

**Nicole Stott**  
**NASA Astronaut**



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00:00:07,360 --> 00:00:15,440

\h As space shuttle Atlantis landed at the end of mission STS-129, astronaut Nicole Stott completed a first

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00:00:15,440 --> 00:00:20,190

\h NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida welcomed her home as its first former

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00:00:20,190 --> 00:00:24,780

\h employee to live and work aboard the International Space Station.

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00:00:24,780 --> 00:00:29,380

\h Stott's return also marked another significant event -- the last time a station

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00:00:29,380 --> 00:00:34,670

\h crew member is scheduled to travel to or from the station aboard a space shuttle.

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00:00:34,670 --> 00:00:40,760

\h She joined the space station's six-person crew when she launched aboard shuttle Discovery in August.

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00:00:40,760 --> 00:00:46,020

\h Her launch came more than two decades after she began her NASA career at Kennedy.

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00:00:46,020 --> 00:00:50,920

\h It was a career that brought her high-level experience with both the shuttle and the station.

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00:00:50,920 --> 00:00:56,580

\h Stott began working at Kennedy in 1988 as a shuttle program operations engineer.

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00:00:56,580 --> 00:01:02,390

\h Before heading to space this summer, the native of Clearwater, Florida talked about her time at Kenned

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00:01:02,390 --> 00:01:08,230

\h Stott: "After growing up in Florida and seeing shuttles launch while I was at university,

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00:01:08,230 --> 00:01:15,830

\h I got a job at Kennedy Space Center in shuttle operations... I mean, what cooler place could you be wor

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00:01:15,830 --> 00:01:20,030

\h And every step of the way there, I was just thrilled with the jobs I had."

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00:01:20,030 --> 00:01:25,890

\h Stott went on to serve as landing convoy commander, and later as shuttle Endeavour's flow director.

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00:01:25,890 --> 00:01:30,860

\h Stott: "I'm working on a space shuttle. I'm on the runway for landing..."

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00:01:30,860 --> 00:01:37,040

\h I'm in the control center where we're launching the shuttle. I mean, it didn't seem like it could get any co

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00:01:37,040 --> 00:01:43,830

\h And fortunately, I had people that I considered to be mentors that I worked with there."

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00:01:43,830 --> 00:01:49,520

\h During her last two years at Kennedy, she joined the Space Station Hardware Integration Office.

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00:01:49,520 --> 00:01:53,990

\h Stott was selected by NASA as an astronaut in July 2000.

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00:01:53,990 --> 00:01:57,930

\h While other employees from Kennedy have gone on to become astronauts,

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00:01:57,930 --> 00:02:03,060

\h Stott's time living and working aboard the station makes her experience unique.

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00:02:03,060 --> 00:02:08,440

\h As the STS-129 mission ended and the landing convoy she once commanded surrounded

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00:02:08,440 --> 00:02:16,430

\h Atlantis on the runway, Stott's journey came full circle -- from Kennedy -- to space -- and back home ag

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00:02:16,430 --> 00:02:25,080

\h Nicole Stott: "Everything I did with hardware here at KSC, with knowing how dedicated the people that w

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00:02:25,080 --> 00:02:31,960

\h it prepares you. I mean, you feel like you have an intimate relationship with not only the people here at t

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00:02:31,960 --> 00:02:36,900

\h but with the hardware itself. And I think that, you know, I felt good every step of the way.