

November 2025
Launch kit
VA265



Ariane 6

VA265

COPERNICUS SENTINEL-1D



www.arianespace.com



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MISSION DESCRIPTION

Arianespace's fifth launch of 2025 will place the Sentinel-1D satellite into Sun-Synchronous Orbit (SSO), with Ariane 6.

The launcher will be carrying a total payload of approximately 2.3 tons.

The launch will be carried out from Europe's Spaceport in Kourou, French Guiana.

DATE AND TIME:

Liftoff is planned on November 4, 2025 at:

- 16:02 Washington D.C. time,
- 18:02 Kourou time,
- 21:02 Universal time (UTC),
- 22:02 Paris time
- 06:02 Tokyo time, on November 5, 2025.

MISSION DURATION:

The nominal duration of the mission (from liftoff to separation of the satellite) is: 34 minutes.

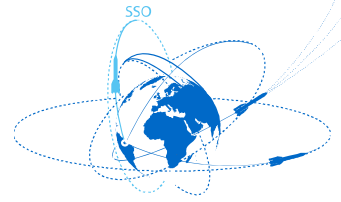
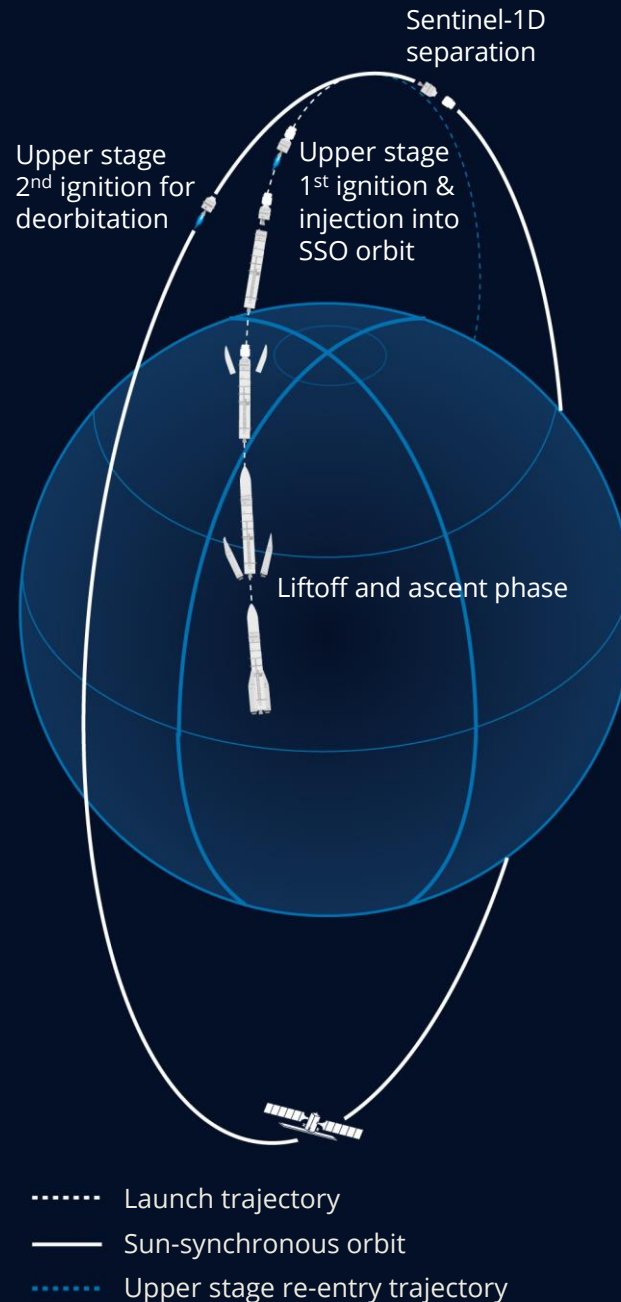
SATELLITE:

- Satellite: Sentinel-1D
- Customer: European Commission within the scope of a contract signed with the European Space Agency (ESA)

TARGETED ORBIT:

Sun-synchronous orbit (SSO) at an altitude of approximately 693 km

STANDARD ARIANE 6 SUN-SYNCHRONOUS ORBIT (SSO)



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PRESS CONTACTS

Arianespace

Contacts available here:

newsroom.arianespace.com

ArianespaceGroup

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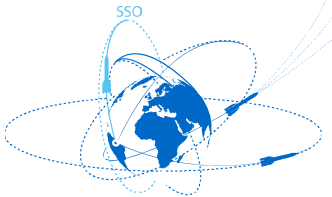
press.ariane.group

WATCH THE LAUNCH LIVE

Link to the Road to Space' launch show:

arianespace.com/road-to-space

SENTINEL-1D: A EUROPEAN UNION COPERNICUS EARTH OBSERVATION SATELLITE



DID YOU KNOW?

The VA265 mission will be the third commercial flight for Europe's new heavy-lift Ariane 6 launcher.

Its passenger, the **Sentinel-1D satellite**, is part of Copernicus, the Earth observation component of the European Union's Space Programme.

Copernicus is managed and funded by the European Union with a partial contribution from ESA, in charge of the space component. As the world's most advanced Earth observation system, Copernicus provides continuous, free, and reliable Earth observation data and services to public authorities, companies and citizens around the globe.

Sentinel-1D will carry advanced radar technology to provide an all-weather, day-and-night supply of imagery of the Earth's surface, delivering data essential to monitor sea ice, track icebergs and glaciers, subsidence, and oil spills.



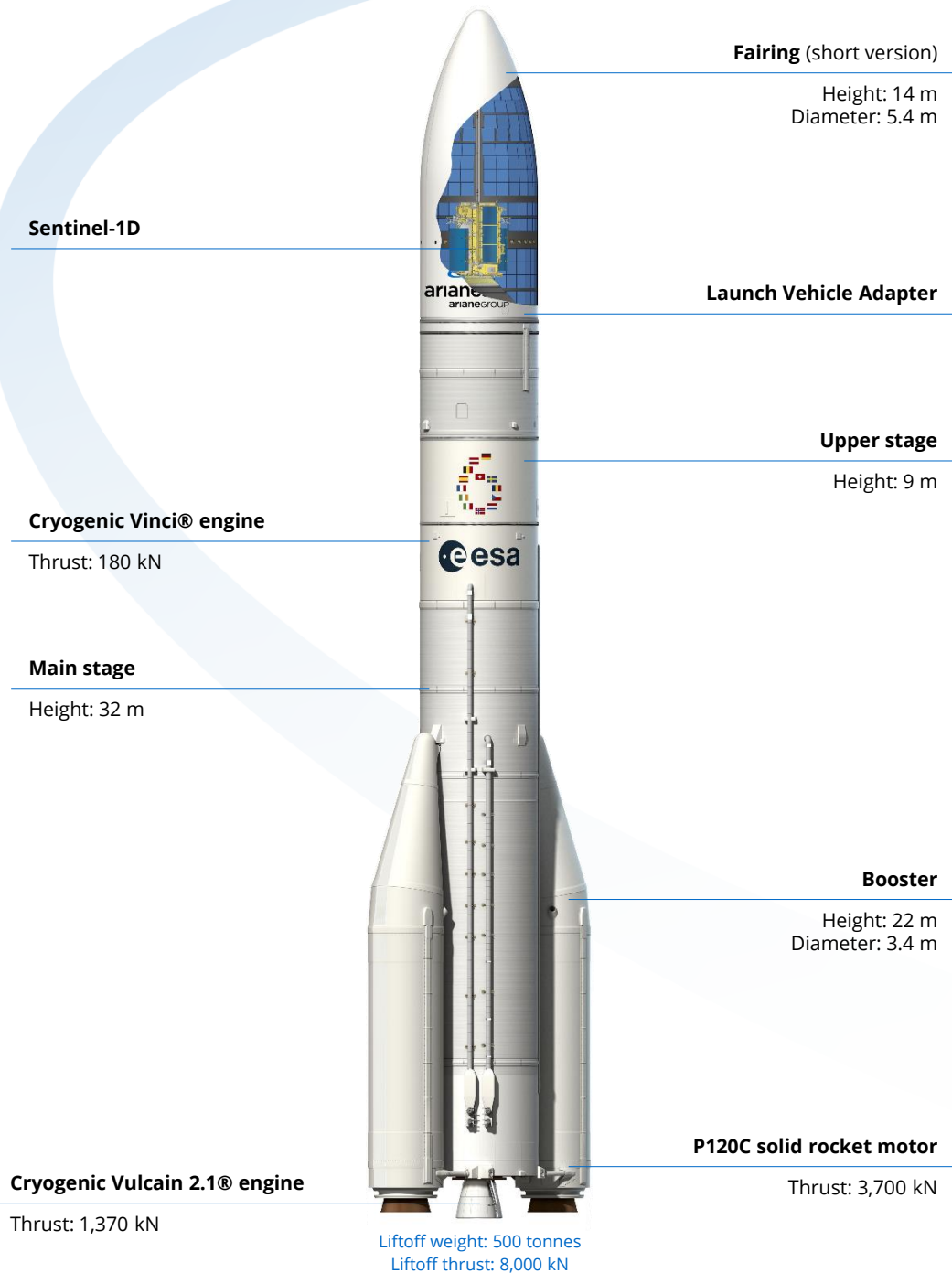
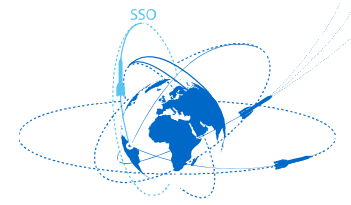
The Sentinel-1D satellite will join Sentinel-1C, which was launched by Arianespace in December 2024 and is already fully operational. Together, the two satellites will maintain the six-day revisit cycle of the Sentinel-1 mission, ensuring continuous radar coverage for Copernicus Services. Both satellites are equipped with Galileo-enabled receivers, which make in-orbit positioning more robust and accurate. The satellites carry an Automatic Identification System (AIS) payload which detects maritime vessel signals, supporting maritime domain awareness by helping to monitor ship traffic, identify dark vessels, and detect unauthorised or illegal activities at sea.

Like Sentinel-1C, Sentinel-1D is equipped with a C-band Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR), which has the advantage of operating at wavelengths that are not obstructed by clouds or lack of illumination and therefore can acquire data during day or night under all weather conditions.

The Directorate General for Defence Industry and Space (DG DEFIS) leads the European Commission's activities in the European defence industry and European space sectors. The European Commission is the owner and programme manager of the EU Space Programme. Its activities include assessing current trends, identifying emerging challenges, and ensuring that the objectives of the Space Programme are aligned with broader EU priorities such as innovation, economic growth, and security.

SATELLITE	Sentinel-1D
CUSTOMER	European Commission within the scope of a contract signed with ESA
MANUFACTURER	Thales Alenia Space
MISSION	Radar imagery for Earth observation
MASS AT LAUNCH	2184 kg
INSTRUMENT	C-Band Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR)
COVERAGE AREA	Global land, coastal areas and ocean surface
LIFETIME	Designed for 7.5 years

ARIANE 6 LAUNCHER



DID YOU KNOW?

As lead contractor for Ariane 6 development and production, ArianeGroup orchestrates a huge European space industry chain in all aspects from management of launcher upgrades to supply of the flight software for each mission. This collaboration is the heart of Ariane 6's success.

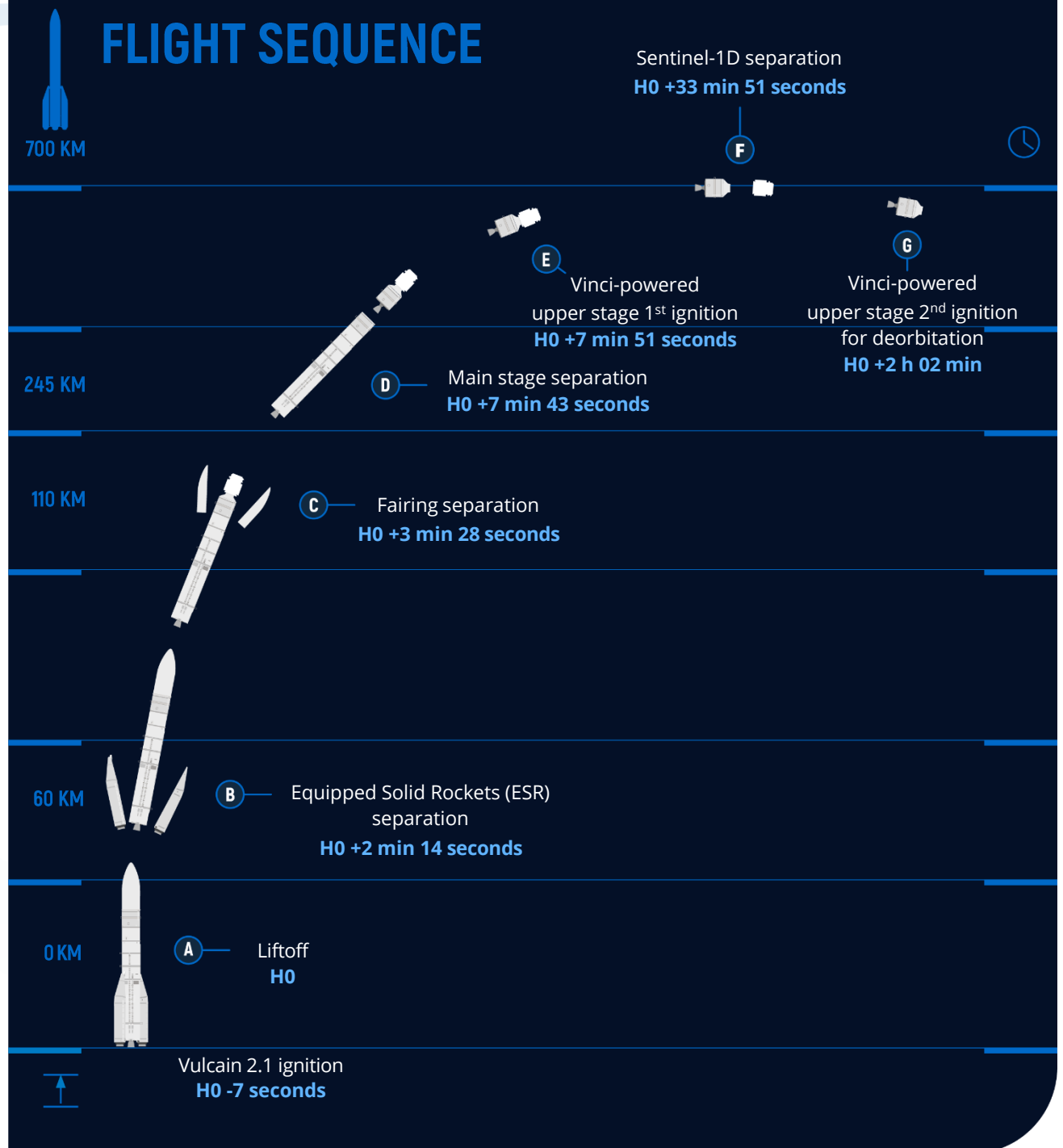
This includes structures and equipment, propulsion systems, integration of the different stages and integration of the launcher at Europe's Spaceport in French Guiana. ArianeGroup coordinates more than 600 European companies in the Ariane 6 program, including around 350 SMEs.

We are continuously improving the competitiveness of the Ariane 6 system, which is designed to be modular, versatile, and scalable.

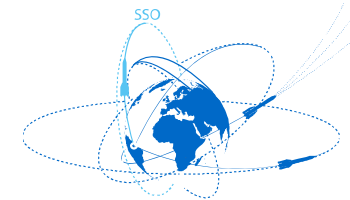
LAUNCH CAMPAIGN



FLIGHT SEQUENCE



LAUNCH STAKEHOLDERS



ARIANESPACE

From Earth to orbit, Arianespace serves its customers and their ambitions, whether they involve scientific missions to study our planet, facilitate communication and navigation, or support many other applications.

Arianespace designs and deploys space transportation services for all types of satellites, to all orbits, with the capacity to transport any mass, at any time. Arianespace operates the new-generation Ariane 6 launcher, developed by ESA, with ArianeGroup as prime industrial contractor. With over 45 years of experience, Arianespace has launched more than 1,100 satellites, for over 150 institutional and commercial customers worldwide.

Arianespace is headquartered in Les Mureaux, France. Our launch base is at the Guiana Space Center in Kourou, French Guiana, and we have offices in Tokyo, Singapore and Washington, D.C. Arianespace is a subsidiary of ArianeGroup, which holds 74% of its share capital, with the balance held by 15 other shareholders from the Ariane and Vega European rocket industry, and ESA and CNES as censors.

Press contact:

[newsroom.arianespace.com](https://www.arianespace.com/newsroom)



ARIANEGROUP

ArianeGroup is an industrial company delivering critical missions for the space and defence sectors. With 8,300 highly qualified employees in France and Germany, ArianeGroup has unique expertise in access to space, covering the full spectrum of civil and military launch systems, including design, development, manufacturing, integration, flight preparation, operational readiness and end-of-life decommissioning. ArianeGroup is lead contractor for the Ariane 6 European launcher for the European Space Agency (ESA).

ArianeGroup also offers a broad range of space, defence and industrial equipment and services, both individually and together with its subsidiaries Sodern, Pyroalliance, Nuclétudes and APP.

In the field of space launchers, ArianeGroup's subsidiary Arianespace markets and operates Ariane 6, and its subsidiary MaiaSpace develops and markets the reusable launcher Maia.

ArianeGroup, equally owned by Airbus and Safran, posted consolidated revenues of €2.5 billion in 2024.

Press contact:

[press.arianegroup](https://www.arianegroup.com/press)



ESA

ESA guides the development of Europe's space capabilities and makes sure that space contributes to a safer, more prosperous and sustainable future for its citizens. As an international organisation with 23 Member States, ESA coordinates its members' financial and intellectual resources to undertake ambitious programmes and initiatives that largely surpass the scope of action of a single European state.

ESA oversees the development of Europe's current and future space transportation services and solutions, including Ariane 6, Vega-C, Vega-E, Space Rider, and of technologies for transport in-, to-, and from-space, notably through the Future Launchers Preparatory Programme. On Ariane and Vega, ESA manages the overall programmes while European industry builds the launch vehicles with ArianeGroup (Ariane 6) and Avio (Vega-C and -E) as prime contractors and design authorities. ESA also fosters commercial space transportation services under private lead through initiatives like Boost! and the European Launcher Challenge. ESA Member States fund about two-thirds of the total cost of running and maintaining Europe's Spaceport in French Guiana.

Press contact:

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CNES

CNES (Centre National d'Études Spatiales) is the government agency responsible for shaping France's space policy and implementing it in Europe. Its task is to conceive and orbit satellites, invent the space systems of the future and nurture new services to aid us in our daily lives. Founded in 1961, it is the initiator of major space projects, launch vehicles and satellites, and the partner of choice for industry fuelling innovation. CNES comprises some 2,400 men and women with a passion for space working to open up new and infinite fields of applications in five core areas of focus: Ariane, science, Earth observation, telecommunications and defence.

The agency is a key player driving technology innovation, economic development and industrial policy for the nation. It also fosters scientific collaborations and has forged numerous international partnerships. France, represented by CNES, is one of the leading contributors to the European Space Agency (ESA).

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