

# 3 It won't be cheap

Future review: future simple, present simple and continuous, going to  
Talking about future events, schedules, arrangements and plans

## 1 Opener

You are going to read about space tourism. Which of these words do you expect to find in the text?

- astronaut flight helicopter honeymoon
- lightning orbit passenger spaceship
- speed weightlessness

## 2 Reading

Read and listen to the text.

## 3 Comprehension

Answer the questions.

- What will be the highlights of the Virgin Galactic Spaceship flight?
- What else will the \$200,000 fare include?
- Who are going to be among the first passengers?
- How will ordinary travellers be able to afford space tourism?
- The man says 'Forget it!' – what is he not going to do?

Would you like to be a space tourist? Why/Why not?

# All you ever wanted to know about Space Tourism

People have been talking about space tourism ever since astronauts first landed on the moon. Will the dream ever become reality?

Believe it or not, we're counting down to the first space tourist flight. The Virgin Galactic Spaceship is due for lift-off soon, and there are rumours that Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt are among those who have put their names down to fly.

**How exciting! I'm going to book a ticket!**

Hang on, it won't be cheap – each passenger will pay 200,000 US dollars for the three-hour flight.

**Over a thousand dollars a minute – that's extremely expensive!**

Yes, but the space tourists will fly at three times the speed of sound, they'll experience six minutes of weightlessness and they'll be able to look down on Earth. 'Every passenger will have a spectacular view; they will have large windows and luxurious seats,' says Virgin boss Sir Richard Branson, who's going to travel on the first flight with members of his family. And the holiday will include pre-flight training and six days' luxury accommodation at the Virgin Galactic space camp. Initially, the spaceships will take off from the Mojave Desert near Los Angeles, but later there'll be a spaceport in New Mexico.

**And what about people who don't have thousands of dollars?**

I'm sure the cost of space flights will come down, and one day ordinary travellers will be able to go on trips into space. So perhaps our grandchildren will spend their holidays on the moon, and have honeymoons in a hotel orbiting Venus. But meanwhile, you can book a spaceship flight online at [www.virgingalactic.com](http://www.virgingalactic.com) with a deposit of US\$20,000.

**Forget it! I've got to go – I'm flying to Florida today and I'm visiting the Kennedy Space Center tomorrow. The tour starts at 9.45am ...**

## 4 Grammar

Complete.

### Talking about the future

We use the future simple (*will/won't*) to give information about future events and to make predictions.

Every passenger \_\_\_\_\_ have a spectacular view.

I'm sure the cost of space flights \_\_\_\_\_ come down.

It \_\_\_\_\_ be cheap.

\_\_\_\_\_ the dream ever become reality?

We use the present simple to talk about schedules and timetables.

The tour \_\_\_\_\_ at 9.45am.

We use the present continuous to talk about fixed arrangements.

I \_\_\_\_\_ the Kennedy Space Center tomorrow.

We use *going to* to talk about plans and intentions.

Branson \_\_\_\_\_ to travel on the first flight.

I \_\_\_\_\_ to book a ticket!

Check the answers: Grammar Summary page 00

## 5 Grammar Practice

Complete with the most suitable form of the verbs: future simple, present simple or present continuous.

- Each Virgin Galactic spaceship \_\_\_\_\_ (carry) five passengers.
- I'm scared of flying, so I definitely \_\_\_\_\_ (not be) a space tourist.
- My friends \_\_\_\_\_ (fly) to Florida at the weekend.
- Their flight \_\_\_\_\_ (depart) at 6pm on Saturday.
- They've booked a hotel in Orlando and they \_\_\_\_\_ (stay) there for a week.
- Do you think lots of people \_\_\_\_\_ (travel) in space?
- Where \_\_\_\_\_ (you go) for your next holiday?
- Can you tell me what time the tour \_\_\_\_\_ (end)?

## 6 Listening

Listen and complete the tour schedule with the times.

### Kennedy Space Center Tour

- 9:45 am Arrive at the Kennedy Space Center
- \_\_\_\_\_ am See an IMAX space movie
- \_\_\_\_\_ am Visit the Astronaut Hall of Fame and ride a spaceflight simulator
- \_\_\_\_\_ pm Meet an astronaut during lunch at the Space Center
- \_\_\_\_\_ pm Take the NASA bus tour, which stops at the International Space Station
- \_\_\_\_\_ pm Return to the Kennedy Space Center
- \_\_\_\_\_ pm Depart from the Kennedy Space Center

Now imagine you are going on the Kennedy Space Center Tour. Ask and answer questions about the schedule using the present simple.

What time do we arrive at the Space Center?

## 7 Pronunciation

Complete the exclamations with *cold*, *exciting*, *expensive*, *fast*.

- It costs over a million dollars. That's extremely \_\_\_\_\_!
- It flies at three times the speed of sound. That's incredibly \_\_\_\_\_!
- The temperature is minus 30°C. That's terribly \_\_\_\_\_!
- We're going to meet an astronaut. How \_\_\_\_\_!

Now listen and check. Repeat the exclamations.

## 8 Speaking

Below are some predictions by a major British telecommunications company. Do you agree or disagree with the predictions? Say what you think about them.

- A Do you think there'll be a hotel in space by 2017?
- B Yes, it's possible. But I'm not going to stay in it because it'll be too expensive!

### THE FUTURE IN SPACE

<b>2013–2017</b>	Hotel in space
<b>2016–2020</b>	Mining on moon
<b>2020s</b>	First manned mission to Mars Space factories for commercial production
<b>2030s</b>	Space elevator to moon
<b>2040s</b>	Moon base the size of small village Colony on Mars
<b>From 2051</b>	Contact with extra-terrestrial beings.

## 9 Vocabulary

Find these phrasal verbs in the text about space tourism, and match them with their meanings a–f.

- 1 come down
- 2 count down
- 3 hang on
- 4 look down
- 5 put down
- 6 take off
- a wait a minute
- b write someone's name on a list
- c fall/become less
- d opposite of *land*
- e 10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1!
- f drop your eyes

## 10 Writing

You are on a spaceship which has been away from Earth for ten years. Now you are returning to Earth and will land there tomorrow.

What are you going to do when you land? Write about your plans.

What changes do you think there will be on Earth?