

United state's and ussr-Russia's Traveling to the space

0. I'm going to represent you a comparison about Russian and United State's space knowledge and everything, what they were doing and competing in space.

1. History:

Famous Space race:

It was a race between Soviet Union and USA. They were competing about exploration of space. That race involved artificial satellites, orbital human spaceflights around Earth. They were also trying to get to the Moon. It effectively began when Russian launched Sputnik 1. That was an artificial satellite; it was launched on 4 of October in 1957. In 1959 Americans believed that the Soviet Union would be the 1st to get a human into a space because of the time they needed to prepare for Project Mercury's 1st launch. On April 1961 soviets launched Yuri Gagarin into orbit in spacecraft called Vostok 1. The Vostok flid around Earth and Gagarin ejected himself 7000 meters above Earth, landing by parachute. The United States called their space travellers astronauts for the difference of Russian who called them cosmonauts. 1969 was the final part of the Moon race with US leading after successful flight of Apollo 8. Meanwhile soviet space program was deep in trouble. With their N-1 rocket they had no chance to land in a Moon. Next two Apollo missions proved that lunar module worked well. It was time to proceed, so they were ready to build an Apollo 11. They selected a crew witch commander was Neil Armstrong. Mission succeeded, so the Americans were 1st who sent people to the Moon, and Russians were 1st who sent a human in space.

2. Nowadays:

USSR (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) doesn't exist anymore. Now there is Russia. They continue soviet space program. NASA still exists and it's especially focusing on Mars researches. They launched and successfully landed a satellite called Curiosity which is already driving around Mars. And slowly but pretty sure there's going to be an option to travel in to a space as tourist.

3. Space tourism:

Russians planed an aircraft Soyuz which will send three persons at once into a space. They had planned this for this year (2013) and they wanted to make five launches per year. American company Virgin Galactic had already test two aircrafts called White Knight and White Knight II. These aircrafts will take off on the top of large airplane and then separate from it already high above ground, so it would not need so many fuel and power to get out from Earth's orbit. There were few men who travelled into space like tourists, but they had to pay from 20 to 40 million €. They all travelled with Russian aircraft Soyuz. So travelling with Virgin galactic will be cheaper and more comfortable. And it will not be more expensive than 200,000 USD. So start saving your money.

4. Opinion:

I think US so mainly NASA is on better way about exploring space. And if company Virgin Galactic succeeds, then I think the things will go very fast. They will start to make space hotels and so on. It would mean another big step for humanity.