

Mars Miscellaneous Facts

Distance from Earth to Mars: 33.9 million miles
Length of trip - 150-300 days, (7 months to one year) one-way
Cost of round trip to Mars - \$12 billion
Resources Needed: air, water, food

Air: Because the atmosphere is mostly carbon dioxide, humans could not survive on Mars. Russian scientists are experimenting with breathing air that is similar to Mars with added oxygen and argon.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vvYHP2WzJwk&feature=player_embedded

Water: Water seems to be trapped in the North and South poles. Also landforms suggest that water may lie underground. There may be ice in the bottom of craters. The air has 100% humidity at night.

Food: Colonists on Mars would have to take enough food to last them until they could set up greenhouses. A group of researchers at Cornell University are experimenting with dehydrated foods and are planning to simulate how the first colonists would eat on Mars.

<http://www.popsoci.com/science/article/2012-06/creating-cuisine-eat-mars>

There would need to be a power source. Solar panels would be the most likely source of power.

Questions

1. *What is the length of a round trip to Mars?*
2. *What is the source of energy on Mars?*
3. *How much does it cost to go to Mars?*
4. *How could humans get the resources they need for a colony on Mars?*

