



# **The Road to Modern Rocketry: Launch Bases, Centers, Museums, Memorials, and Monuments**

*Doug Gangler*

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In this riveting book, Doug Gangler brings alive the fast-moving yet intensive history of the modern rocket. Featured are forty-one rocket and space "attractions" spread over the five countries - Germany, France, the United Kingdom, Russia, and the United States - in which the story of the modern rocket occurred. Discussed are: --Russian Konstantin Tsiolkovsky, American Robert Goddard, Austro-Hungarian-German Hermann Oberth, France's Robert Esnault-Pelterie, German-American Wernher von Braun, the Soviet Union's Sergei Korolev, and other great rocketeers. --The German A-4/V-2 which was the critical link to modern rocketry. This wartime rocket was controversial, yet marked amazing technological progress for its era. --The latter 1940s/1950s which saw rocket efforts first aimed at ballistic missiles; major resources and technologies were soon also directed toward developing the great launch vehicles - to this day taking magnificent payloads to space. Pure, fascinating history with a good dose of rocket technology, "The Road to Modern Rocketry" relies on Doug's seamless blending of sources including great publications, archival work, and a superb collection of images, to bring a fresh perspective to rocketry. The present-day launch bases, test/engineering centers, museums, old WW II planned launch bunkers, memorials, rocket/space theme parks, and monuments are an almost unique set of sites telling the incredible, inspirational story of the modern rocket. Let the journey begin! "Doug Gangler's book provides a helpful guide to rocket history, and especially to the sites where modern rocketry and spaceflight were born. Rocket and space enthusiasts will appreciate the many valuable tips to visiting those sites and related museums." Michael J. Neufeld, Author of "Von Braun" and "The Rocket and the Reich" "Excellent guide to events and places across North America and Europe where most important events in rocket history took place in the 20th century. Informative, educational, and practically helpful for visits of these fascinating historic sites." Mike Gruntman, Professor of Astronautics at the University of Southern California

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