

# Tim Peake

## Who Is Tim Peake?

Timothy Nigel 'Tim' Peake is a British astronaut who was born in Chichester, West Sussex, England, on 7<sup>th</sup> April 1972.

## Tim's Childhood

Tim grew up in a village with his older sister, mother and father. At an early age, Tim was fascinated with flying because his father took him to air shows.

He went to school at the Chichester High School for Boys.

## After Tim Left School

- In 1990, Tim went to the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst.
- He trained to be a pilot and worked for eighteen years for the army.
- In 2008, Tim applied to become an astronaut.
- In 2009, Tim began his astronaut training at the European Astronaut Corps.

## Blast Off!

In December 2015, Tim Peake launched alongside two other astronauts. Tim reached his destination, the International Space Station, on the same day that he launched.

He spent six months living in space. During that time, he completed a spacewalk, which means he left the space station to complete jobs outside in space. This was watched by millions of people on Earth with excitement.

## Home Again

Tim returned to Earth in June 2016, landing in Kazakhstan. During his mission, Tim made three thousand orbits of the Earth.

It took two months for Tim's body to recover from the effects of zero gravity.



## Did You Know...?

- Tim's first meal on board the ISS was a bacon sandwich and cup of tea.
- While in space, Tim travelled about 125 000 000km.
- Tim was the first British astronaut to complete a spacewalk.
- During Tim's return to Earth, he travelled at 25 times the speed of sound.

# Tim Peake

## Early Life

Timothy Nigel 'Tim' Peake was born in Chichester, West Sussex, England, on 7<sup>th</sup> April 1972. He grew up in a nearby village. He lived with his older sister, Fiona, and his parents. His mother, Angela, was a midwife and his father, Nigel, was a journalist. Tim's fascination with flying began at an early age when his father took him to air shows to watch aircraft.



He studied at the Chichester High School for Boys, leaving in 1990 to attend the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst.

## Military Career

Tim followed his passion for flying and trained to be a pilot. He worked in the military for eighteen years, flying all types of helicopters and aircraft.

Tim later trained to be an instructor, before flying Apache helicopters with the US Army.

## European Space Agency

In 2008, the European Space Agency (ESA) announced it was accepting applications for new astronauts. Tim saw the advert online and decided to apply, along with eight thousand other people!

In 2009, following various exams and assessments, Tim received a phone call from the ESA offering him one of the six available places with the European Astronaut Corps.

## Blast Off!

On 15<sup>th</sup> December 2015, Tim Peake launched alongside Yuri Malenchenko and Tim Kopra, at 11:03 a.m. Tim reached his destination at 5:33 p.m. and docked two hours later, becoming the first British ESA astronaut to live onboard the International Space Station. He spent six months living in space, during which time he completed the first spacewalk by a British astronaut. This was watched by millions of people on Earth with excitement.

## Coming Home

Tim returned to Earth on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2016, landing in Kazakhstan. During his

mission, Tim had taken three thousand orbits of Earth, covering about 125 000 000km. It took two months for Tim's body to recover from the effects of zero gravity.

**Did You Know...?**

- Tim had to learn Russian – the language used by the ESA – during his training.
- Tim's first meal onboard the ISS was a bacon sandwich and cup of tea.
- During Tim's return to Earth, he travelled at 25 times the speed of sound.

# Tim Peake

## Early Life

Timothy Nigel 'Tim' Peake was born in Chichester, West Sussex, England, on 7<sup>th</sup> April 1972, and grew up in a nearby village. Tim and his older sister, Fiona, enjoyed a stable upbringing and ordinary family life. Their mother worked as a midwife and their father, who was a journalist, had always been interested in historic aircraft so he took Tim to air shows from an early age. This is where Tim's fascination with flying began.



He studied at the Chichester High School for Boys, leaving in 1990 to enrol at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst.

## Military Career

Despite having been interested in stars and the universe as a child, as a career choice Tim followed his passion for flying and trained to be a pilot. This resulted in an eighteen-year military career where Tim flew all types of helicopters and aircraft.

Tim later trained to be an instructor, before flying Apache helicopters in Texas with the US Army. On his return to the UK, the Apache was being introduced into the British Army so Tim helped to develop the training activities.

## European Space Agency

In 2008, when the European Space Agency (ESA) announced it was accepting applications for new astronauts, Tim saw the advert online and decided it was too good an opportunity to miss. His application joined eight thousand others!

In 2009, following various exams and assessments, Tim received a phone call from the ESA offering him one of the six available places with the European Astronaut Corps.

## Blast Off!

On 15<sup>th</sup> December 2015, at 11:03 a.m., the nation collectively held their breath as Tim Peake launched alongside Yuri Malenchenko and Tim Kopra. Tim reached his destination at 5:33 p.m. but the docking procedure did not go to plan. More than two hours later, the hatch opened and Tim was welcomed onboard, becoming the first British ESA astronaut to live on the International Space

Station (ISS). Tim spent six months living and working in space, during which time he completed the first spacewalk by a British astronaut.

### Coming Home

Tim returned to Earth on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2016, travelling at 25 times the speed of sound, landing in Kazakhstan at 9:15 a.m. During his mission, Tim had made three thousand orbits of Earth, covering about 125 000 000km. It took around two months for Tim's body to recover from the effects of zero gravity.

While in space and since returning home, Tim has worked a lot with children on various science projects to spread the excitement around being an astronaut.

### Glossary

**Test pilot** – A pilot who flies an aircraft to test its performance.

**Astronaut** – A person who is trained to travel in a spacecraft.

**Zero gravity** – The state or condition in which there is no apparent force of gravity acting on a body.

**Spacewalk** – A period of physical activity engaged in by an astronaut in space outside a spacecraft.