

Interplanetary Travel: An Astronomer s Guide

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INTERPLANETARY TRAVEL: AN ASTRONOMER S GUIDE



Createspace, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Interplanetary travel? No one ever thought it would be this hard, especially the folks that are not literally rocket scientists ! Why is it that 50 years after the official start of the Space Age we do not have colonies on the moon and Mars already? Why are we still plodding along in Earth orbit? There are a million of these kinds of questions you can ask, but when you dig into their answers you uncover something very odd indeed. In my previous book Interstellar Travel: An Astronomer s Guide I laid out all of the astronomical challenges to interstellar travel and colonization. The bottom line was that this was an adventure filled with dreams but no technology to get us there. In this companion book, Interplanetary Travel: An Astronomer s Guide , we discover that in fact we have all the technology we need to make it happen, but our current problem is we lack dreams. Think about it. Most of the science fiction you read is all about interstellar travel. Our little neighborhood in the universe is almost always given short shrift. We have no dreams about our own solar system that can stand toe-to-toe with the technological fantasy of interstellar empires and exploration. We have no dreams about planetary colonization, or stories to entice us to invest in this effort. There are no great expectations about what we will find that is worth going after. So as an astronomer, I look at interplanetary travel as very much the odd duck. It s not that we don t have the technology. The problem is Congress can t see the point in the investment and rushed timetable....

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