

FEBRUARY 16, 2026

STARLINK MISSION

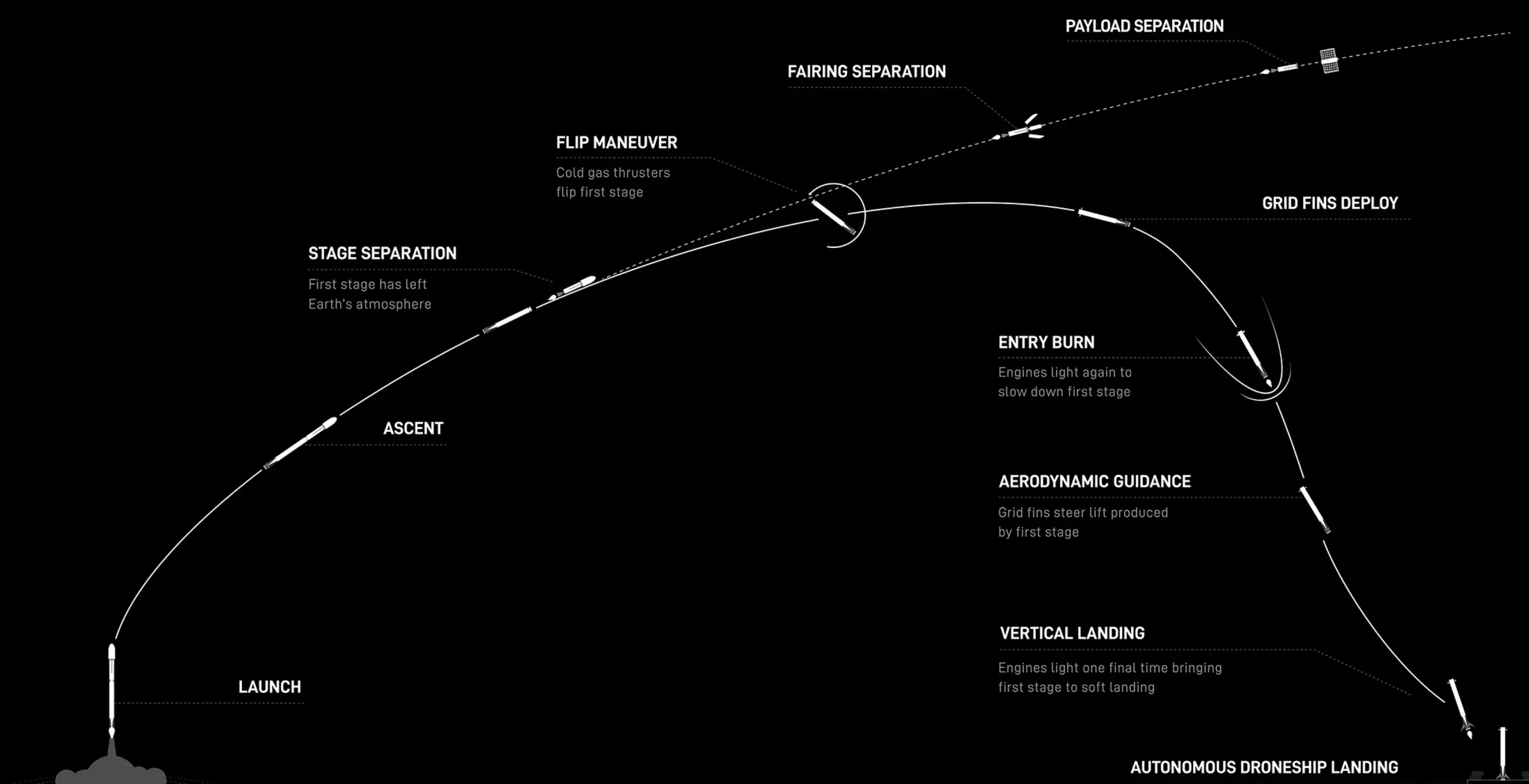
WATCH →

On Monday, February 16 at 2:59 a.m. ET, Falcon 9 launched 29 **Starlink** satellites to low-Earth orbit from Space Launch Complex 40 (SLC-40) at Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida.

This was the 10th flight for the first stage booster supporting this mission, which previously launched SES 03b mPOWER-E, Crew-10, Bandwagon-3, mPOWER-D, CRS-33, and now five Starlink missions. Following stage separation, the first stage landed on the A Shortfall of Gravitas droneship, which was stationed in the Atlantic Ocean.

COUNTDOWN

HR/MIN/SEC	EVENT
00:38:00	SPACE X 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	SPACE X 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
00:01:12	MAX Q (MOMENT OF PEAK MECHANICAL STRESS ON THE ROCKET)
00:02:24	1ST STAGE MAIN ENGINE CUTOFF (MECO)
00:02:28	1ST AND 2ND STAGES SEPARATE
00:02:36	2ND STAGE ENGINE STARTS (SES-1)
00:02:57	FAIRING SEPARATION
00:06:08	1ST STAGE ENTRY BURN BEGINS
00:06:34	1ST STAGE ENTRY BURN ENDS
00:07:55	1ST STAGE LANDING BURN BEGINS
00:08:20	1ST STAGE LANDING
00:08:40	2ND STAGE ENGINE CUTOFF (SECO-1)
00:53:52	2ND STAGE ENGINE STARTS (SES-2)
00:53:54	2ND STAGE ENGINE CUTOFF (SECO-2)
01:04:59	STARLINK SATELLITES DEPLOY

