

New Orleans from Space

False-color image from Landsat 1

True-color image from Landsat 8

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This nighttime photo was taken by an astronaut on the International Space Station, January 26, 2011.

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On the front: The top image is a 1972 false color Landsat 1 scene of New Orleans, LA that uses green, red, and infrared wavelengths to highlight vegetation in red. Advances in space imaging over the past four and a half decades allow sensors to record more wavelengths. Today, true color Landsat 8 scenes, such as the one shown in the bottom image, look like photographs from space.