

AN OUT-OF-THIS-WORLD VACATION Things that once seemed impossible then become commonplace with the passing of time There are people predicting that this will happen when space tourism in the next decade or two Some are even investing in and developing space tourism technology, believing that space tourism will be the next big thing. Although tickets are a steep GBP100,000 (\$123,000), amazingly, the first year of flights has already been booked One of these future passengers is Lisa Ramirez, a mother of three, When asked why she was prepared to spend so much money on a Galactic flight, Ramirez explained "I'm 58 years old, and by the time this happens, I will have been dreaming of going to space for at least 45 years There are even companies working on plans to build hotels for space tourists The Shimizu Corporation, a giant Japanese construction company has detailed plans for a space hotel concept. After eight months of rigorous training, I traveled aboard Russian capsule that was launched by an American company called Space Adventures He then spent seven days aboard the International Space Station Since then, a number of other millionaire space tourists of different nationalities have gone into space Although up to now only very wealthy people have had the opportunity to be space tourists, many see this as the beginning of what will eventually become a lucrative new industry There are several companies that have already invested millions of dollars in developing new reusable launch vehicles