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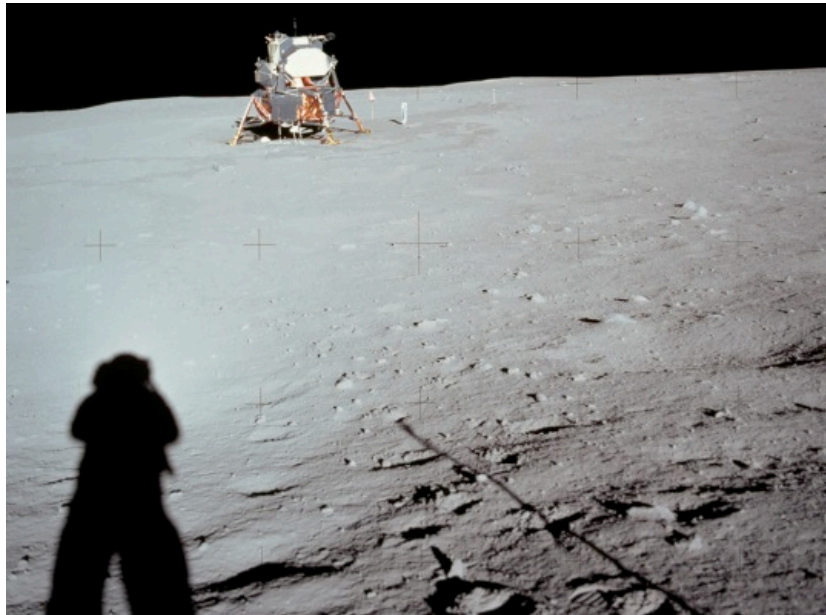
Images from the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter

Prasad Naik, Jan 12, 2010 2100 hrs IST



Source: Boston.com - The Big Picture

NASA's Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter (LRO) was launched in June, 2009, and is currently orbiting the Moon around its poles at a low altitude of just 50 kilometers (31 miles). The primary objective of the LRO is to prepare for future lunar exploration, scouting for safe and compelling [landing sites](#), potential resources (like water ice) and more. The high-quality imagery used in the mapping of the [lunar surface](#) is unprecedented, and a few early images have included detailed overviews of the landing sites of several Apollo missions, some 40 years after they took place. LRO is now on a one year mission, with possible extensions up to five years. Collected here are several recent LRO images, and a few then-and-now comparisons of Apollo landing sites.



[Click here for the rest of the images.](#)

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