

3-Man Space Crew Returns Safely to Earth (Video)

By [The Moscow Times](#)

May 14, 2013



A space suit sitting on the ground after the landing of the capsule. **Sergei Remezov**

NASA video showing the Soyuz landing and the astronauts leaving the capsule Tuesday.

A Soyuz space capsule carrying a three-man crew returning from a five-month mission to the international space station landed safely Tuesday on the steppes of Kazakhstan.

Canadian astronaut Chris Hadfield, American Thomas Marshburn, and Russian Roman Romanenko landed as planned southeast of the town of Dzhezkazgan at 8:31 a.m. local time Tuesday.

Live footage on NASA TV showed the Soyuz TMA-07M capsule slowly descending by parachute onto the sun-drenched steppes under clear skies. Russian search-and-rescue helicopters hovered over the landing site for a quick recovery effort.

Rescue teams moved quickly to help the crew in their bulky spacesuits exit through

the narrow hatch of the capsule. They were then put into reclining chairs to start adjusting to Earth's gravity after 146 days in space.

The three astronauts smiled as they chatted with space agency officials and doctors who were checking their condition. Hadfield, who served as the space station's commander, gave a thumbs-up sign. They then made quick phone calls to family members and friends.

NASA spokesman Josh Byerly said by telephone from the landing site that the three returning astronauts were doing very well.

Hadfield, 53, an engineer and former test pilot from Milton, Ontario, was Canada's first professional astronaut to live aboard the space station and became the first Canadian in charge of a spacecraft. He relinquished command of the space station on Sunday.

"It's just been an extremely fulfilling and amazing experience end to end," Hadfield told Mission Control on Monday. "From this Canadian to all the rest of them, I offer an enormous debt of thanks." He was referring to all those in the Canadian Space Agency who helped make his flight possible.

Hadfield bowed out of orbit by posting a music video on YouTube on Sunday — his own custom version of David Bowie's "Space Oddity." It's believed to be the first music video made in space, according to NASA.

Hadfield performing David Bowie's "Space Oddity" in the first space music video. (Chris Hadfield / YouTube)

"With deference to the genius of David Bowie, here's 'Space Oddity,' recorded on Station. A last glimpse of the World," Hadfield said via Twitter.

Hadfield sang often in orbit, using a guitar already aboard the complex, and even took part in a live, Canadian coast-to-coast concert in February that included the Barenaked Ladies' Ed Robertson and a youth choir.

The five-minute video posted Sunday drew a salute from Bowie's official Facebook page: "It's possibly the most poignant version of the song ever created."

A three-man U.S.-Russian crew is staying on the space station and will be joined in two weeks by the next trio of astronauts.

Related articles:

- [Russia Charges NASA \\$70M Per Astronaut Seat](#)
- [Russian Becomes World's Oldest Spacewalker at 59](#)
- [Putin Unveils Proposal to Create Space Ministry](#)

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2013/05/14/3-man-space-crew-returns-safely-to-earth-video-a2394>