

HAVE  
HUMANS  
EVER  
VISITED  
MARS?



1  
00:00:01,334 --> 00:00:04,070  
Have humans ever visited Mars?

2  
00:00:05,637 --> 00:00:07,533  
NASA.

3  
00:00:07,533 --> 00:00:08,481  
We Asked a NASA Scientist.

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00:00:08,481 --> 00:00:10,976  
Well, no humans have not been to Mars in person,

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00:00:10,976 --> 00:00:13,713  
but we've sent plenty of spacecraft there in the past.

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00:00:13,713 --> 00:00:16,916  
In fact, we have two operating rovers on the surface of Mars right now.

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00:00:17,050 --> 00:00:20,153  
These rovers are really instrumental in telling us what Mars is like

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00:00:20,153 --> 00:00:23,623  
in terms of the weather, the surface conditions, how cold it gets.

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00:00:23,623 --> 00:00:25,792  
So when we do want to send humans to Mars,

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00:00:25,792 --> 00:00:28,228  
we'll know a lot more than we would've otherwise.

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00:00:28,228 --> 00:00:31,264  
With our previous missions through robotic spacecraft

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00:00:31,464 --> 00:00:33,700  
we've learned a lot about how to land on Mars,

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00:00:33,733 --> 00:00:37,804

not only in terms of getting spacecraft to the surface, but the conditions

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00:00:37,804 --> 00:00:39,806

that come with landing on Mars.

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00:00:39,806 --> 00:00:41,641

So why haven't humans been to Mars?

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00:00:41,641 --> 00:00:43,810

Well, first of all, it's really far away.

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00:00:43,810 --> 00:00:45,211

And so building the technology

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00:00:45,211 --> 00:00:48,248

to be able to travel that long distance and protect the crews

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00:00:48,481 --> 00:00:52,152

from the space environment and making sure that they can survive through the long

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00:00:52,152 --> 00:00:55,989

journey is really important so we're still working on that process.

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00:00:56,089 --> 00:00:59,893

Artemis will help us with that as we send humans back to the Moon, which we've done

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00:01:00,193 --> 00:01:03,029

previously but haven't been to in quite some time.

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00:01:03,096 --> 00:01:06,633

This will also help us then develop that technology that we're going to need

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00:01:06,633 --> 00:01:09,736

to get humans to the surface of Mars and then back again.

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00:01:09,936 --> 00:01:12,072

Meanwhile, while they're on the surface of Mars,

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00:01:12,072 --> 00:01:13,173

they're going to need to be able

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00:01:13,173 --> 00:01:15,675

to survive there for some time while they do their work.

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00:01:15,742 --> 00:01:20,678

We have an experiment on the Perseverance rover, which is actually collecting carbon dioxide

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00:01:20,678 --> 00:01:25,085

out of Mars' very thin atmosphere and converting that into oxygen.

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00:01:25,085 --> 00:01:28,455

So not only will the astronauts be able to use this oxygen to breathe,

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00:01:28,455 --> 00:01:32,158

but they can also use it for rocket fuel so that they can get back off the surface.

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00:01:32,392 --> 00:01:34,427

So have humans ever visited Mars?

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00:01:34,427 --> 00:01:37,297

Well, no, not in person, but through the Artemis program,

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00:01:37,297 --> 00:01:38,298

we're working on it.