

UK Space Race Heats Up: New Launch Sites, Astronaut Missions, and Lunar A

Space Exploration UK · Practice Test · 15 Questions

1. Which UK spaceport, located in Shetland, is Europe's first fully licensed vertical orbital launch site?

- A) Spaceport Cornwall
- B) SaxaVord Spaceport
- C) Spaceport Machrihanish
- D) Glasgow Prestwick Spaceport

2. What is the name of the UK astronaut mission being developed in collaboration with Axiom Space, aimed at sending UK astronauts to the International Space Station?

- A) Project Chimera
- B) UK Astronaut Mission
- C) Axiom-UK Partnership
- D) StarSailor Initiative

3. The UK Space Agency is supporting several innovative projects that use satellite technology and AI. Which of these areas are specifically mentioned as being transformed by these projects?

- A) Maritime shipping and deep-sea exploration
- B) Climate change, transport networks, and accessible travel
- C) Agricultural monitoring and urban planning
- D) Astrophysical research and exoplanet detection

4. Which British scientist is the Rosalind Franklin Mars rover named after, a mission where the UK is a major contributor?

- A) Ada Lovelace
- B) Marie Curie
- C) Rosalind Franklin
- D) Jane Goodall

5. What is the planned launch year for the UK's first homegrown orbital rocket, 'Prime', developed by Orbex from Scotland?

- A) 2024
- B) 2025
- C) 2026
- D) 2027

6. The UK is investing in a programme to develop communication services for the Moon. What is this ESA programme called?

- A) LunarLink
- B) MoonConnect
- C) Artemis Communications
- D) Moonlight

7. Which UK spaceport was granted a launch licence for the RFA One rocket in January 2025, marking a significant milestone for UK and European launches?

- A) SaxaVord Spaceport
- B) Spaceport Cornwall
- C) Sutherland Spaceport
- D) Glasgow Prestwick Spaceport

8. The UK Space Agency's Annual Report for 2024-2025 mentions a significant investment in which European space science mission aimed at exploring Jupiter and its moons?

- A) Euclid Mission
- B) JUICE Mission
- C) Gaia Mission
- D) Rosetta Mission

9. What is the primary focus of the UK's investment in the ESA 'QKDSAT' Partnership, involving Craft Prospect?

- A) Developing lunar water purification technologies
- B) Building quantum key distribution networks for secure communication
- C) Creating advanced propulsion systems for deep space travel
- D) Designing next-generation Earth observation satellites

10. Which UK company is developing the ELSA-M spacecraft, designed for active debris removal in space, with a facility in Harwell?

- A) Space Forge
- B) Astroscale
- C) AAC Clyde Space
- D) SatVu

11. In what year is the 'Lunar Pathfinder' project, a precursor to the ESA Moonlight programme, set to launch?

- A) 2024
- B) 2025
- C) 2026
- D) 2027

12. The UK is a major contributor to ESA's planetary science missions. Besides the Rosalind Franklin rover, which other ESA mission to Jupiter is mentioned as receiving UK investment?

- A) ExoMars
- B) JUICE
- C) Cassini-Huygens
- D) New Horizons

13. What amount of funding has the UK Space Agency allocated for the 2024-2025 period, as outlined in their Annual Report?

- A) £380,000
- B) £1.5 million
- C) £580.8 million
- D) £2.2 billion

14. Which UK spaceport is planned to provide small satellite operators affordable access to low Earth orbit and sun-synchronous orbit via a novel air launch solution from 2024?

- A) SaxaVord Spaceport
- B) Sutherland Spaceport
- C) Spaceport 1
- D) Glasgow Prestwick Spaceport

15. Who is the first person with a physical disability cleared to take part in a mission to the International Space Station, with UK support?

- A) Tim Peake
- B) Rosemary Coogan
- C) Meganne Christian
- D) John McFall