

Russia Will Restart Moon Landings, Says Putin

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Russian President Vladimir Putin at the Vostochny Cosmodrome. kremlin.ru

Russia will renew its lunar program with a new moon landing mission, President Vladimir Putin [announced](#) Tuesday.

“We need to successfully stand up to the challenges of space exploration,” Putin said during a visit to the Vostochny Cosmodrome in Russia’s Far Eastern Amur region. He also [said](#) that Russia would continue work on a “next-generation spaceship,” as well as nuclear space technology.

The Luna 25 mission plans to land an unmanned spacecraft on the moon’s surface later this year.

The project, which continues a Soviet space program of the same name, has been planned for the past decade but experienced repeated [delays](#).

The Luna 25 launch date was initially planned for 2016, before being pushed back to 2018 and

2021.

The mission hopes to be just one part of a wider program, with plans to unveil an International Lunar Research Station with China in 2035.

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