

SPACE TOURISM: HISTORY AND STATE OF THE INDUSTRY TODAY

*Khaziakhmetova Yu. student 22321 gr.
Supervisor - Candidate of Pedagogical Sciences, Associate Professor Pavitskaya Z.I.
Volga Region State University.
Physical Culture, Sport and Tourism
Kazan, Russia*

Topicality of the research (актуальность). Over the past decades (десятилетия), the tourism industry has been developing in a variety of directions that our ancestors (предки) could not think about a hundred or more years ago, as it was more like a fairy tale. Today, thanks to information technology and greater awareness (информированность) of the world, mankind (человечество) can afford (позволить себе) all kinds of travel, not even limited to our planet.

Recently (within (в рамках) a generation) a new type of tourism has appeared (появился). Space tourism is developing (разрабатывается). So far (пока что) it has not become a mass phenomenon, but perhaps (возможно) it will become as normal as a flight to Turkey or Thailand.

Space tourism was gaining (усиливался) popularity in the 2000s, when the euphoria after the first successful events related (связанный) to space tours had not yet passed (прошел), but over the past almost 14 years (since 2009) only two tourists flew into space in 2021, but even that can be considered (считается) as one tour, as they flew together. Thus (т.о.), we can say that mankind is in no hurry to develop space tourism, and this is largely due to the geopolitical and epidemiological situation in the world, as a consequence (в последствии), people can not afford to contact certain (определенный) organizations and undergo (пройти) full training for flights.

The purpose of the study (цель) is to get acquainted (познакомиться) with the history of the birth of the idea of space tourism and the beginning of its formation (формирования). Also in this paper we will consider (рассмотрим) what is the space tour itself (сам по себе) and the preparation (подготовка) for it.

The results of the scientific study and their discussion. Serious talks about space tourism began in 1961, when Yuri Gagarin became the first man who went into space and returned safely to Earth. Basically, since the '60s, when the two major (главные) countries, such as the U.S. and the Soviet Union fought (боролись) for supremacy (превосходство) in the space race (космическая гонка), humanity has already begun to make plans about how to begin to conquer (покорять) space and exploit (эксплуатировать) it in every way. One of the ways of exploitation is space tourism.

The history of space tourism. The beginning of space tourism was laid (заложено) in 2001, when the American businessman Dennis Tito bought a voucher (путевка) for \$20 million and departed (отправился) from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in a Soyuz spaceship on a tour that lasted (длился) from April 28 to May 6. During (в течении) that time, the first tourist was on the International Space Station (ISS) and made 128 revolutions (обороты) around the Earth. After eight months of training, during which Dennis learned, among (среди) other things, how to fly the spacecraft (космический аппарат) and manually dock (ручная стыковка) with the ISS, the first space tourist passed all the exams brilliantly and took a place on the crew (экипаж) of the Soyuz TM-31. Talgat Musabaev, 50, and Yuri Baturin, 51, joined him [1].

The term "space tourism" itself was coined (придуманно) by the media precisely (именно) after Tito's first flight, although the flight participants (участники) themselves (сами) consider (рассматривали) themselves not tourists, but full participants in the space mission, since they are passengers in the spacecraft and station not just as observers (наблюдатели) and curious (любопытные) persons, but also perform (выполнить) some activity to be useful.

In fact, the very first space tourist was to be American Christy McAuliffe, who won the "Teacher in Space" contest (конкурс) when selecting (выбирать) participants for the next space shuttle Challenger flight. During her acceptance speech (вступительная речь), McAuliffe cried as her flight could have been the beginning of a new era. Unfortunately, right after takeoff (взлет), the Challenger crashed and Christie McAuliffe and six other astronauts on board were killed. After this

crash, the United States banned non-professionals from flying into space, which put off the idea of space development (развитие) in the United States [2].

In the history of space tourism only nine people have used this service, indicating (указывающий) its inaccessibility (недоступность) to most of the population. All the flights were made on Russian Soyuz spacecrafts, but it is noteworthy (примечательно) that to date (на сегодняшний день) not a single Russian has become a space tourist.

Space tourism industry now and its development. At the moment, space tours are only organized on Russian Soyuz spacecrafts, and the so-called (так называемый) landing site (посадочная площадка) is the Russian part of the ISS, but there are also planned flights on rockets from the private (частная) space company Space X. Price of the tour starts from \$30 mln, and since 2013 such (такие) an additional service as a spacewalk became available (доступны), and its price starts from \$15 mln [3].

There are also technologies that can mimic (имитировать) the sensations (ощущения) and pastimes (времяпрепровождение) that humans can experience (опыт) in space.

There are several types of this type of tourism [4]:

1) Orbital space flight: to do this, the spacecraft on which the tourist flies must gain a very high speed (first space speed) to be able to enter (войти) the Earth's orbit and move around the planet.

2) Suborbital space flight: the spacecraft reaches (заходит) outer (внешний) space before it reaches the top of the atmosphere and then falls back to Earth, being in free fall at that time. It will not complete a single orbit or reach first space velocity (скорость). Inside the spacecraft, a state of weightlessness is achieved at the moment of falling, during which travelers can experience feelings comparable (сравнимый) to those of a person in space. Suborbital flights for tourists aim to reach heights to qualify (квалифицировать) as reaching space.

3) Lunar space tourism: making flights to the moon with a suitable (подходящий) lunar spacecraft. While this may sound like wishful (желаемое) thinking, regular travelers might consider (рассмотреть) future lunar travel, although it would entail (влечет за собой) incredible costs (невероятные затраты). Lunar tourism is planned in the following formats: a direct (прямое) visit to the surface (поверхность) of the Moon itself, as well as a flight around the Earth's satellite (спутник). This project is planned to be launched (запуск) before 2043.

In fact, there are also such types of space tourism not connected (связанный) with a direct flight into space. The following types (следующие типы) of tourism which are more accessible (доступный) for the most part of the population are distinguished (выдающийся)[5]:

1) Stargazing (наблюдение за звездами);

2) Observation (наблюдение) of rocket launching;

3) Visiting of museums, devoted (посвященные) to space (the majority of such (большинство из которых) museums are on the territory of Russia and the USA).

However, many experts in the field of tourism do not agree with this classification because these types can be referred (направлено) to cognitive (познавательный) and recreational types of tourism. But it is still worth (стоит) taking into consideration (взять во внимание) that space tourism is becoming more popular due (за) to the organization of tours and excursions in the form of visits to the Earth objects and historical sites related (связанный) to astronautics, and more and more people become interested in space, so it is necessary to give an opportunity to as many people as possible to get acquainted (знакомство) with space, though not directly. While "extraterrestrial" (внеземные) space tourism is only gaining (усиливается) strength (сила), it is its "terrestrial" direction that is of principal (главное) importance (важность) for development of native (родной) (both inbound and domestic (въездной и внутренний)) tourism - during the long history of space exploration (исследование) our country has accumulated (накопленный) a rich cultural and historical heritage (наследие) related (связанный) to astronautics. There are many regions in Russia with complexes attractive for tourists: in particular (определенные) the recently launched Vostochny spaceport in Amur region, the United Memorial Museum of Yuri Gagarin in Smolensk region. The Baikonur cosmodrome, built in Soviet times (in 1957) and now rented from

Kazakhstan, can be rightfully (по праву) considered (считается) as an object of domestic space tourism. Interest in the cosmodrome may be due to the fact that, being the first cosmodrome in the world, for many years it had the most reliable (надежный) launching pad (стартовая площадка) for sending cosmonauts and tourists to the ISS.

Conclusions. In many respects the decrease (уменьшить) in popularity of space tourism is connected with understanding that this pleasure is for the rich stratum (слой) of society and even lovers of the most acute sensations (острые ощущения) at present do not consider (рассматривать) space tourism as an option for pastime, because there are many other options for it on the surface (поверхность) of the Earth which are more accessible (доступный) to most people. But a good basis for formation and promotion (продвижения) of this type of tourism is already laid: developing cosmonautics, high level of technology, increase in number of people interested in direct visit to the space and visiting a satellite of our planet.

References

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