SCOTLAND

is out of this world trail

A guide to stellar attractions and locations to visit

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FOLLOW THE SCOTLAND IS OUT OF THIS WORLD TRAIL to uncover scottish links to space exploration and the wonders of the solar system



Moffat - Dark Sky Town

Scottish Dark Sky Observatory, near Dalmellington



Tomintoul & Glenlivet -Cairngorms Dark Sky Park

Isle of Coll - Scotland's Dark Sky Island



Linlithgow - The 2222 birthplace of Chief Engineer Montgomery 'Scotty' Scott from the science fiction series, Star Trek

Bonnybridge - The official UFO capital of Scotland

Aurora Borealis, known as 'Mirrie Dancers' in Shetland SHETLAND



VENUS



Parton The Dumfries & Galloway resting place of 19th century Scottish physicist James Clerk Maxwell, whose name was given to Maxwell Montes, a mountain range on Venus and the planet's only feature named after a man.

URANUS Braemar

The Aberdeenshire birthplace of Johann von Lamont, a 19th century astronomer and pioneer in geomagnetism, who calculated the mass of Uranus.

SATURN Edinburgh



The Stirling Engine, at the National Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh, was created by Rev Robert Stirling in 1816. The system design was used by

JUPITER

Loch Airigh

The loch on the Isle of Harris in the Outer Hebrides portrays the planet Jupiter in the 1968 Stanley Kubrick directed film, 2001:A Space Odyssey.

MARS Glenelg

In 2012 the Highlands village twinned itself with a geological feature on Mars, also called Glenelg.

NEPTUNE

Jedburgh The Scottish Borders birthplace of 19th century science writer, Mary Somerville, who theorised that difficulties in calculating the position of Uranus may point to an undiscovered planet, which inspired the discovery of Neptune.

> MOON Langholm Traditional seat of Clan Armstrong in Dumfries & Galloway and ancestral home of astronaut Neil Armstrong. The nearby 16th century Gilnockie Tower features an exhibition on the clan.

NASA in the initial plans for a lander to explore Saturn's moon, Titan.

MERCURY Galloway Forest Park In 2009 was named the first Dark Sky Park in the UK and second in Europe. Perfect for stargazing and spotting the smallest planet in the solar system, Mercury.

• DUMFRIES

PERTH • • DUNDEE

EDINBURGH



GLASGO

On 20 July 1969, Neil Armstrong took "one giant leap for mankind" when he became the first person to walk on the moon.

The Ohio-born NASA astronaut commanded Apollo 11 and, along with Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins, formed the three-man lunar landing mission.

Three years after that historic moment, Neil Armstrong took another "small step" into the history books, only this time in Langholm in Dumfries and Galloway, the ancestral home of Clan Armstrong.

It was there in the "Muckle Toon" that he became the first and only person to be awarded the freedom of the Scottish burgh.

On accepting the honour, Armstrong told the gathered audience: "It's said that the most difficult place to be recognised is in one's own home town. And I consider this, now, my home town."

More recently, from Armstrong's adopted hometown, an intrepid Highland Cow named BuzzBò became the world's first Highland Coosmonaut.

Wearing an outfit made in part with Armstrong tartan, BuzzBò ascended 36,000 metres into the stratosphere by weather balloon to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first moon landing.

Catch up on his adventure in near space using the hashtag **#Coosmonaut**

And go to visitscotland.com/ out-of-this-world

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Glasgow Science Centre **glasgowsciencecentre.org** Dundee Science Centre **dundeesciencecentre.org.uk** Crawick Multiverse **crawickmultiverse.co.uk**

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Did you know

Many craters on the Moon and Mars are named after Scottish scientists. These include Aberdeen astronomers Arthur Mee, Sir David Gill and Edinburgh mathematician John Napier of Merchiston.

The average distance from Earth to the Moon is about 238,855 miles (384,400 km) - the equivalent of travelling around Scotland's coastline 21 times!

The highest point on the Moon is 35,387 feet (10,786 metres) compared with Scotland's highest mountain, Ben Nevis,which stands at 4,413 feet (1,345 metres).

Fowlis Wester Church,dedicated to Saint Bean, near Crieff, contains a piece of MacBean tartan which US astronaut Alan Bean, the fourth person to walk on the Moon, carried with him on the lunar module in 1969.

The James Gregory Telescope, which was constructed in 1962 at the University Observatory in St Andrews, is the largest operational telescope in Scotland.



Highland Coosmonaut named 'BuzzBò' by Peter Lunan aged 7 from Dunblane