

InSight landing live at bQM

Monday, 26 November 2018 from 7 p.m. onwards



On 26 November 2018, it's time: InSight lands on Mars and bQm is the place to be to cheer along.

The landing of the InSight lander on Mars promises to be exciting again! Only if it succeeds will researchers at ETH Zurich be able to evaluate first data to find out more about the interior of the red planet. The fact that a successful landing is not that easy is demonstrated by the 60 percent of Mars missions that did not reach their destination as planned.

For a safe landing, a number of different actions need to be perfectly coordinated. First of all, InSight will rotate in such a way that it breaks through the atmosphere with its heat shield first. This shield protects the lander from temperatures of up to 1,500 C°. Then the parachute opens. After entering the atmosphere, the parachute slows the beginning rate of fall (385 m/s) until landing. In support, retro-rockets will be launched to additionally slow down the fall within the last 100 meters.

Come and help us to keep our fingers crossed! The live broadcast of the NASA coverage at bQm starts at 8 pm. The landing is scheduled for around 8.50 pm and we expect to receive first pictures from Mars at 9.15 p.m.. We recommend arriving earlier due to the limited number of seats.

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The InSight mission

NASA's unmanned InSight mission brings geophysical instruments to the Red Planet, allowing us to explore its interior. The instruments on board will include a seismometer to record marsquakes and meteorite impacts. Several groups at ETH Zurich are responsible for the sensor's data acquisition and control electronics and will evaluate and interpret the acquired data.

For further information visit www.insight.ethz.ch