



# EXPERIENCE THE 2017 ECLIPSE ACROSS AMERICA THROUGH THE EYES OF NASA <http://eclipse2017.nasa.gov>

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Credit: Rick Fienberg, TravelQuest International and Wilderness Travel



Credit: S. Habbal, M. Drudmüller and P. Aniol

## CHASING THE 2017 ECLIPSE

### Overview

Amir Caspi and Constantine Tsang of the Southwest Research Institute in Boulder, Colorado will use the DyNAMITE visible and infrared telescopes on NASA's twin WB-57 airplanes to get a unique look at both the Sun and Mercury during the total solar eclipse. Flying in the stratosphere at 50,000 feet above the ground at up to 470 miles per hour, the two planes will tag-team to provide the researchers with a total of more than 7 minutes of data during totality.

### Eclipse Science

These observations are obtained at an altitude above 90% of Earth's atmosphere, enabling exceptionally accurate measurements of the solar corona in visible and infrared light in order to better understand how energy moves throughout the Sun's atmosphere. Just after totality, the telescope will get a good look at Mercury. Scientists hope these measurements will give new information about how Mercury's surface temperature changes as its day turns to night, shedding light on the surface composition and properties.



**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:** The Sun-Earth Connection: <https://nasa.gov/sunearth>  
Mercury: <https://nasa.gov/planetmercury>