

# NASA sets sights on May 5 launch of InSight Mars mission

April 30 2018

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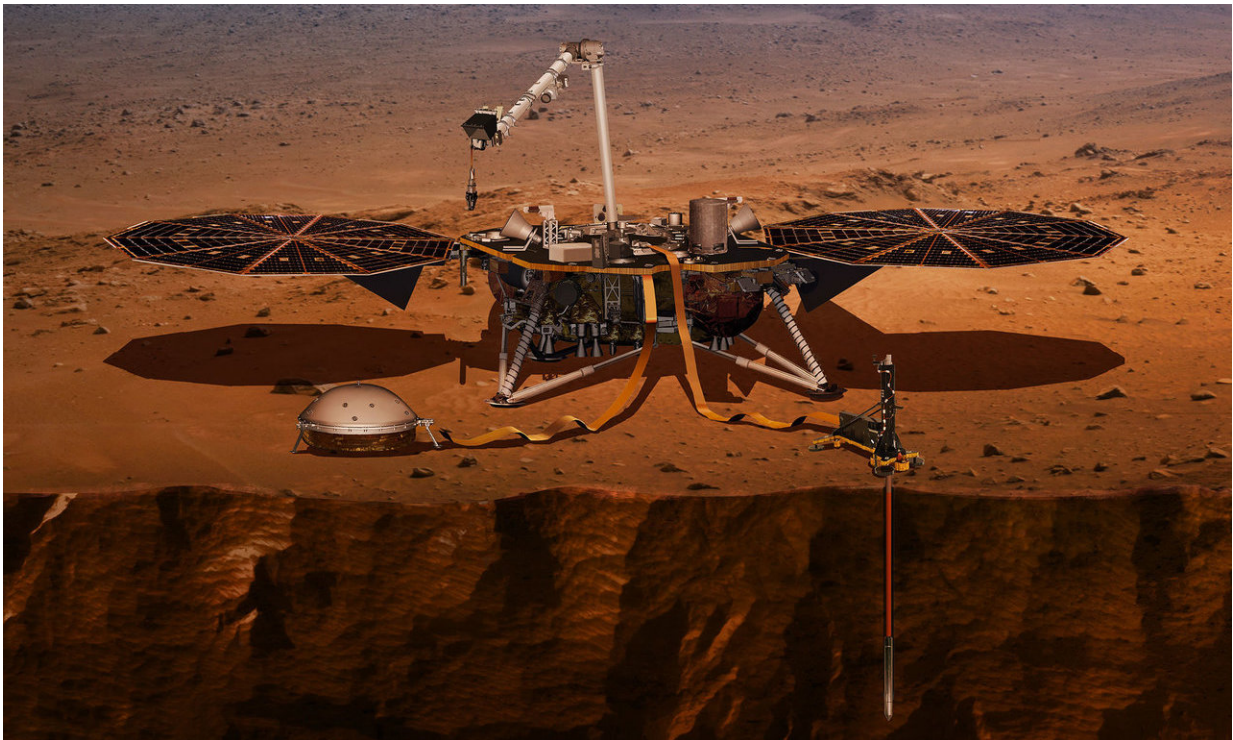


Illustration of NASA's Interior Exploration using Seismic Investigations, Geodesy and Heat Transport (InSight) Credit: NASA

NASA's next mission to Mars, Interior Exploration using Seismic Investigations, Geodesy and Heat Transport (InSight), is scheduled to launch Saturday, May 5, on a first-ever mission to study the heart of Mars.

Coverage of prelaunch and launch activities begins Thursday, May 3, on NASA Television and the agency's [website](#).

InSight, the first [planetary mission](#) to take off from the West Coast, is targeted to launch at 7:05 a.m. EDT (4:05 a.m. PDT) from Space Launch Complex-3 at Vandenberg Air Force Base in California aboard a United Launch Alliance (ULA) Atlas V rocket.

Launching on the same rocket is a separate NASA technology experiment known as Mars Cube One ([MarCO](#)). MarCO consists of two mini-spacecraft and will be the first test of CubeSat technology in deep space. They are designed to test new communications and navigation capabilities for future missions and may aid InSight communications.

**More information:** [www.nasa.gov/insight](http://www.nasa.gov/insight)

Provided by NASA

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