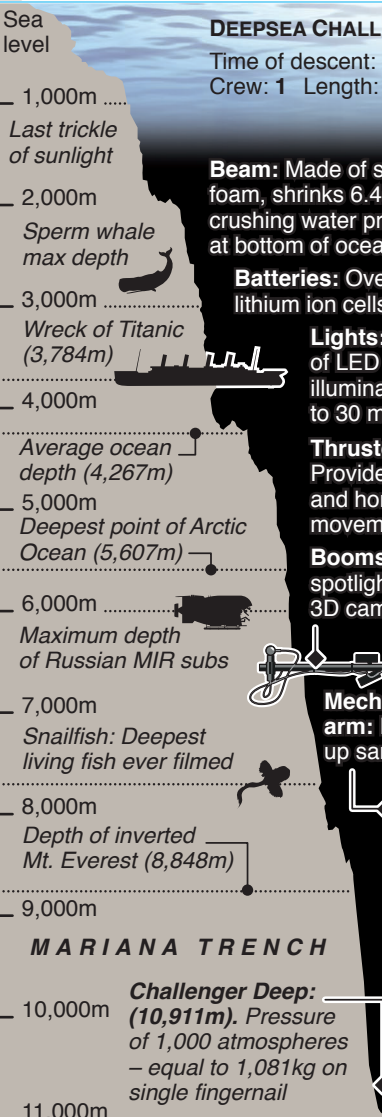
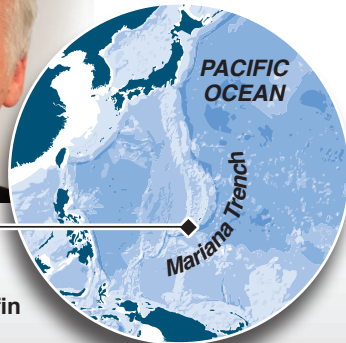


Race to the bottom of the ocean

Film director James Cameron plans to pilot a specially designed submarine down to the 11km-deep Mariana Trench in the Pacific Ocean, becoming the first of four high-profile contenders attempting to revisit the deepest point in the world's oceans



DEESEA CHALLENGER ▶

Time of descent: 120 min
Crew: 1 Length: 7.3m

Beam: Made of syntactic foam, shrinks 6.4cm under crushing water pressure at bottom of ocean

Batteries: Over 1,000 lithium ion cells

Lights: 2m-panel of LED lights illuminates up to 30 metres

Thrusters: Provide vertical and horizontal movement

Booms: For spotlight and 3D cameras

Mechanical arm: Picks up samples

Pilot sphere: Pilot crammed into 109cm-wide sphere of steel, 6.4cm thick

Ballast weights: 500kg plates of steel discarded to allow sub to rise to surface

TRIESTE ▶

Descent: 300 min Crew: 2
Length: 18.1m, Beam: 3.5m

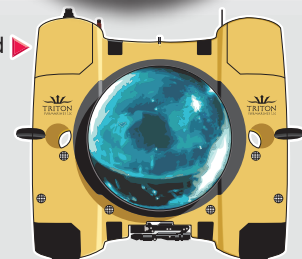
Challenger Deep: Deepest point of world's oceans

Stabilizer fin

TRITON: Developed by Florida-based company Triton Submarines to transport tourists at cost of \$250,000 each

Descent: 75 min
Crew: 3

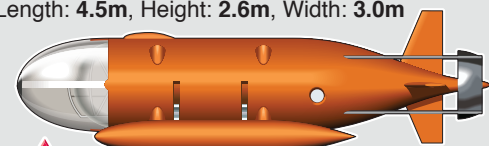
Length: 4.5m, Height: 2.6m, Width: 3.0m



DOER: Designed by DOER Marine with money donated by Google chairman **Eric Schmidt**

Descent: 90 min Crew: 2-3

Length: 11.6m
Height: 2.4m
Width: 2.4m

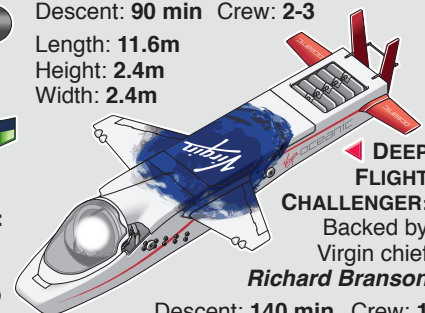


▶ DEEP FLIGHT CHALLENGER:

Backed by Virgin chief **Richard Branson**

Descent: 140 min Crew: 1

Length: 5.4m, Height: 1.7m, Width: 3.7m



Cameron plans to spend six hours at bottom of trench, gathering footage for 3D documentary and collecting samples for marine biologists and geologists

Challenger Deep first reached in 1960 by Jacques Piccard and Don Walsh in bathyscaphe Trieste

