

# ITALY IN SPACE

In December 2014, on request of ASITAF, Italy issued a new stamp to celebrate half a century of success in space.



With the launch of SAN MARCO in 1964, Italy became the third Nation (after USSR and USA) to operationally launch its own satellite in space.

Successes continued with SIRIO and the first telecommunication satellites.

While the Italian Scientific Community focused mainly on small scientific satellites, Italy's industry gained, with SPACELAB, a peculiar experience in large projects, specializing in man-rated pressurized modules. Based on this experience the structures of many modules for human space activities have been designed and built, including SPACEHAB, COLOMBUS. MPLMs Leonardo, Raffaello and Donatello, and finally NODE-2 Harmony, NODE-3 Tranquility and the ISS's CUPOLA. Fifty percent of the pressurized habitable volumes in the ISS has been built in Turin, Italy, including ATV and CYGNUS

Recently Italy provided Halo and NASA's Artemis program components.

The exhibit also covers the small launcher VEGA, which successfully completed the family of launchers available at Kourou, and IXV, the experimental European reentry spacecraft.

The exhibit consists of the following sections:

1. San Marco Project: Wallops Island and Malindi
2. ESRO Projects: Salto di Quirra
3. ELDO Projects: Woomera
4. Telecommunication and positioning satellites
5. Earth Observation satellites
6. Lunar, Interplanetary and Solar Probes, Space Astronomy
7. Participation in the Shuttle Programme
8. Contribution to the ISS, ATV and CYGNUS
9. Space vehicles: Vega, ARD, IXV
10. Italian Astronauts & the first Italian Bible

## SOURCES

- AD\*ASTRA 2008-2022
- Personal contacts with key people
- Personal reseach

  
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