

A large, white, dome-shaped reflecting telescope sits atop a grassy hill under a blue sky with white clouds. The telescope has a complex structure with multiple levels and a large central dome. The base of the telescope is surrounded by low-lying vegetation and a paved area.

Today in History

July 24, 2009

▲ **King Juan Carlos of Spain inaugurated the Gran Telescopio Canarias, the world's largest reflecting telescope, sited atop an extinct volcano in La Palma**

1923: Turkey gave up all claims to territories lost in the First World War

1967: President de Gaulle of France was rebuked for saying "Vive le Quebec libre" in a speech in Canada

1992: Dwight Collins become the first man to pedal across the Atlantic in his two-blade propeller boat, Tango

2016: British cyclist Chris Froome won the Tour de France for the third time. The Team Sky rider also won in 2013 and 2015