

Ariane 44LP Ariane 40 Ariane 42P Ariane 44P Ariane 42L


ARIANE 4

Ariane 4 launchers			
Main Data	40	42P	44P
Height	up to 58.72 m	up to 58.72	up to 58.72
Diameter*	3.8 m	3.8 m	3.8 m
Liftoff mass	240 tonnes	320 tonnes	350 tonnes
Max. payload mass**	2 tonnes	2.7 tonnes	3.1 tonnes
Main Data	42L	44LP	44L
Height	up to 58.72 m	up to 58.72 m	up to 58.72 m
Diameter *	3.8 m	3.8 m	3.8 m
Liftoff mass	360 tonnes	420 tonnes	470 tonnes
Max. payload mass**	3.3 tonnes	3.8 tonnes	4.3 tonnes

Ariane 4 was justly known as the 'workhorse' of the Ariane family. Since its first flight on 15 June 1988 until the last, on 15 February 2003, it made 113 successful launches. The Ariane 4 proved ideal for launching communications and Earth observation satellites as well as those for scientific research.

This launcher was extremely versatile. The first stage could hold two or four strap-on boosters, or none at all. This meant that it could lift into orbit satellites weighing from 2000 to nearly 4300 kg in GTO, nearly three times as much as the Ariane-3 launcher.

During its working life, Ariane 4 captured 50% of the market in launching commercial satellites, showing that Europe can more than hold its own in the commercial launch field.

* *With fairing*

** *Includes mass of spacecraft, dual launch system (if used) and adaptor(s)- Launch in GTO*

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Related links

Ariane 5

http://www.esa.int/Our_Activities/Launchers/Launch_vehicles/Ariane_5

Vega

http://www.esa.int/Our_Activities/Launchers/Launch_vehicles/Vega

Launchers for kids

<http://esamultimedia.esa.int/multimedia/gamekids/index.html>

History of the Ariane workhorse

http://www.esa.int/Our_Activities/Launchers/History_of_the_Ariane_workhorse

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