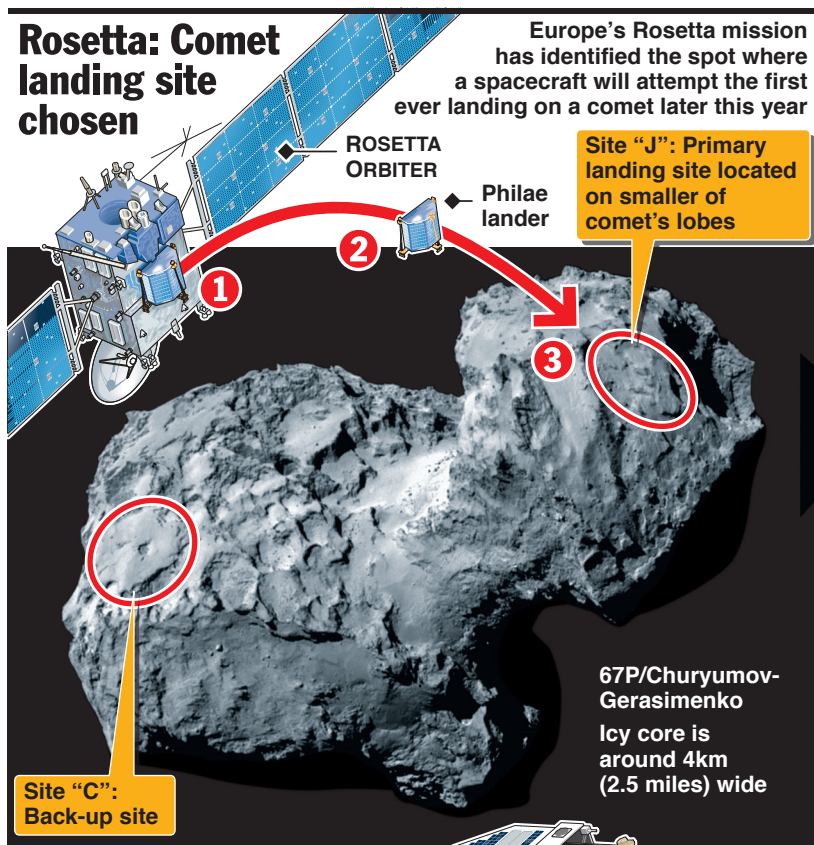


# Rosetta: Comet landing site chosen

Europe's Rosetta mission has identified the spot where a spacecraft will attempt the first ever landing on a comet later this year



## HOW TO LAND ON A COMET

- 1 Ejection:** Once orbiter is at around 10km above comet's surface, ground station commands fridge-sized lander to self-eject from mother ship
- 2 Descent:** Philae "falls" at about 1m per second – due to comet's weak gravitational pull. Descent expected to take 8-12 hours
- 3 Touchdown:** Two harpoons prevent craft bouncing back into space

