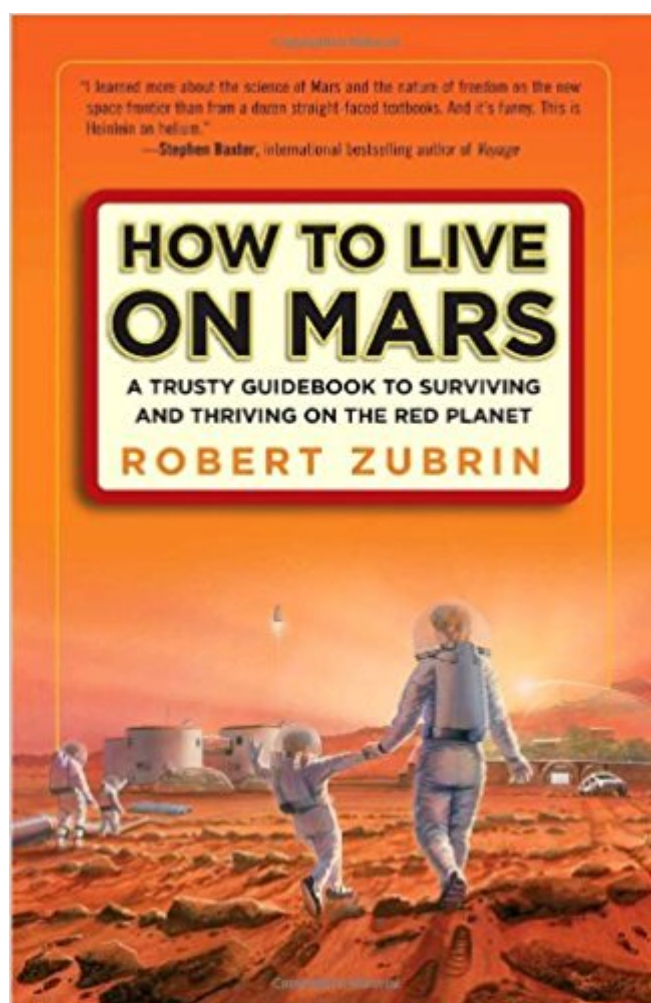


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How To Live On Mars: A Trusty Guidebook To Surviving And Thriving On The Red Planet



Synopsis

Thinking about moving to Mars? Well, why not? Mars, after all, is the planet that holds the greatest promise for human colonization. But why speculate about the possibilities when you can get the real scientific scoop from someone who's been happily living and working there for years? Straight from the not-so-distant future, this intrepid pioneer's tips for physical, financial, and social survival on the Red Planet cover: How to get to Mars (Cycling spacecraft offer cheap rides, but the smell is not for everyone.) Choosing a spacesuit (The old-fashioned but reliable pneumatic Neil Armstrong style versus the sleek new—but anatomically unforgiving—elastic "skinsuit.") Selecting a habitat (Just like on Earth: location, location, location.) Finding a job that pays well and doesn't kill you (This is not a metaphor on Mars.) How to meet the opposite sex (Master more than forty Mars-centric pickup lines.) With more than twenty original illustrations by Michael Carroll, Robert Murray, and other renowned space artists, *How to Live on Mars* seamlessly blends humor and real science, and is a practical and exhilarating guide to life on our first extraterrestrial home.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Adult/High School • This guidebook for would-be Mars settlers is equal parts "Mars-humor" and science fiction (the narrator was born on Mars in 2071); a satire highly critical of NASA; and a Loompanics-flavored manifesto of rugged individualism. Fans of vintage Robert A. Heinlein, particularly *The Rolling Stones* (Del Rey, 1977), will feel right at home here as they enjoy descriptions of practical situations that might actually be encountered: air circulation technologies;

choice of "habs

In *The Case For Mars* (1997), Zubrin outlined a plan for visiting the red planet on a budget, offering plausible scientific scenarios for its colonization and eventual terraforming. Here he makes his case more whimsically by presenting in the form of a guidebook for the twenty-second-century pioneer on the way to already well-established, prefab Martian settlements. In practical, bite-sized chapters, he doles out advice on choosing a spacesuit (the elastic kind accentuates your buff physique, if you have one), describes Martian jobs that pay well (and don't kill you), and even provides tips on delivering effective pickup lines (hint: what works in Earth's saloons won't work at film festivals in New Plymouth, Mars). Skillfully rendered illustrations of Martian colony life spice up instructions on how to invest your savings, avoid bureaucratic persecution, and achieve fame by making groundbreaking discoveries. Despite its deliberately droll tone, Zubrin's primer grounds each chapter in legitimate science (with some leeway for delightfully extravagant speculation) and makes this futuristic peek at the Martian frontier an enjoyable learning experience.

--Carl Hays

First, let me say that I love Robert Zubrin's Mars writing. I have read three of his books on this topic. He has a passion for the chemistry and rocket science that will make Mars habitation possible. His writing energizes us to think that it's possible and within our capacity. But this is not his best book about Mars. The format is fun and starts funny. But the humor turns caustic and repetitive. In the afterword, the author mentions some personal struggles that may have informed the bitterness in some of the book. I thought this was a shame because the underlying optimism, that civilization can branch out onto other planets, is so deep. That said, this book is frequently fun and a quick read. Particularly beautifully rendered were the discussions of chemical processes that could be employed to keep people alive and productive on the surface of an otherwise dead planet. If you're interested in this book you might consider his others: "Entering Space" and "The Case for Mars".

A pleasant fantasy about what life might be like for future Mars colonists. Very biased against government and certainly full of speculation. I think the writer writes well and several of the chapters are really funny. I wouldn't bet my future on his dating advice.

I'm a big Zubrin fan. Plus he is the president of the Mars Society that I belong to. I like his writings and believe that his Mars Direct approach is the best and most economical way of getting a limited

crew of 4 to Mars and back. However this book is NOT his best work. Its a short book. Parts are a little goofy, some funny, lots of good facts but a whole lot of speculation and fantasy stuff. Dr Zubrian does have a sense of humor as he takes pot shots at NASA. Hey Dr Zubrin is a former rocket scientist and knows his rocket and Mars stuff. I like the book but his Case for Mars was much better. Also his Mars on Earth (5 stars) was better. Half of the scientific Mars/rocket data he brought over from the 5 star Case for Mars book the other half is a part goofy/fun futuristic Mars fantasy book. This is an easy read book. Read it in 1 day. Do yourself a favor buy his Case for Mars book first (one of the very best) and later if you want a lighter, partial goofy/fun quick read book with some good Mars/rocket data buy How to Live on Mars. How to Live on Mars will give you a few chuckles but don't take all the chapters seriously. How To Live On Mars 3 to 3 1/2 star rating.

I think the format of the ebook version has improved since some previous reviews. Still some picture-related funnies, but nothing major. Good for introducing important concepts about colonizing Mars in a humorous science fiction setting. Of course this is going to bend a few noses of stiffs who don't agree with his views on "nanny states" or busybody bureaucrats who try to help you manage your life, but his sarcasm is good for a laugh. (Should be a fun movie if someone actually wants to come up with a plot that isn't clunky.)

This book shows the potential of human colonization of Mars and contains much humor and social commentary by an expert who urges Martian development. It was a great easy read.

Loved the book, very funny. I need to get another copy to share with my students.

It was a bit different than I expected in it's format, but was a good read, funny in places, but still provided education on how to live on mars with scientific facts.

What a wonderful way to put the future possible habitation of mars.

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