

Book review in March 2005 issue of

# CHOICE

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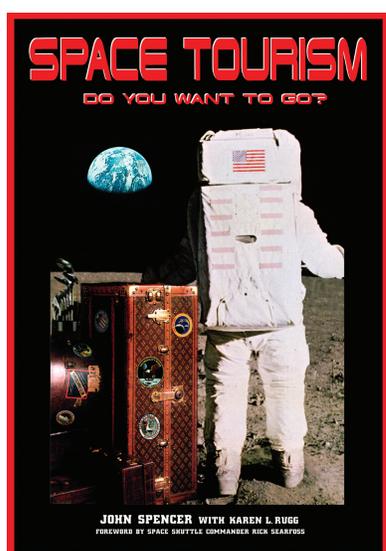
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Spencer, John. **Space Tourism: do you want to go?**, by John Spencer with Karen Rugg. Apogee Books, 2004. 218p  
bibl index ISBN 1894959086 pbk, \$20.95

Spencer, an architect, presents this as “the first book published in the United States on this theme.” He makes the argument that, according to first space tourist Dennis Tito, there are 80,000 Americans whose personal net worth is at least \$10,000,000, and there are dozens among them who want to pay for trips into low-Earth orbit. The numbers increase tenfold when taking into consideration the large corporations that may be willing to send their employees into space for promotional purposes. The book is an awkward, poorly organized work that appears to have been put together from some notes on subjects relevant to space tourism along with a fictional account of a weeklong trip on an orbital yacht in 2033. The author’s case for space tourism is convincing, and the quest for private funds for rockets and space habitats is commendable. Anyone interested in this nascent field may want to wait for the second book on space tourism to be published. For potential space tourists. **Summing Up:** Recommended. General readers. -- A. M. Strauss, *Vanderbilt University*



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