepicolombo Launch: 2018 Europe's first mission to Mercury	
james webb space telescope Launch: 2018 Contributing two instruments to the next great space observatory		solar orbiter Launch: 2018 Europe's closest mission to the Sun		cheops Launch: 2018 Studying planets around other stars		quantum First launch: 2018 The 'chameleon' telecom satellite	
sat-ais First launch: 2018 Microsatellites for identifying and tracking ships		adm-aeolus Launch: 2017 Mapping Earth's global wind fields		europa robotic arm Launch: 2017 Robotic arm serving Russian segment of ISS		smallgeo First launch: 2016 New small platform for geostationary telecommunications	
edrs First launch: 2016 Geostationary satellites for relaying satellite data		exomars Launch: 2016, 2018 Mars orbiter and lander, followed by rover and surface platform		lisa pathfinder Launched: 2015 Technology demonstration for gravitational wave detection		ixu Launched: 2015 Intermediate eXperimental Vehicle	
alphasat Launched: 2013 Innovative satellite telecommunications platform		gaia Launched: 2013 Mission to map a billion local stars in 3D		swarm Launched: 2013 Trio of satellites mapping Earth's magnetic field		sentinel family First launch: 2014 A portfolio of operational Earth observation missions	
vega First launch: 2012 Europe's small satellite launcher		galileo First launch: 2011 Europe's global satellite navigation system		hyla-1 Launched: 2010 Broadband services in public-private partnership		goce Launched: 2009 Mapping Earth's gravity	
herschel Launched: 2009 Far-infrared astronomy mission		planck Launched: 2009 Mapping the cosmic microwave background		smos Launched: 2009 Measuring soil moisture and ocean salinity		atu Launched: 2008, 2011, 2012 Space truck for ISS resupply	
columbus Launched: 2008 Europe's ISS research laboratory		metop series Launched: 2006, 2012 Polar meteorological services		cryosat Launched: 2005 (failed), 2010 Measuring polar-ice thickness		venus express Launched: 2005 Europe's first Venus orbiter	
gioue-a & b Launched: 2005, 2008 Technology demonstration for Galileo		rosetta Launched: 2004 Deep space comet rendezvous mission		mars express Launched: 2003 Europe's first Red Planet orbiter		smart-1 Launched: 2003 Experimental Moon mission	
enuisat Launched: 2002 10-instrument environmental satellite		integral Launched: 2002 Gamma-ray astronomy		msg series Launched: 2002, 2005, 2012 Second-generation European meteorology satellites		artemis Launched: 2001 Technology demonstration for telecommunications	
proba series Launched: 2001, 2009, 2013 Technology demonstration microsatellites		xmm-newton Launched: 1999 X-ray astronomy		ard Launched: 1998 First European experimental reentry vehicle		huygens Launched: 1997 Surface probe of Saturn's moon Titan	
cluster Launched: 1996 (failed), 2000 Space plasma physics in 3D		iso Launched: 1995 Infrared astronomy		soho Launched: 1995 Continuous observation of the Sun		eureca Launched: 1992 Reusable free-flying microgravity testbed	
ers-1 & -2 Launched: 1991, 1995 Radar-based Earth observation		hubble space telescope Launched: 1990 ESA contributed solar arrays and Faint Object Camera		ulysses Launched: 1990 Charting space above and below the Sun's poles		hipparcos Launched: 1989 Mapping the positions of more than 100 000 stars	
olympus Launched: 1989 Technology demonstration for telecommunications		giotto Launched: 1985 Intercepting Comet Halley and Comet Grigg-Skjellerup		exosat Launched: 1983 X-ray astronomy		ecs series Launched: 1983, 1984, 1985, 1987, 1988 Operational European telecommunications satellites	
spacelab First launched: 1983 Laboratory module for NASA's Space Shuttle; 22 launches		marecs series Launched: 1981, 1982 (failed), 1984 Maritime telecommunications satellites		ariane First launch: 1979 Commercial launcher securing Europe's non-dependent space access		ieu Launched: 1978 Ultraviolet astronomy	
isee-2 Launched: 1977 Charting Sun-Earth relations and magnetic field		geos-1 & -2 Launched: 1977, 1978 Probing dynamics of Earth's magnetic field, waves and particles		meteosat series Launched: 1977, 1981, 1988, 1989, 1991, 1993, 1997, 2002 Europe's weather satellites for daily forecasting		ots-1 & -2 Launched: 1977 (failed), 1978 Demonstrating technologies for telecommunications	
cos-b Launched: 1975 Gamma-ray astronomy		td-1 Launched: 1972 UV, X-ray and gamma-ray astronomy		esro series Launched: 1967 (failed), 1968, 1969, 1972 Scientific exploration of space's particle and radiation environment		heos-1 & -2 Launched: 1968 & 1972 Probing Earth's magnetic field and the interplanetary medium	

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