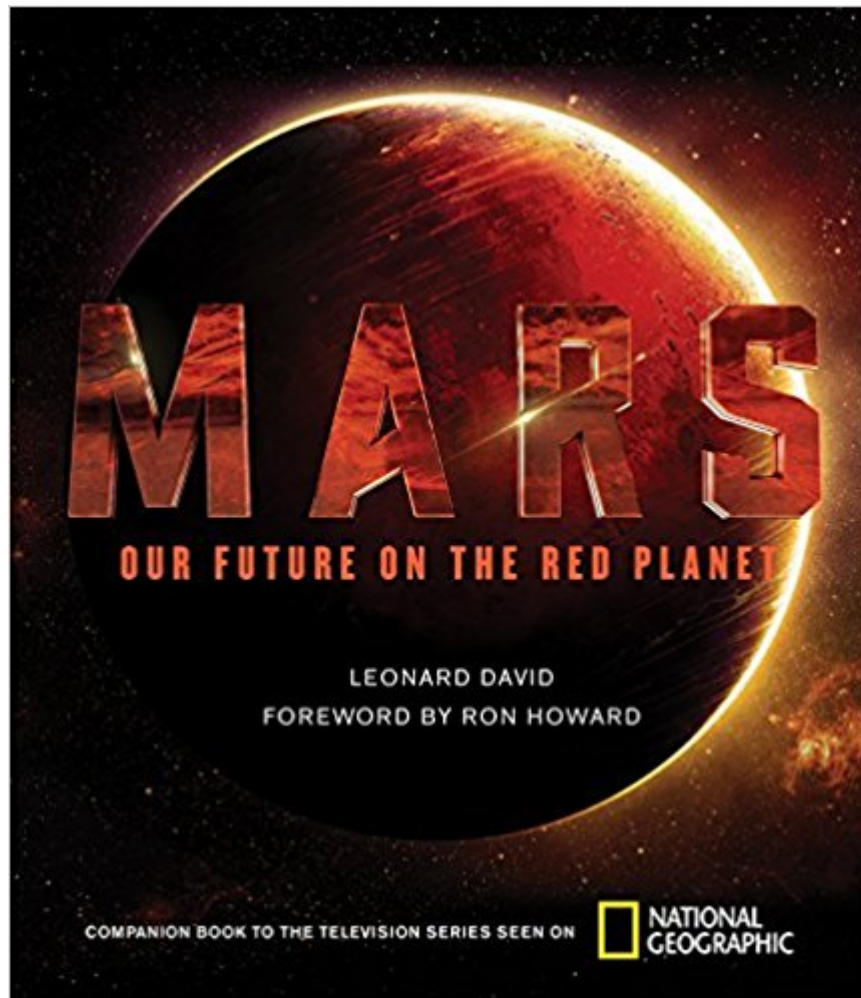




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# Mars: Our Future On The Red Planet



## Synopsis

The next frontier in space exploration is Mars, the red planet—and human habitation of Mars isn't much farther off. Now the National Geographic Channel goes years fast-forward with "Mars," a six-part series documenting and dramatizing the next 25 years as humans land on and learn to live on Mars. This companion book to the series explores the science behind the mission and the challenges awaiting those brave individuals. Filled with vivid photographs taken on Earth, in space, and on Mars; arresting maps; and commentary from the world's top planetary scientists, this fascinating book will take you millions of miles away—and decades into the future—to our next home in the solar system.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 288 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 26 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #282,313 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #34 in Books > Science & Math > Astronomy & Space Science > Mars #157 in Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Aerospace > Astronautics & Space Flight #405 in Books > Science & Math > Astronomy & Space Science > Aeronautics & Astronautics

## Customer Reviews

"This big, welcoming book brimming with mind-revving photographs and artists' conceptions and written with verve and precision by David—provides the foundation on which the scientifically rigorous, speculatively imaginative series was built." Booklist "What a spectacular and captivating book. The text is expertly written, really engaging, and captures the optimism we all feel." Pascal Lee, Planetary Scientist, Mars Institute

RON HOWARD has made a lifelong career in television and film, winning numerous accolades and awards as actor, director, and producer. He is co-chair with Brian Grazer of Imagine Entertainment, which has recently partnered with National Geographic on Breakthrough as well as Red Planet.

LEONARD DAVID is an award-winning space journalist who has been reporting on space activities for over 50 years. He frequently contributes to the website Space.com as their "Space Insider Columnist" and is the coauthor of Buzz Aldrin's *Mission to Mars*. In 2015, he became the first recipient of the American Astronautical Society's (AAS) "Ordway Award for Sustained Excellence in Spaceflight History" in the category of journalism, and in 2010 he received the National Space Club Press Award.

Typical coffee table book. Lots of pretty pictures, maybe 14 pages of double-spaced text. A useful introduction to Mars exploration and settlement for the rank beginner, but an experienced reader on Mars topics will be disappointed. Two better books for hard info would be Aldrin's *Mission to Mars* and Zubrin's *The Case for Mars*. The only real new material in this picture-book has to do with the latest robotic missions launched in the past few years, and these tidbits are only a brief two or three sentence descriptions of each mission. There are also a few one-page pieces having to do with some of the personalities working in Mars research. Three stars.

Leonard David's thoroughly researched book contains a wealth of information on the technological and sociological hurdles that need to be surmounted to make humans on Mars a reality, as well as revealing what work is currently being done on the road to the Red Planet. The book is large format, filled with stunning, full-color images throughout that provide a feast for the eye, including actual images from our spacecraft as well as illustrations of what future missions might entail. The experts David interviewed are called "The Heroes" in the book and provide an incredible depth of insight on all the issues facing a human mission to Mars. The Heroes include people such as historian John Logsdon, policy experts like Marcia Smith, entrepreneurs and innovators like Elon Musk, Mars engineers like JPL's Rob Manning, planetary scientists such as NASA's Chris McKay and Planetary Protection Officer Catherine Conley, then astronauts like Stanley Love who have already been on the front lines of long duration spaceflight and veteran Buzz Aldrin whose lifetime of experiences provide a unique perspective on human exploration. Reading the words of these experts was perhaps my favorite part of the book. You can read my full review of the book on Universe Today: [...]

Absolutely enjoy this book. Beautiful insights and images. Love it!

I watched the TV special and wanted to have the book. Although I do not agree with all of the plot and of the engineering of the series I do agree that "humanities" future will need to be focused there. The pictures and drawings in the book are very good.

A wonderful book on our future and Mars! Must Read!!!

Nice

A beautifully crafted book. Typography and page layout are both excellent. I was however disappointed that a high proportion of the content appears to have come from other readily available information, e.g. you-tube / nasa etc. I had expected a higher proportion of the text and images to relate directly to the Mars Video series, with images from same. Perhaps 30-50%. Also I'd like to have seen more graphic diagrams where appropriate. Upon arrival the dust jacket on my copy was buckled and creased inside the oversized packing box. Another slight let down for the price paid. Otherwise, looks good on the coffee table.

The photos in the book bring the series alive with their actual photos of Mars while taking in the good science and imagination required for future endeavors

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