Four decades of satellites in orbit.

Thousands of images of Earth's surface.

An unbroken history of human and natural changes to the surface of our planet.
For over four decades, Landsat satellites have captured images of Earth.

Landsat satellites sweep around our planet continuously, collecting hundreds of scenes every day. Typically, two Landsat satellites are in orbit at a time, working as a team.

Landsat satellites have observed Earth’s surface since the 1970s, creating a vast historical record of changes to the planet, from expanding cities to shrinking glaciers.

Landsat’s data is important for water and land management, observing the health of ecosystems, and tracking the impacts of climate change. It has been used to monitor forest fires, analyze the health of crops, give advance warnings of floods, locate groundwater in drought-stricken regions, and much more.

Landsat is a joint initiative between NASA and the United States Geological Survey.

landsat.gsfc.nasa.gov

Baritú National Park, Argentina: The remote, deeply green landscape of Baritú National Park is seen from above in this Landsat 8 image. The spines of a few Andes mountains peek through a dense cover of vegetation and rivers criss-cross the terrain. A protected area, Baritú is home to steep hillslopes covered in tropical creepers and waterfalls. At lower regions, heat and humidity create a “cloud forest” environment with frequent, heavy rains and thick cloud cover.
We can watch our planet change.

Observe shifting surfaces of land and water.

Prevent threats to humanity and the environment.
Landsat 9 is the next Landsat observatory, part of a project spanning more than 40 years and multiple observatories.

Targeted to launch in 2020, Landsat 9 will capture images of Earth’s surface from 438 miles (704 km) above the planet’s surface. The observatory will continuously collect data while completing an orbit of Earth every 90 minutes, creating a record of natural and human-made changes to the planet.

Landsat 9 carries two science instruments:

- **OLI-2** looks at white light broken into colors. These colors reveal information about what’s happening on Earth. OLI-2 also sees certain types of infrared radiation. The instrument is so precise that it can show whether crops are thriving or suffering from drought.

- **TIRS-2** is Landsat’s heat-viewing infrared instrument. It can be used to observe wildfires, study active volcanoes, and monitor “evapotranspiration,” or water evaporating into the air.

Landsat 9 data will be used to make decisions about land and water management, monitor climate change, observe urban growth, and more.

landsat.gsfc.nasa.gov/landsat-9

Baritú National Park, Argentina: The remote, deeply green landscape of Baritú National Park is seen from above in this Landsat 8 image. The spines of a few Andes mountains peek through a dense cover of vegetation and rivers criss-cross the terrain. A protected area, Baritú is home to steep hillslopes covered in tropical creepers and waterfalls. At lower regions, heat and humidity create a “cloud forest” environment with frequent, heavy rains and thick cloud cover.

Card 2 of 2. Full image and more info: https://landsat.visibleearth.nasa.gov/view.php?id=90832