

Yuri facts

- * Yuri's full name was: Yuri Alexeyevich Gagarin.
- * When he was a boy, Yuri read books by Jules Verne.
- * Yuri wanted to be a gymnast.
- * He was eventually offered a place at a physical training technical school to pursue his gymnastic ambitions but chose to continue as a foundry-man in Saratov.
- * On 12th April 1961 Yuri became the first human to orbit the Earth.
- * His mission was called Vostok-1.
- * Yuri's call sign for his mission was Kedr (Cedar).
- * *Vostok 1*, circled the Earth at 27,400 km per hour.
- * The flight lasted 108 minutes.
- * At the highest point, Yuri was approximately 327 km (200miles) above the Earth.
- * Gagarin was 1.57 metres (5ft 2in) tall.
- * Yuri only flew in one space mission.
- * Yuri was a keen ice hockey player.
- * He was also a basketball fan, and coached the Saratov Industrial Technical School team, as well as being an umpire/referee.
- * Virgin trains have named one of their Super Voyager diesel-electric railcars after him.
- * Yuri's ashes are buried in the Kremlin Wall.