

**Bill Gates' Great Great Grand-daughter's Honeymoon Trip:
The 10 Tourist Wonders of the Universe**

Astronomy Lab by Andrew Fraknoi (*Foothill College*) (© copyright 2009 A. Fraknoi)

Your group is a travel agency in the far future, when travel faster than the speed of light is not only possible, but common. (Your instructor doesn't think this is all that likely, but we are going to assume it so we can have some fun with this lab.) You are approached by a very wealthy young woman, who wants you to plan the honeymoon tour of a lifetime for her. Money is no object and safety will be taken care of by shielding the spacecraft in ways we can't even imagine today.

Using Hubble Space Telescope images, please select 10 visually and astronomically interesting places for the couple to visit. You don't need to be able to land to take in each sight; some you might just look at from space. Each place must have a science reason it is interesting; it can't just be that the place is pretty or colorful. Science reasons can include that a place is the biggest of its kind, that it's unique, the first to be discovered, or that it reveals something really important about the way the universe works. For example, if you select the Crab Nebula, don't just say you picked it because it has great colors or because it looks eerie, but (briefly) explain why supernovae and their remnants are important, and what makes the Crab an important example. You can find an index of Hubble images at: <http://hubblesite.org/newscenter/archive/browse/images/>

Your lab group will report to a symposium of travel agencies that we will hold toward the end of the lab. Only the top 3 tour plans will be forwarded to the client; but the winning agency could become rich and famous, so work hard.

1. Tourist Sight: _____

Website: _____

Justification: _____

2. Tourist Sight: _____

Website: _____

Justification: _____

3. Tourist Sight: _____

Website: _____

Justification: _____

4. Tourist Sight: _____

Website: _____

Justification: _____

5. Tourist Sight: _____

Website: _____

Justification: _____

6. Tourist Sight: _____

Website: _____

Justification: _____

7. Tourist Sight: _____

Website: _____

Justification: _____

8. Tourist Sight: _____

Website: _____

Justification: _____

9. Tourist Sight: _____

Website: _____

Justification: _____

10. Tourist Sight: _____

Website: _____

Justification: _____
