

**MASTER-
MIND**
BEHIND
the
MISSION

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Launching the Shuttle



All space shuttles launch from Cape Canaveral on Florida's eastern coast. The Cape, a strip of marsh and sand midway

between Jacksonville and Miami, is ideal for launches and landings because of its open spaces and year-round mild weather.

From this latitude, the earth's rotational speed adds 600 mph to the shuttle's eventual orbital speed of about 17,500 mph. This is fast enough to circle the earth in 90 minutes, enabling the crew to enjoy a sunrise or sunset every 45 minutes!

