



PRESS RELEASE
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Universal Facts

With customers already able to put down deposits for their trips to space and cargo ships docking at International Space Station this week, it might not be so long before your holidays really are out of this world. But do you know whether there could really be life on Mars or what's beyond the Milky Way - how clued up are you about your universe? *The Rough Guide to the Universe* separates fact from (science) fiction in a concise and straight-forward manner - a perfect introduction to all things galactic.

This updated second edition features...

- The most recent and controversial theories about the formation of the galaxies, the Big bang, dark matter, dark energy and the future of space exploration.
- Overviews of every planet in the solar system, plus the sun, the moon, comets, asteroids and meteors.
- Star Charts of every constellation (in both hemispheres) and tips on observing the planets and stars, whether with binoculars, telescopes or the naked eye.
- The Great Pluto War, the discovery of Eris and the classification of dwarf planets.
- Latest discoveries from the Mars rovers and the Cassini – Huygens mission to Saturn.

On the Move...

Your probably reading this sitting down, or standing still and are under the impression that that you're not moving much. Wrong. Though you are pinned to the earth's surface by gravity, you're actually moving in several directions at once, at speeds that are almost certainly greater than you think.

- Rotating with the Earth at the speed of about 100 miles an hour.
- Around the Sun – on average the Earth orbits the Sun at 66,600 miles per hour.
- Around the Galaxy – although the Sun takes 225 million year to move round the Milky Way, it moves at 486,000 miles per hour.
- The Milky Way is on the move too, heading southwards in our night sky at a mere million miles per hour!

"The Rough Guide to The Universe" is aimed at all those people who have ever looked up into the night sky and wondered what the heck is going on up there, and how did it get there in the first place." John Scalzi

About the author: John Scalzi is also the author of *'The Rough Guide to Sci-fi Movies'* and an award winning science-fiction novelist.

Notes for Editors:

The Rough Guide to The Universe

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