

All aBuzz about space travel

Former astronaut Aldrin in S'pore for TV show

KUALA LUMPUR: The legendary Dr Buzz Aldrin designs rockets, goes deepsea exploring and speaks all over the world on space tourism.

When he is not doing all that, he is reminiscing the days when he was the second man to set foot on the moon 40 years ago.

The 76-year-old former astronaut reckons that if companies are going take people into space for a few minutes, the aspiring space visitors need to first understand that a "short passage into space" is not the same as "going into space."

"We're eventually going to go to the stars."

"But I think we need to deal first with the foreseeable problems of deciding just how we're going to go about exploring Mars, for example," he said in a recent tele-interview from Los Angeles.

He was speaking to *The Star*,

ahead of a trip to Singapore to film *CNN Future Summit: World In Motion*, a TV discussion on how our lives could change with stunning advancements in the world of travel.

He is currently in the island republic with the world's first woman space tourist, Anousheh Ansari, who will also be on the show.

CNN anchor and correspondent Richard Quest hosts the programme, which airs on CNN tomorrow at 6pm and 11pm.

Joining Dr Aldrin and Ansari on the panel are Lino Guzzella, a professor of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich and an expert on fuel-efficient and environmentally friendly vehicles, and futurologist Ian Pearson.

"I don't consider going into space as just passing through temporarily - going up and then down again.



SHARING HER EXPERIENCE: Ansari, the world's first woman space tourist, will also be on the show.

"To me, that's not really being in space. It's just touching it briefly," Dr Aldrin said.

Besides Ansari, an entrepreneur, the others who had gone into space as tourists are millionaire Dennis Tito, South African Mark Shuttleworth and

businessman Gregory Olsen.

They reportedly paid US\$20mil (RM75mil) for the experience.

■ For more on Dr Aldrin's thoughts on space travel and Ansari's space experience, read *StarTwo* today.



STILL ACTIVE: Dr Aldrin is in Singapore for the filming of 'CNN Future Summit: World In Motion'. — Reuterspic