

27 June



(Picture credits: *NASA*)

IRIS launch anniversary (2013)

Space agency/country: NASA

Mission: *IRIS*

Among the NASA's Small Explorer programmes, one of the most notorious is the *Interface Region Imaging Spectrograph (IRIS)* mission, which aims to study how internal convective flows in the Sun's atmosphere power atmospheric activity. The satellite is approximately 2.1 meters long and 3.7 meters high, and it weighs around 200 kg. The *IRIS* mission has been focusing on space weather at various distances from the Sun, mainly from the solar corona to the far heliosphere. Thanks to this project we now understand how these processes and regimes operate, gather energy and heat up. In February 2021, we saw, for the first time, the solar chromosphere in the Moon's silhouette during a total solar eclipse.

For more information:

<https://www.eoportal.org/satellite-missions/iris#launch>

<https://www.nasa.gov/news-release/nasa-schedules-news-media-events-for-iris-launch/>