

Located in the Mojave Desert, roughly 100 miles north of Los Angeles, Edwards AFB spreads out over 301,000 acres of the Antelope Valley. It is the home of the U.S. Air Force Flight Test Center.

Edwards is where the nation's first jet and rocket-powered flights took place. It is where men and aircraft first exceeded Mach 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6... and where they first flew above 100,000, 200,000 and 300,000 feet. The NASA facility at Edwards flew the famed North American X-15 rocket aircraft in a joint NASA / Air Force / Navy program which set altitude and speed marks for winged aircraft which still stand - 354,200 feet and 4,520 mph. Nearly every aircraft entering the Air Force inventory over the past half century has been tested and developed at Edwards.

Edwards was the site where lifting body research flights were carried out that helped in the development and design of the Space Shuttle. And it was at Edwards where the Space Shuttle's approach and landing tests were carried out in 1977, and where the first landing from space happened in April 1981.

The flight test facilities at Edwards AFB represent the Air Force Flight Test Center's commitment to uphold its heritage and continue to be the world's leader in the business of testing, developing and evaluating manned and unmanned aerospace vehicles.



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