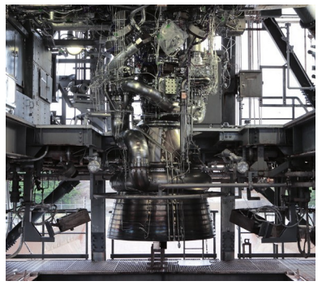
Tanegashima Space Center

The Tanegashima Space Center, located on the south-eastern tip of Tanegashima Island located to the south of Kagoshima Prefecture, is the largest launch complex (9,700,000 square meters) in Japan. It consists of facilities including “large rocket launching pad,” “satellite assembling building” and “satellite fairing assembling building.” It conducts a series of operations including assembling, fitting, inspection and launch of vehicles as well as final checking of satellites, mounting of them on the vehicle, and tracking and controlling of launched vehicles. The Tanegashima Space Center plays a key role in satellite launches as part of Japan's space development activities.



Firing tests

Ground firing tests are carried out on rocket engines to collect all types of data including combustion data.

Assembly

Launch vehicles and satellites are assembled, fitted and inspected.

Launch

Launch vehicles are transported on a movable launcher to the launch complex, filled with fuel and oxidizer, and launched.

Launch control

Launch is controlled with data sent by the launch vehicle about acceleration, pressures, temperatures, positions and physical quantities.

Space Museum

The Space Museum, an "active place" for feeling the link of the Earth with space on the unique Tanegashima Island, provides opportunities for rare experience.
The facility houses many attractive exhibitions and areas where visitors can touch rocket components and play a "touch game." These features will help visitors feel and enjoy space with their body.
At the Liftoff Theater, you can experience a virtual liftoff of a large rocket on a large screen on wall and floor with full audio and smoke. You feel realistic sensations as if you were on a launch site.

Liftoff Theater for audience's body sensory experience of virtual rocket liftoff

Museum Shop

A photo spot in the scale model of the JEM Kibo

Opened	9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Closed	Mondays (Tuesdays if public holidays fall on Mondays); exceptionally the first and fifth Monday in August; year end and New Year holidays: December 29 to January 2. (Closing dates may be changed according to rocket launch schedule.)
Telephone	0997-26-9244 (direct to the Space Museum) 0997-26-9125 (voice guidance)
Admission	Free
Bus Tour	Facility guide tour organized from Tuesday to Sunday. For details, call the Space Museum.

Access to the Tanegashima Space Center
70 min. drive from Nishinoomote Port
50 min. drive from Tanegashima Airport

Rocket launch observation points
On the launch day, the entireTanegashima Space Center and within a radius of 3 km centerd on the Launch Pad are off limits. At the observation points of the launch managed by Minamitane Town, JAXA broadcasts a countdown coverage. Please check the Minamitane Town Website for details on the observation points.

Tanegashima Space Center
Mazu, Kukinaga, Minamitane-cho, Kumage-gun, Kagoshima 891-3793, Japan

Tanegashima Space Center Website
http://fanfun.jaxa.jp/visit/tanegashima/

Public Affairs Department
Ochanomizu Sola City, 4-6 Kandasurugadai, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 101-8008, Japan

JAXA Website
http://www.jaxa.jp/

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2023.03

JAXA Explore to Realize

Tanegashima Space Center

Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency

Uncovering new values For people, nations and the Earth

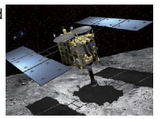
The environment surrounding the use and development of space is now dramatically changing. JAXA is expected to play a far greater role, not only in pioneering the frontiers of space science, but also in contributing to national security, disaster prevention, and industrial development.
The agency has committed to enhancing its existing efforts centering on technology development and tests for broadening the range of the aerospace industry by collaborating with private companies and universities. Our mission is to respond to ever-changing social needs with technologies to open up a new era.

Activities of Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)

Space Utilization with Satellites
Achieve a more prosperous society by observing the Earth's environment, monitoring disasters, and developing communications and positioning technologies.

Development and Operation Transport Systems Linking Ground and Space
Enhancing rocket technology nurtured in Japan to maintain and further improve technological foundations while reducing costs to contribute to space development.

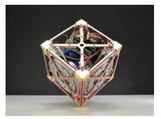
Research on space science
Exploring the mysteries of the origin and evolution of space and the beginning of life. Paving the way for the future of mankind through the results of our experiments and advanced engineering research in the space environment.



Space Environment Utilization
Contributing to an international society by safely and steadily operating the Japanese Experiment Module "Kibo" and the H-II Transfer Vehicle (HTV) "KOUNOTORI" a cargo transporter to the ISS.

Research on Aeronautical Technology
Contributing to the growth of Japan’s aviation industry and a safer society by promoting research and development mainly on the “environment” and “safety.”

Research Relating to Fundamental Technology
Contributing to strengthening Japan’s industrial competitiveness by improving advanced and fundamental technologies in the aerospace field.



The Tanegashima Space Center is a facility for launching satellites.

Launch vehicles are assembled, fitted, filled with fuel and launched at the Yoshinobu Launch Complex on the north side of the Tanegashima Space Center.

VAB is a facility for assembling, outfitting and inspecting launch vehicles shipped from factory. At the VAB, two vehicles can be assembled simultaneously. The launch vehicles are assembled on a Movable Launcher (ML) and finally payload fairing is mounted on it.
(Height: 81m, Width: 64m, Depth: 34.5m)

The launch control room is located 500 meters from the launch pad, 12 meters underground. All launch preparations up to the launch are remotely monitored and controlled from the Block House. And also, necessary information is transmitted to the Takesaki Range Control Center.

This is the ground firing test site for the first-stage engine, which can be said to be the heart of the rocket. At present, it is used for testing the first stage engine (LE-9) of the H3 launch vehicle being developed.

Launch Vehicles are transported from the VAB to the Launch Pad right before the launch. H-IIA Launch Vehicles are launched from the Launch Pad 1 and H3 Launch Vehicles are launched from the Launch Pad 2.

Launch Pads from the Vehicle Assembly Building

General Visit Points

Bus Tour Visit Points

Participants in the facility guide tour are permitted to enter the facility.

G H I J Spacecraft Test and Assembly Building/Spacecraft and Fairing Assembly Building

These buildings are used for assembling and testing satellites and encapsulating them with a fairing cover that protects the satellite.

O Takesaki Range Control Center (RCC)

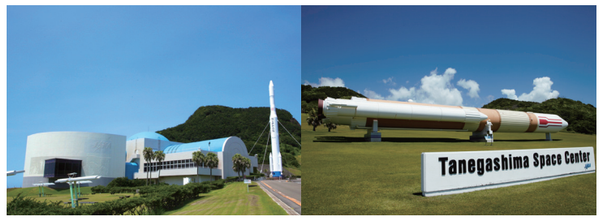
The Takesaki Range Control Center is the "brain" for launch. To launch a vehicle, the responsible persons for different tasks related to rocket launch enter this facility. All information is gathered here and used to make decisions related to launching and tracking and conducting safety management.

R Takesaki Observation Stand

When a rocket is launched, this building is used as a press center. It has a rooftop stand for press coverage, a briefing room and a newsroom. (You can visit building top only.)

K Rocket Garage

The Rocket Garage exhibits real components of launch vehicles such as H-II Launch Vehicle No.7, giving visitors sensation of overwhelming reality.



Q Space Museum

For general public's better understanding of Japan's space development, the museum exhibits various items related to launch vehicles, satellites, the International Space Station(ISS), lunar and planetary exploration. Also, the full-scale models of the N-I Launch Vehicle and the H-II Launch Vehicle are displayed outdoors.

T Takesaki Static Firing Test Facility for Solid Motor

This facility is used for conducting ground firing tests of solid rocket boosters that generate a strong propulsion force. The firing tests of the solid rocket booster (SRB-3) of the H3 launch vehicle being developed were conducted here.

N Takesaki Launch Control Center (LCC)

This facility was newly built as a launch control center for the H3 Luanch Vehicle at a distance of about 3 km from the launch pad. Adjacent to the Takesaki Range Control Center, it has become easier to cooperate. Also, the number of operators is reduced to 1/3 to 1/4 compared to the H-IIA Launch Vehicle.

L Osaki Launch Complex
for Mid-size Launch Vehicles

M Rocket Hill Observatory

P Kamori Peak Observatory

S Takesaki Range
for Small-size Launch Vehicles