

# China space boost

China is to build a new satellite launch site, the country's fourth, to boost its burgeoning space programme. The new facility will be located in Wenchang on the southern island of Hainan



**1 Jiuquan:** Built 1958. Launch site for China's first astronaut, *Yang Liwei*, in October 2003

**2 Taiyuan:** Test base for rockets too big to fly from Jiuquan

**3 Xichang:** Used to launch satellites into geostationary orbit

**4 Wenchang:** Proximity to equator reduces amount of energy required to launch rockets