Tim Peake's spacecraft is coming to Edinburgh

The spacecraft which Tim Peake used to come back to Earth on 18 June 2016 is being brought to Edinburgh and will go on display at the National Museum of Scotland.

The Soyuz TMA-19M weights 1.5 tonnes and brought the British astronaut back from the International Space Station after six months when he entertained us with his fabulous photographs of Earth, and during which he ran a marathon.



Soyuz TMA-19M after landing back on Earth, 18 June 2016 © NASA / Bill Ingalls

It has been on display at the Science Museum in London after it was acquired by the Science Museum Group and now Samsung are supporting the UK tour. This will be your only chance to see the module in Scotland.

Dr Gordon Rintoul, Director of National Museums Scotland said: "We are delighted to be able to give our visitors the rare opportunity to see this spacecraft up close. The subject of space travel carries a universal and enduring fascination, and to have the chance to view an object which has transported astronauts safely back to Earth from space — enduring temperatures of around 1,500 degrees Celsius as it passed through the atmosphere — is truly awe-inspiring."

Tim Peake said: "I'm particularly happy that people up and down the UK now have the opportunity to discover more about my Principia mission and space travel, and that the Science Museum Group — with the support of Samsung — are doing so much to inspire the public and schools in this tour."

The Soyuz TMA-19M is the first flown, manned spacecraft in the

UK's national space technology collection. Its display in Hawthornden Court at the National Museum offers visitors the unmissable chance to see it up close; complete with its 25-metre parachute and scorch marks from its re-entry through the atmosphere.

- Soyuz TMA-19M carried astronauts Yuri Malenchenko (Commander, Russia), Tim Kopra (Flight Engineer, USA) and Tim Peake (Flight Engineer, UK) to the International Space Station on 15 December 2015 and returned the same crew to Earth on 18 June 2016.
- The crew was part of Expeditions 46 and 47 to the International Space Station.
- The outer surfaces have been charred by temperatures of around 1,500 degrees Celsius experienced during atmospheric re-entry.
- The module weighs approximately 1.5 tonnes.
- Marking the 110th birthday of legendary Russian space chief Sergei Korolev and the the UK-Russia Year of Science and Education, the display of Soyuz TMA-19M celebrates the truly global effort behind space exploration today. Manufactured by RSC Energia for ROSCOSMOS the Russian Space Agency, the Soyuz tells the story of the UK's first European Space Agency (ESA) astronaut's journey to the International Space Station (ISS).

The spacecraft will be on display in Edinburgh from May till August 2018

<u>More details here</u>