



POSTAL NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 19, 2019

National Contact: Roy Betts
202-268-3207

roy.a.betts@usps.gov
usps.com/news

Local Contact: Enola Rice
727.771.1618

enola.c.rice@usps.gov



One Giant Leap for Mankind

U.S. Postal Service Issues

1969: First Moon Landing Forever Stamps

KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FL — The U.S. Postal Service today celebrates the 50th anniversary of the first moon landing by issuing the 1969: First Moon Landing Forever stamps at NASA's Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex.

"With the dedication of these stamps today, the Postal Service pays tribute to all those individuals with the right stuff — the astronauts, engineers, mathematicians, physicists, computer specialists and all the hidden figures, men and women, who worked behind the scenes to land Americans on the moon and bring them home safely," said Thomas J. Marshall, the Postal Service's general counsel and executive vice president, and the stamp ceremony's dedicating official.

"We believe the stamps are a fitting tribute to everyone who supported the Apollo 11 program. Because they are Forever stamps, they will always be perfect for your cards, letters and care packages, and they are available for purchase nationwide today," Marshall said.

Joining Marshall to dedicate the stamps were Therrin Protze, chief operating officer, Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex; Kelvin Manning, associate director, Technical, Kennedy Space Center; Russell L. (Rusty) Schweickart, astronaut and scientist; Stanley G. Love, astronaut; and Steven W. Monteith, vice president, Marketing, U.S. Postal Service.

Apollo 11 astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin achieved something that had long been confined to the realm of science fiction when they landed a spidery spacecraft named *Eagle* on the moon, July 20, 1969. A worldwide audience watched and listened when Armstrong stepped onto the moon's surface and famously said, "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind." The third Apollo 11 astronaut, Michael Collins, pilot of the command module *Columbia*, remained in orbit around the moon.

The Apollo 11 mission was celebrated around the world. In the fall of 1969, Armstrong, Aldrin and Collins made a goodwill tour of 24 countries and had an audience estimated at more than 100 million people.

After Apollo 11, NASA completed five more Apollo missions through 1972 that landed men on the moon. The United States remains the only country to have accomplished this remarkable feat.

Two stamp designs commemorate that historic milestone. One features Armstrong's iconic photograph of Aldrin in his spacesuit on the surface of the moon. The other, a photograph taken in 2010 by Gregory H. Revera from his home in Madison, AL, shows the landing site of the lunar module, *Eagle*, in the Sea of Tranquility. The site is indicated on the stamp by a dot. Art director Antonio Alcalá designed the stamps.

News of the 1969: First Moon Landing Forever stamps is being shared on social media using the hashtags **#MoonLandingStamp** and **#AstronautStamps**. Followers of the Postal Service's Facebook page can view a recording of the ceremony at facebook.com/USPS.

The 1969: First Moon Landing stamps are being issued as Forever stamps. Forever stamps will always be equal in value to the current First-Class Mail 1-ounce price.

Customers may purchase stamps and other philatelic products through The Postal Store at usps.com/shop, by calling 800-STAMP24 (800-782-6724), by mail through *USA Philatelic* or at Post Office locations nationwide.

The Postal Service receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations.

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