HUMAN EXPLORATION
NASA's Path to Mars

EARTH RELIANT
MISSION: 6 TO 12 MONTHS
RETURN TO EARTH: HOURS

Learning fundamentals aboard the International Space Station
U.S. companies provide access to low-Earth orbit

PROVING GROUND
MISSION: 1 TO 12 MONTHS
RETURN TO EARTH: DAYS

Traveling beyond low-Earth orbit with the Space Launch System rocket and Orion spacecraft
Expanding capabilities by visiting an asteroid in a lunar distant retrograde orbit

MARS READY
MISSION: 2 TO 3 YEARS
RETURN TO EARTH: MONTHS

Exploring Mars, its moons and other deep space destinations