

Artemis Mission

The **Artemis program** is a [Moon exploration](#) program led by the United States' [National Aeronautics and Space Administration](#) (NASA), aimed at returning humans to the [Moon](#) for the first time since the [Apollo program](#) and building a permanent [lunar base](#). It was formally established via [Space Policy Directive-1](#) in 2017 by [President Donald Trump](#). As of 2026, it has flown two successful missions [Artemis I](#) and [Artemis II](#) with three more planned through the end of 2028.

Among the principal elements of the Artemis program are [Space Shuttle–derived hardware](#), such as the [Space Launch System's](#) (SLS) [core stage](#), its [RS-25](#) engines, and [solid rocket boosters](#), as well as systems originating from the canceled [Constellation program](#), including the [Orion spacecraft](#) (paired with the [European Service Module](#)) and booster upgrades initially developed for [Ares V](#). Other elements, such as the [Human Landing System](#) (HLS), are in development by [private spaceflight](#) companies under contract. International collaborations are bound by the [Artemis Accords](#).