

UPCOMING LAUNCH

# NROL-57 MISSION

WATCH

SpaceX is targeting Thursday, March 20 for a Falcon 9 launch of the NROL-57 mission from Space Launch Complex 4 East (SLC-4E) at Vandenberg Space Force Base in California. Liftoff is targeted for 11:49 p.m. PT. If needed, a backup opportunity is available on Friday, March 21 starting at 11:31 p.m. PT.

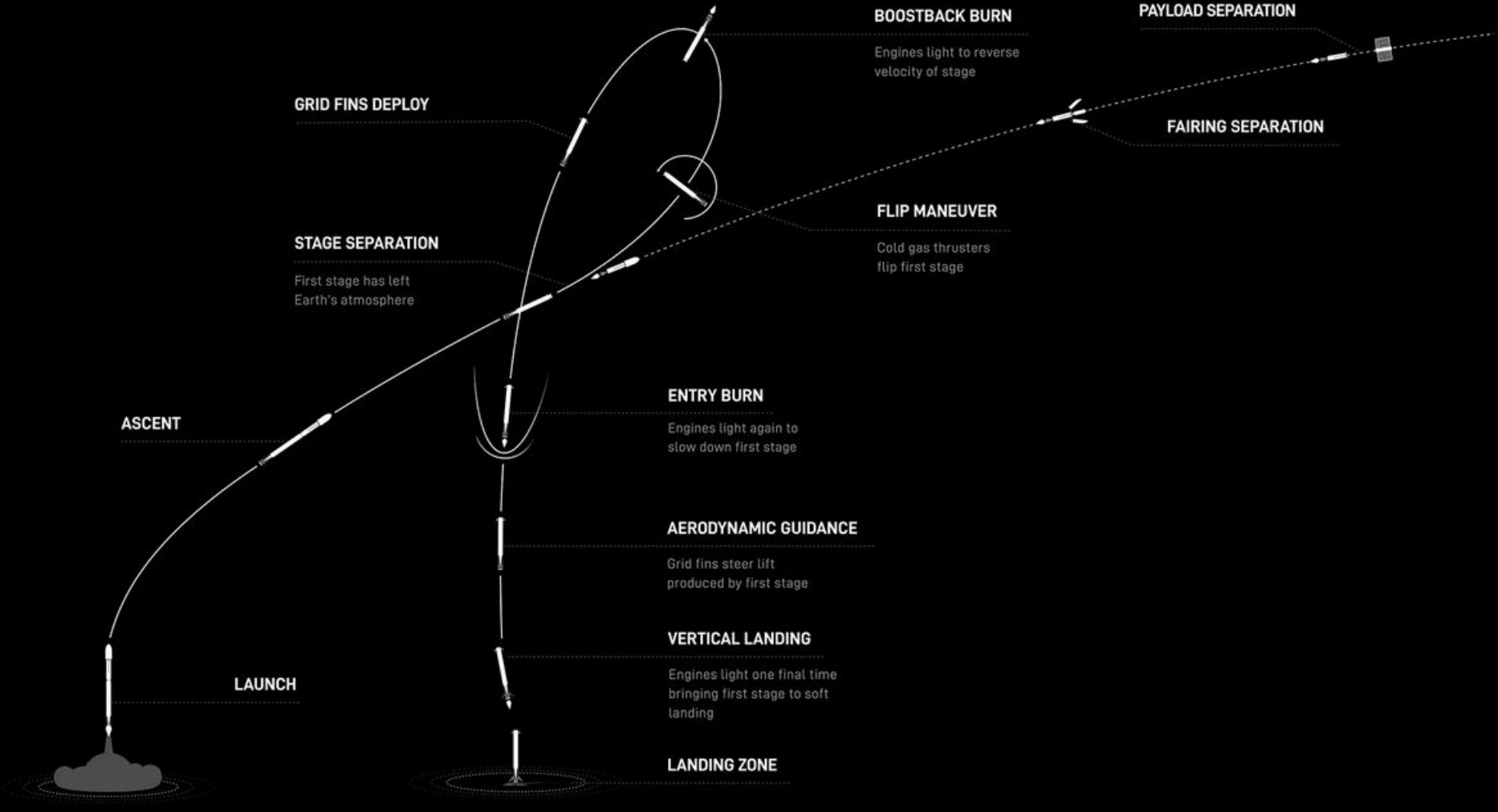
A live webcast of this mission will begin about 10 minutes prior to liftoff, which you can watch here and on [X @SpaceX](#). You can also watch the webcast on the new X TV app.

This is the fourth flight for the first stage booster supporting this mission, which previously launched NROL-126, Transporter-12, and SPHEREx. Following stage separation, Falcon 9 will land on Landing Zone 4 (LZ-4) at Vandenberg Space Force Base.

There is the possibility that residents of and visitors to Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, and Ventura counties may hear **one or more sonic booms** during the launch, but what residents experience will depend on weather and other conditions.

## COUNTDOWN

HR/MIN/SEC	EVENT
00:38:00	SpaceX Launch Director verifies go for propellant load
00:35:00	RP-1 (rocket grade kerosene) loading begins
00:35:00	1st stage LOX (liquid oxygen) loading begins
00:16:00	2nd stage LOX loading begins
00:07:00	Falcon 9 begins engine chill prior to launch
00:01:00	Command flight computer to begin final prelaunch checks
00:01:00	Propellant tank pressurization to flight pressure begins
00:00:45	SpaceX Launch Director verifies go for launch
00:00:03	Engine controller commands engine ignition sequence to start
00:00:00	Falcon 9 liftoff



## LAUNCH, LANDING, AND DEPLOYMENT

All Times Approximate

HR/MIN/SEC	EVENT
00:01:03	Max Q
00:02:11	1st stage main engine cutoff (MECO)
00:02:14	1st and 2nd stages separate
00:02:22	2nd stage engine starts (SES-1)
00:02:56	Fairing deployment
00:05:57	1st stage entry burn begins
00:06:13	1st stage entry burn ends
00:07:11	1st stage landing burn begins
00:07:38	1st stage landing
00:08:26	2nd stage engine cutoff (SECO-1)
00:54:01	2nd stage engine starts (SES-2)
00:54:04	2nd stage engine cutoff (SECO-2)