

A photograph of a Texas landscape featuring a gravel road in the foreground, green shrubs, and a blue sky with light clouds. In the background, there are rolling hills and a prominent mesa with a flat top.

Texas Eclips roadtrip 2024

Verlag van onze onvergetelijke reis

‘Elk mooi moment start met
een plan’

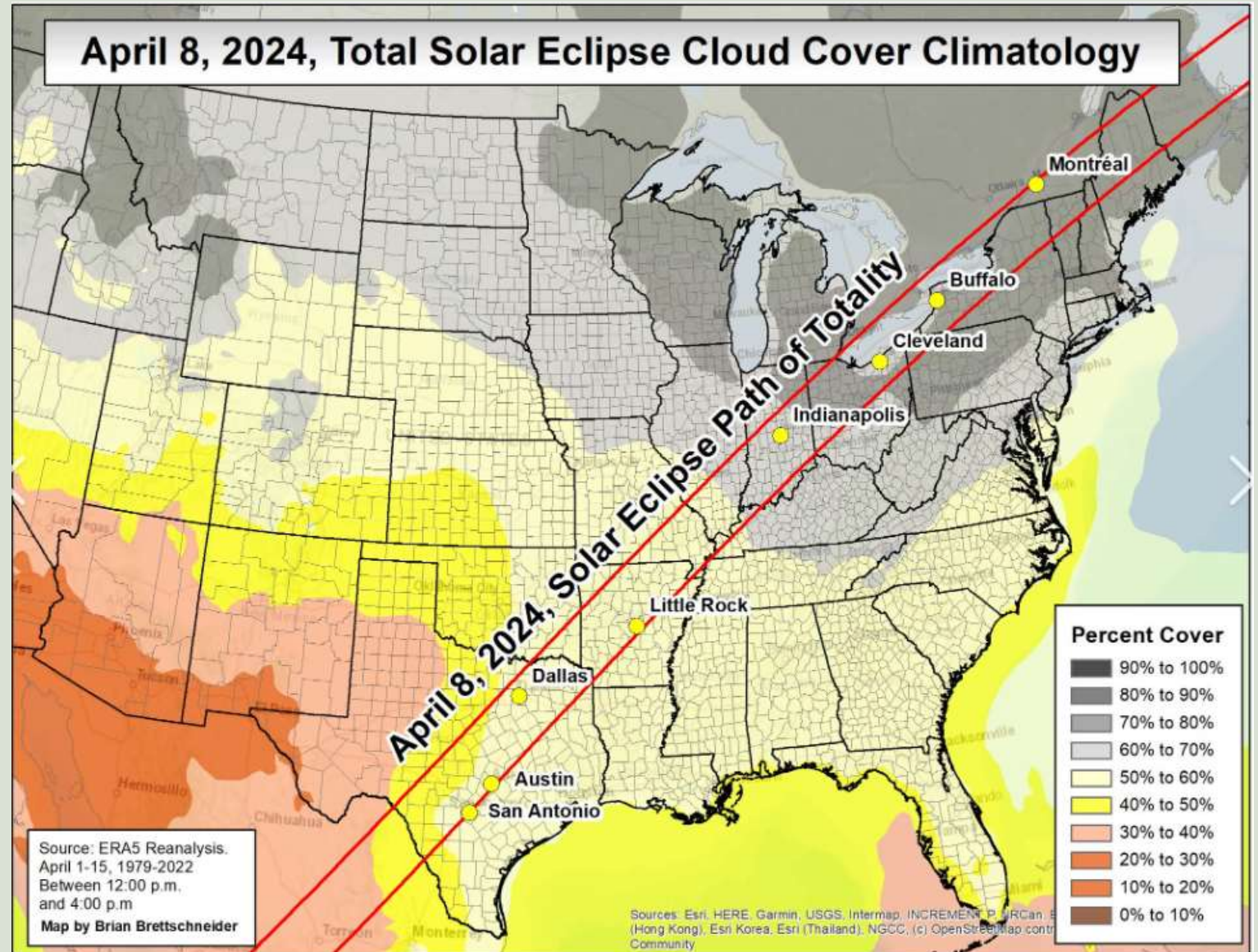
-Belgie-

Planning

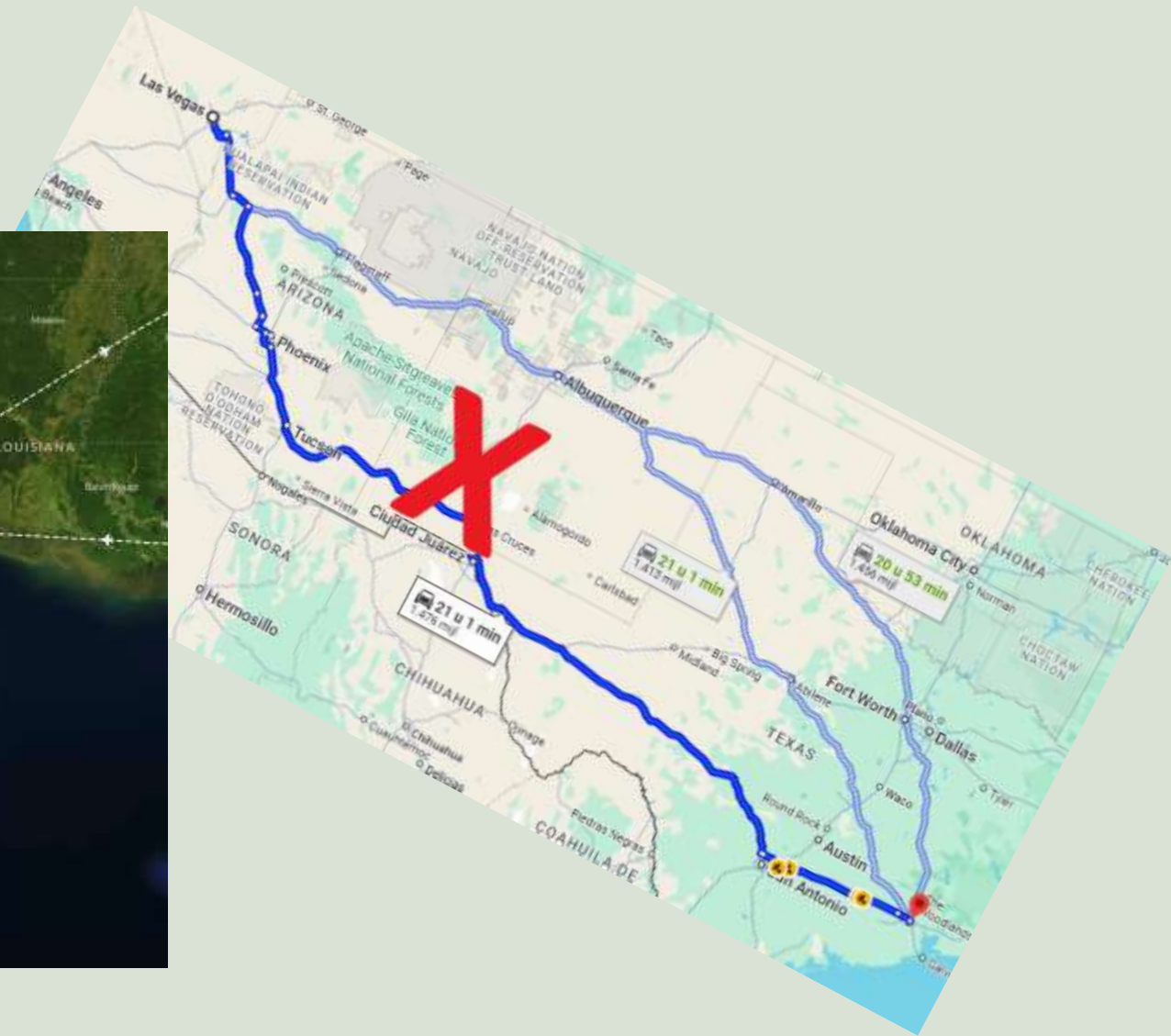
- 30 mei 2023 eerste idee om een eclips reis in elkaar te steken.
- Heel snel is er een klein groepje gevormd met de volgende leden;
Sven de Deyne – Wim Delen – John van der Zande – Gezin met Sven, Nele & Lena
- Door korte tijdsperiode hebben we veel moeten regelen op korte tijd:
 - Wat voor een reis (road trip)
 - Timing (paasvakantie +/- 10 dagen)
 - Wat willen we zien
 - Vluchten
 - Verblijven
 - Vervoer

Planning: Eclips pad

Hoe zuidelijker , hoe beter ?



Planning: Road trip



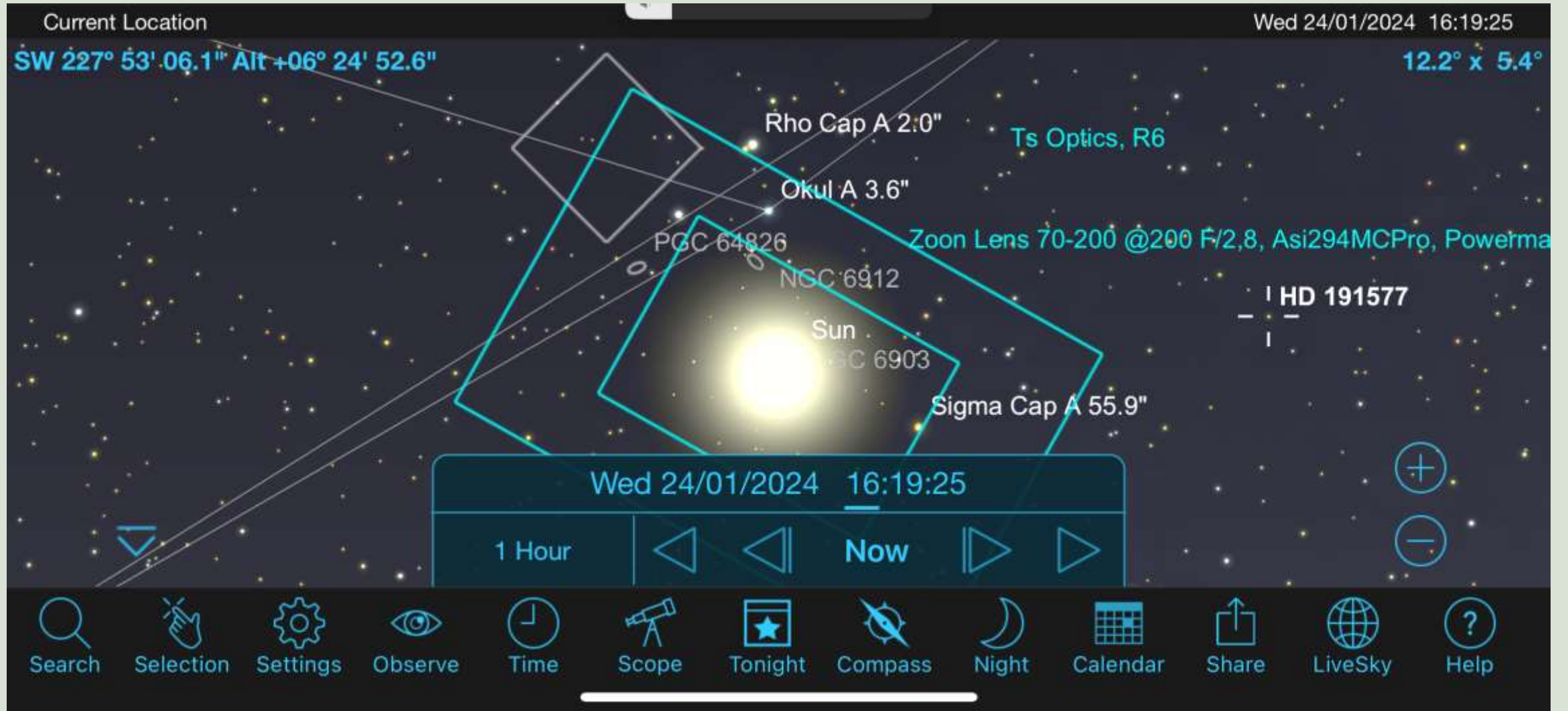
Planning: technische voorbereiding

John:

- Nog nooit een volledige eclips gezien noch gefotografeerd.
- Waar dien je op te letten?
- Zoeken op het web en youtube.
- Vooral bij ervaren mensen horen bv Sven de Deyne en Tom Alderweireldt
- Veel testen thuis.

Testen, testen en nog eens testen.

24 januari: eerste poging van de mogelijk setup





lijk



3D printen

3 Februari: Zonne filter voor de canon 70-200 lens





Eerste test via met de zonnefilter

24 & 25 Februari: testen met zonne filter en 2X extender



Eerste test via met de zonnefilter

Beeld uit de losse pols met beeldstabiliatie



Combinatie test 2 setups

24 & 25 Februari: testen met zonne filter en 2X extender



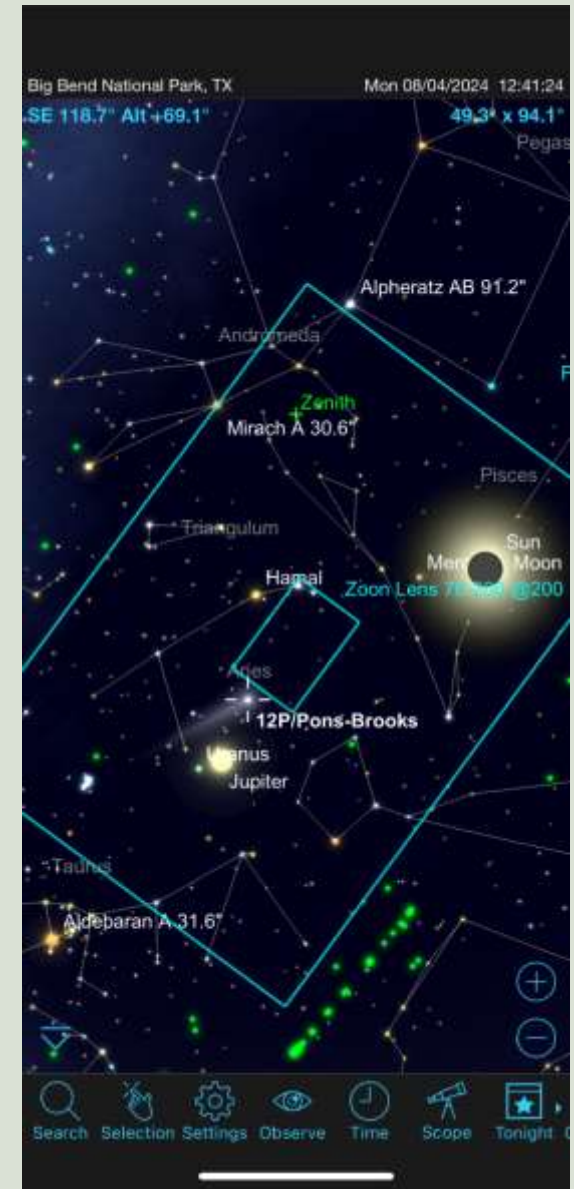
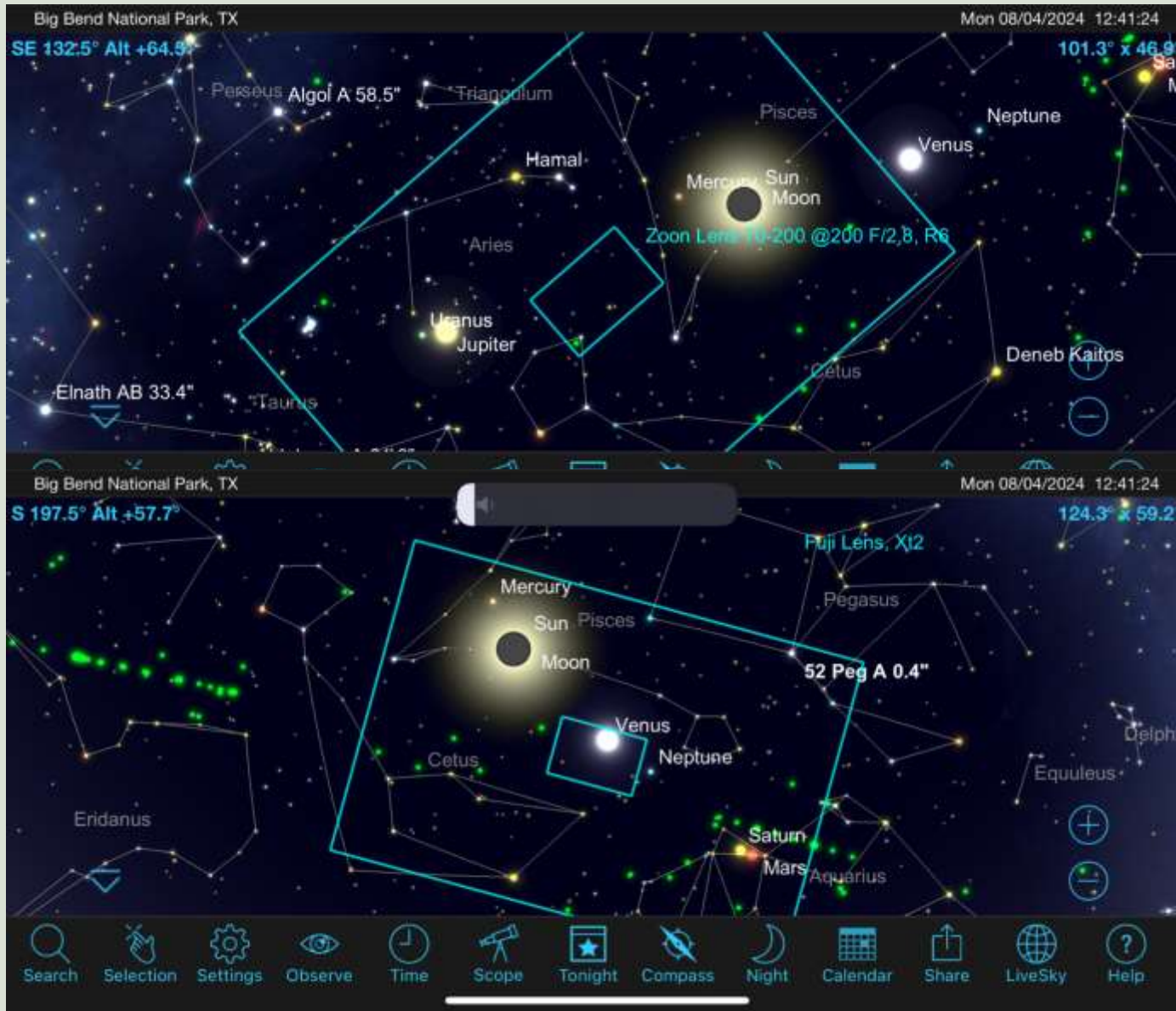
Finale beslissing: wat hebben we geleerd

- Oorspronkelijk idee van 2 setups = niet haalbaar
- Probleem met gewicht van bagage en setup
- Aansturing te complex (aanpassen van settings)

+/- 2 weken voor vertrek volgende beslissing:

- 2 afzonderlijke setup (star adventurer)
- 2 aparte systeem camera's (1 eigen bezit andere gehuurd)
- 1 setup eclips (brandpunt 400mm + canon R6Mk2) hoofdsetup
- 1 wide field setup (brandpunt 24mm + canon R7) 2^{de} setup

Planning via sky safari



Finale keuze



Conclusie: Wat pakken we mee?

Na veel zoek werk en uitproberen thuis komen tot de volgende conclusie

- Beperking gewicht
 - Niet te complex gaan met materiaal (Aansturen met pc, te veel tegelijker tijd)
 - Alles wat je kan elimineren doen (auto focus, beeldstabilisatie, tracking, remote afstand bediening...)
 - Zorg dat je je materiaal kent (Focus, instellingen zoals sluitertijd, diafragma, iso)
 - Bepalen prioriteit (hoofdsetup, tweede setup, ...)
- Iedereen die ik sprak, las op het internet of zag via youtube gaven de zelfde boodschap

Geniet van het moment!

Als iets faalt laat je het moment tot je komen visueel

Blijf niet prutsen aan je materiaal

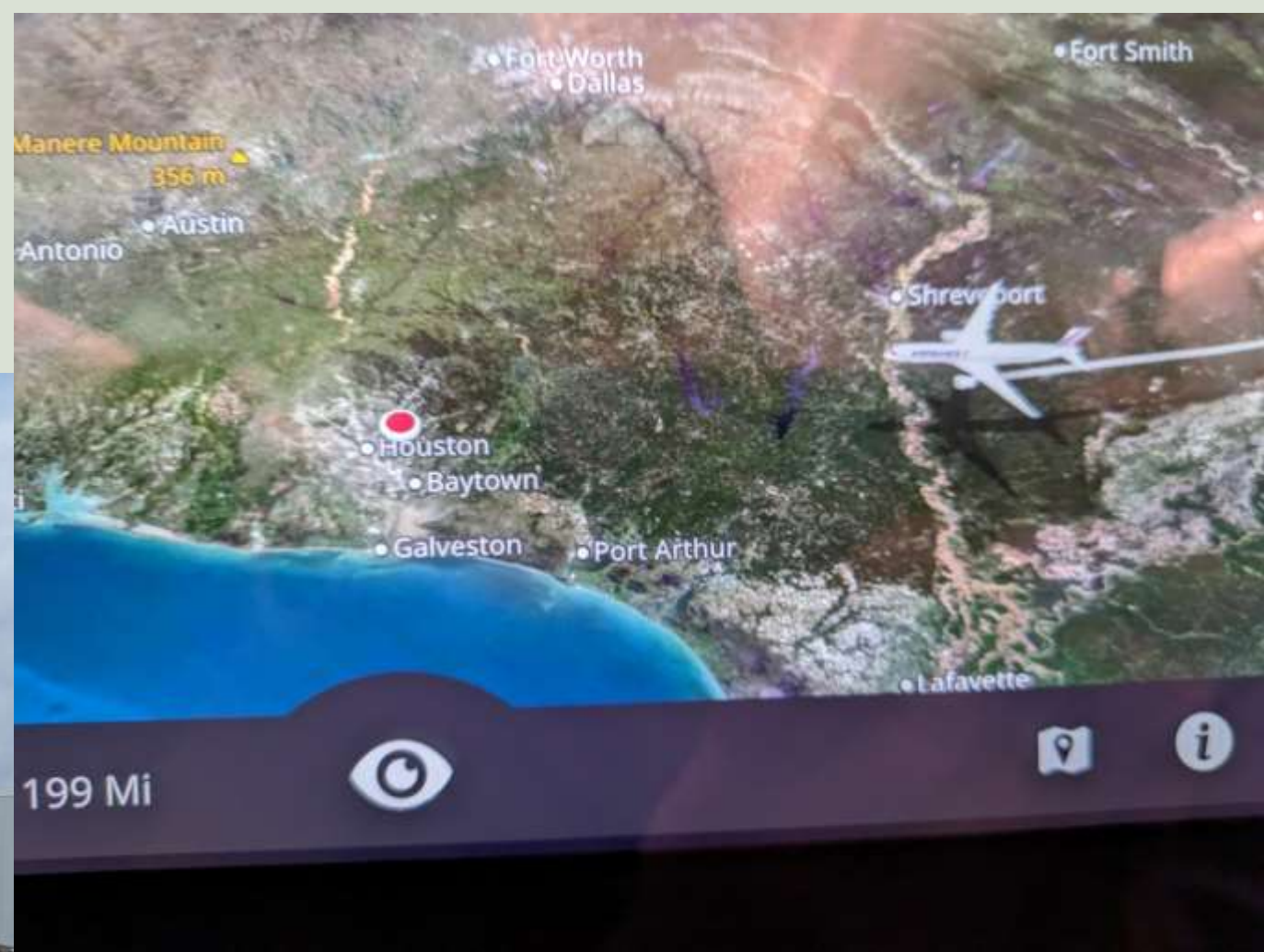


‘The greate journey starts’

-Belgie-Dusseldorf-Parijs-Houston-







We moeten toch een beetje deftig rond kunnen rijden ...

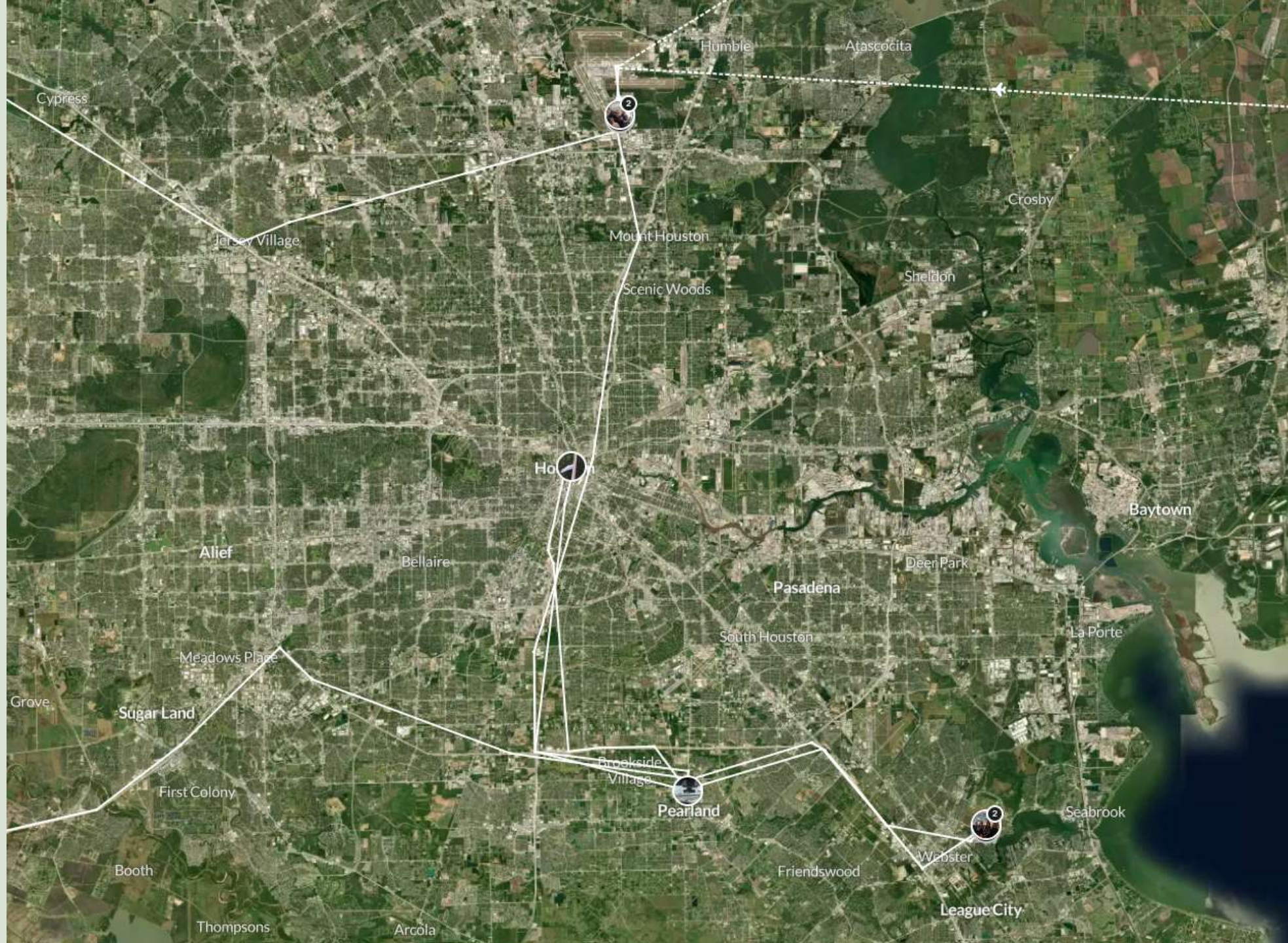


‘We are not alone...’

-Houston-

The fellowship of the eclips





Cypress

Humble

Atascocita

Jersey Village

Mount Houston

Crosby

Scenic Woods

Sheldon

Houston

Baytown

Alief

Bellaire

Pasadena

Deer Park

Meadows Place

South Houston

La Porte

Grove

Sugar Land

First Colony

Brookside Village

Pearland

Seabrook

Booth

Friendswood

Webster

Thompsons

Arcola

League City



Houston - dorp





- Even een varkentje binnen steken



Even een varkentje binnen steken

Houston space center















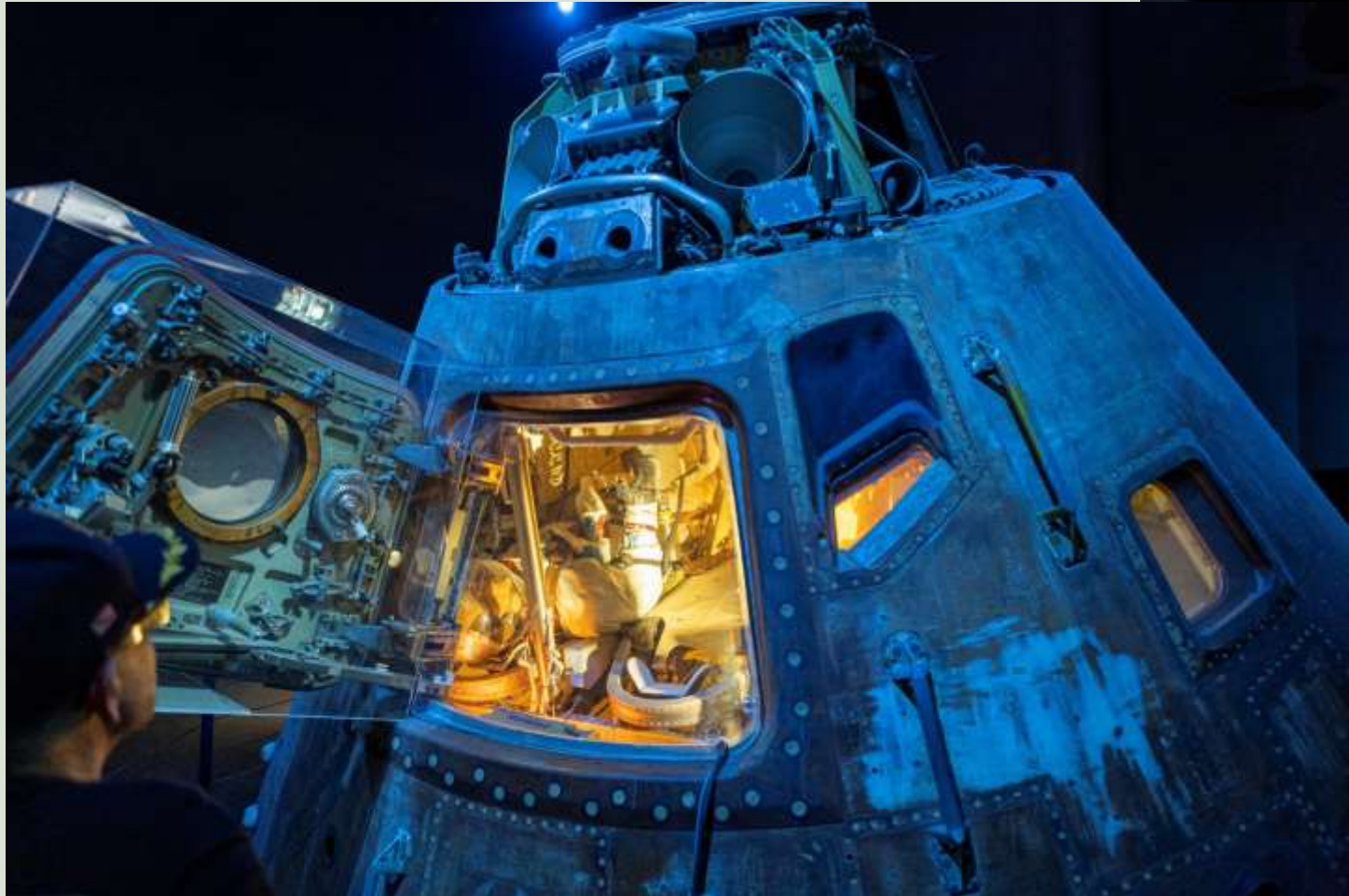








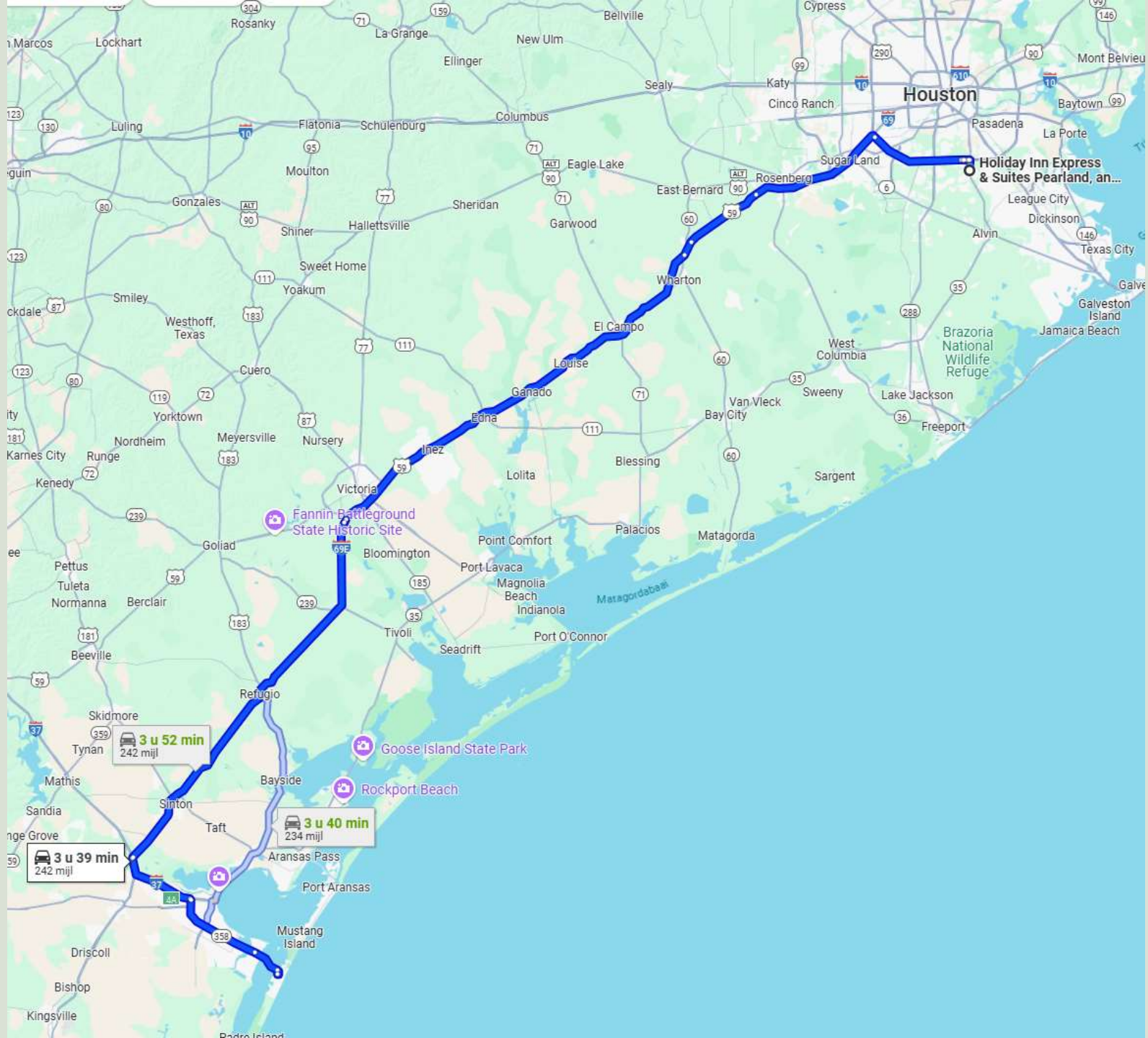




Apollo 17 command module



Nasa's buren



‘Twee kapiteins en een
vliegdekschip...’

-Corpus Christi-



Zo'n klein schip parkeren
wij zonder problemen

USS Lexington 3rd







Retired jets on deck





A room
with a view

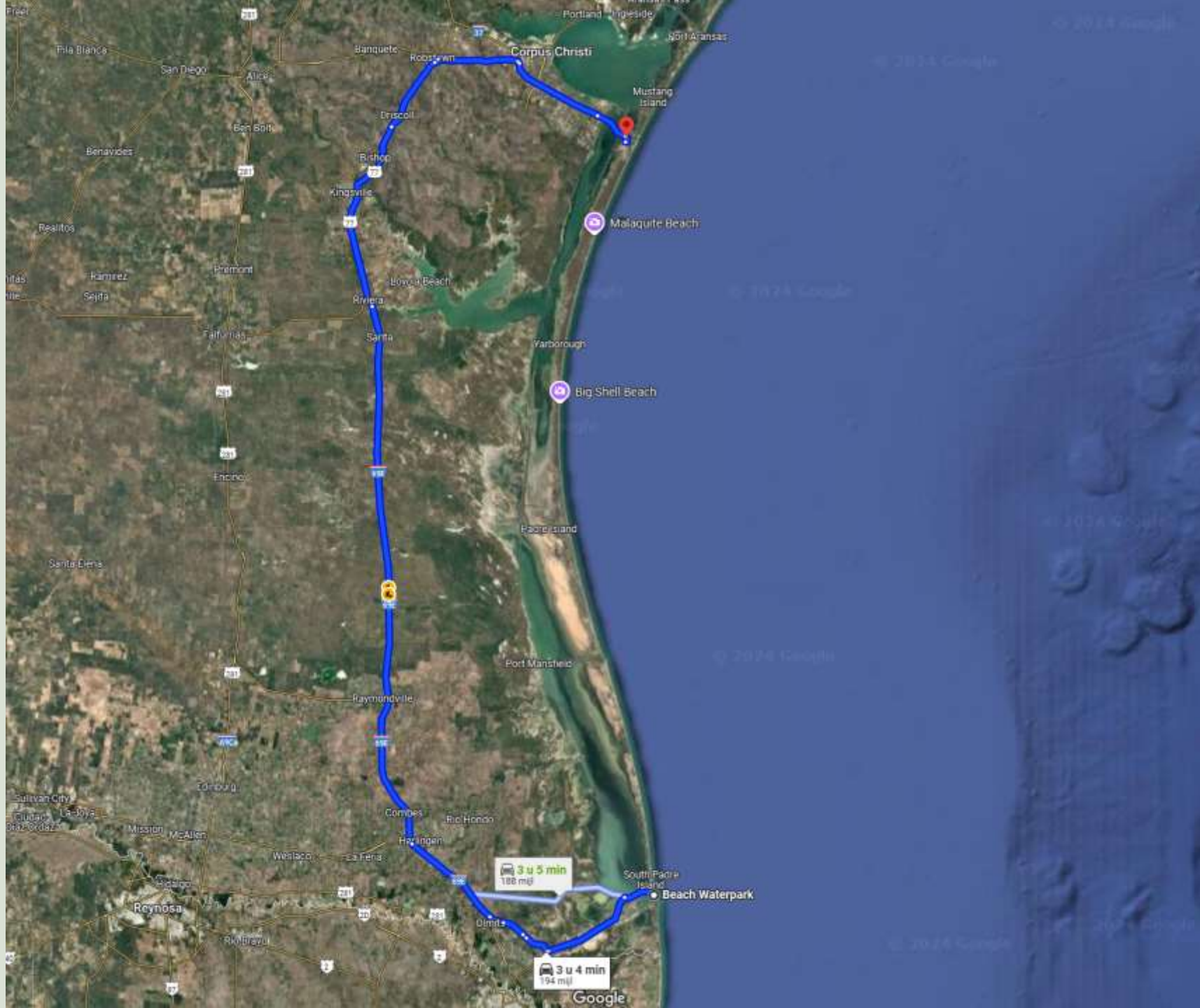




‘John let op de weg...’

-Boca Chica: Starbase-





King ranch



3340 km² - 40.000 koeien
(provincie Antwerpen 2876 km² - +/- 300.000
koeien)













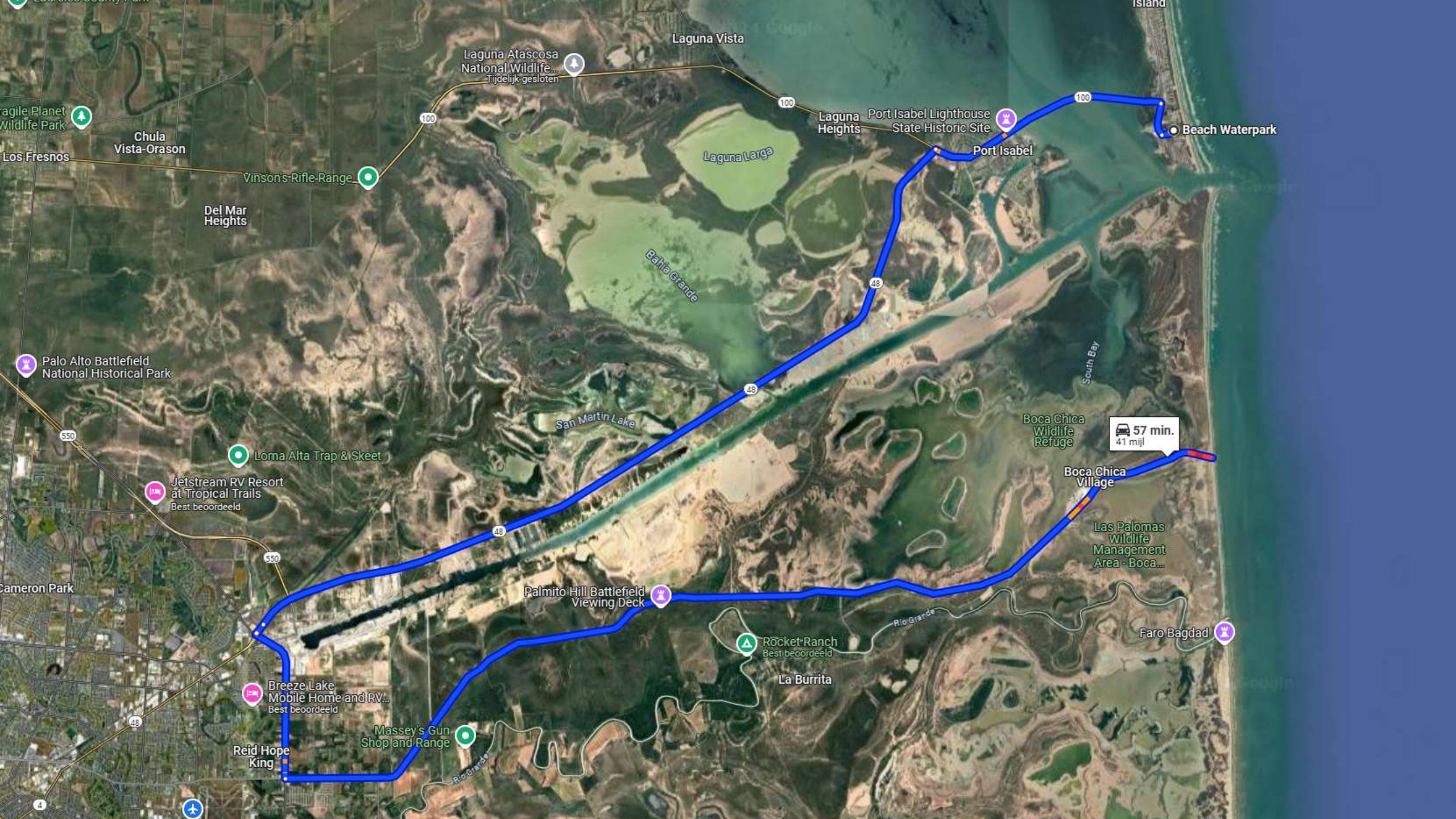












Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife...
Tijdelijk gesloten

Laguna Vista

100

Laguna Heights Port Isabel Lighthouse State Historic Site

Port Isabel

100

Beach Waterpark

Laguna Larga

Bahia Grande

San Martin Lake

South Bay

Boca Chica Wildlife Refuge

Boca Chica Village

Las Palomas Wildlife Management Area - Boca...

Faro Bagdad

Rocket Ranch Best beoordeeld

La Burreita

Palmito Hill Battlefield Viewing Deck

Breeze Lake Mobile Home and RV... Best beoordeeld

Massey's Gun Shop and Range

Reid Hope King

57 min.
41 mijl

Tragile Planet Wildlife Park

Chula Vista-Orason

Vinson's Rifle Range

Del Mar Heights

Palo Alto Battlefield National Historical Park

Loma Alta Trap & Skeet

Jetstream RV Resort at Tropical Trails Best beoordeeld

Cameron Park

550

550

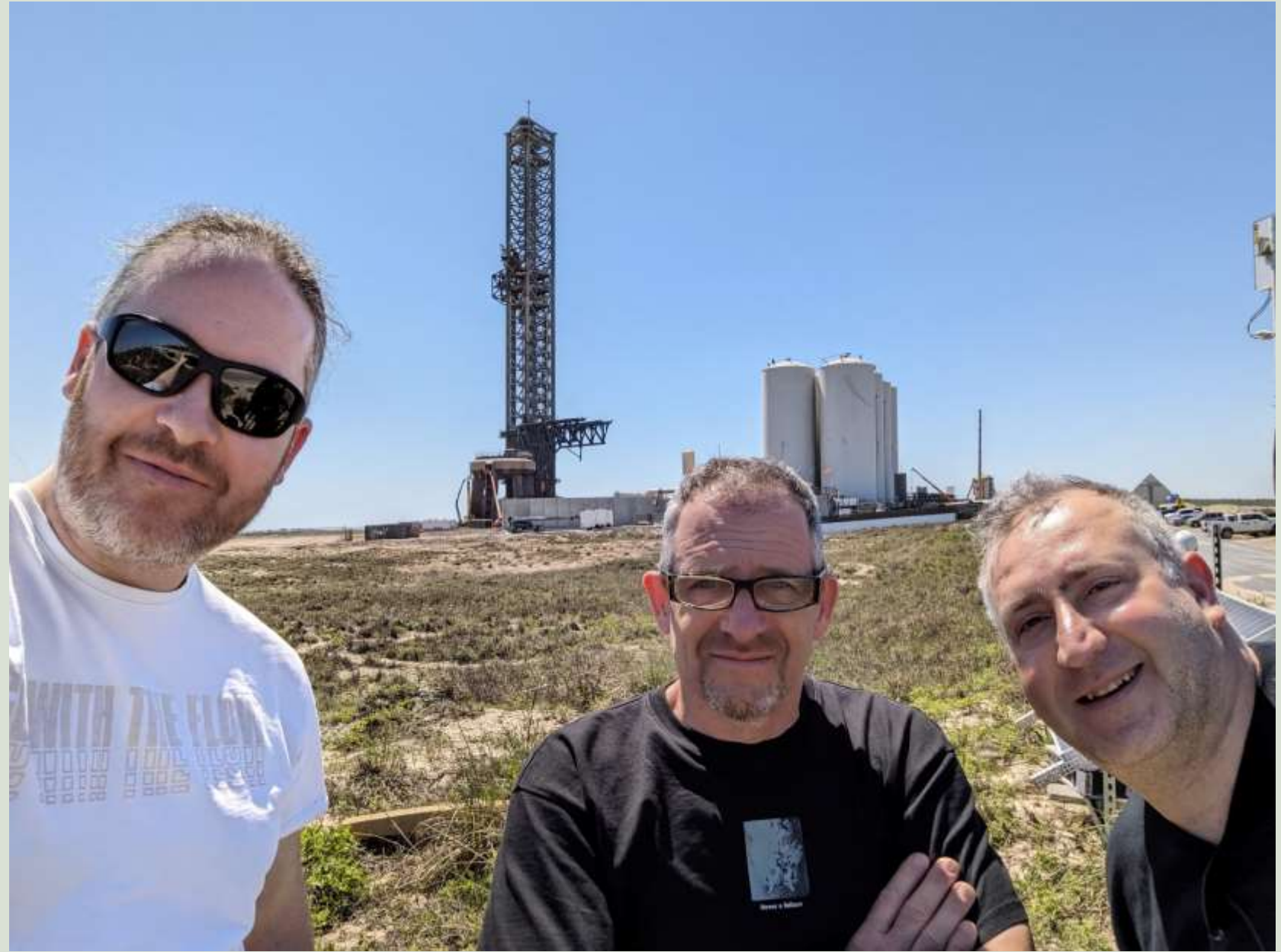
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Rio Grande

Rio Grande





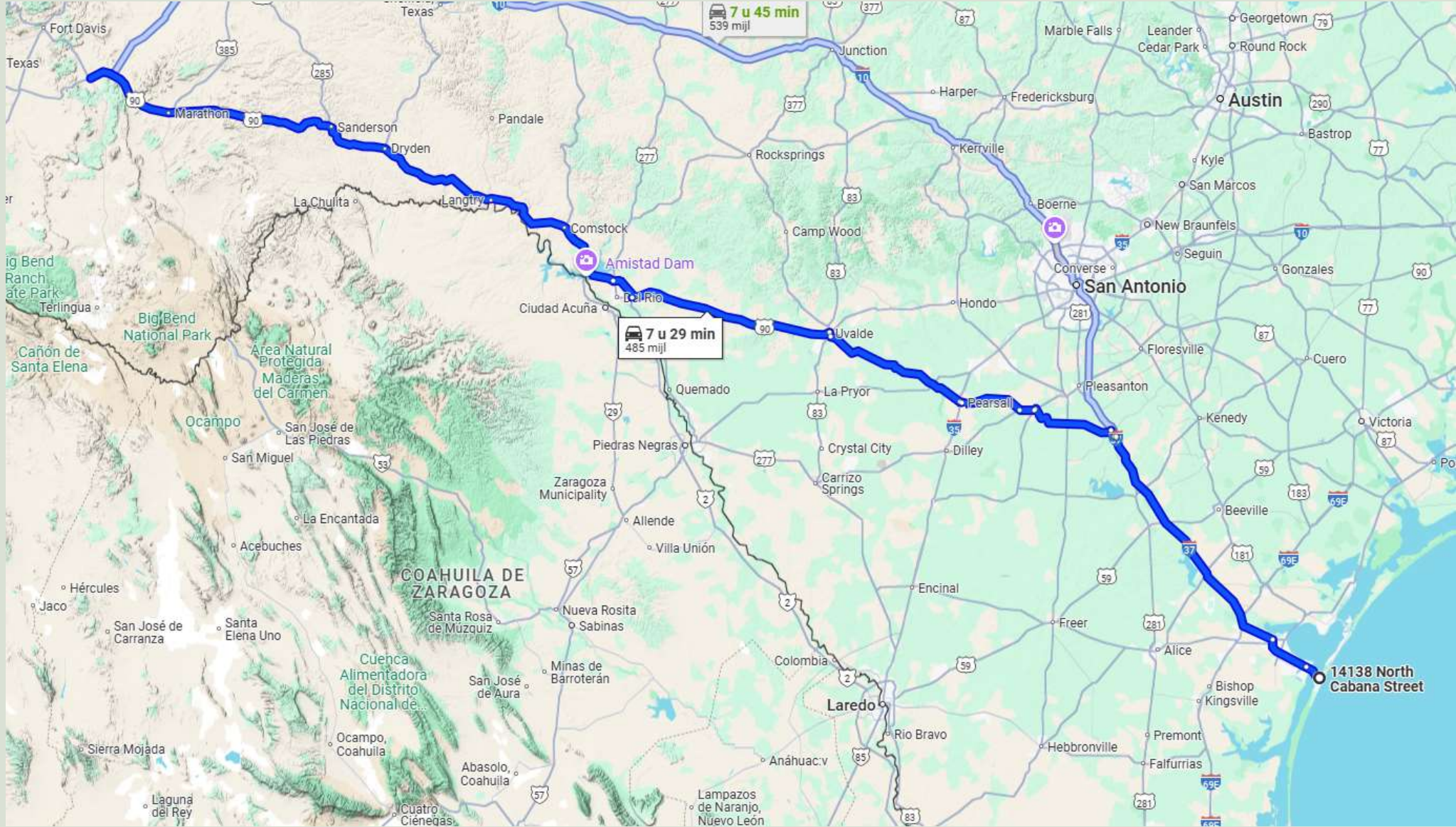












Alpine – Maverick inn







Wild West

'Is it chicken or steak?

-Alpine: American haute cuisine-

't was steak





Bortle 1 ?



'Da's hier 300km rechtdoor

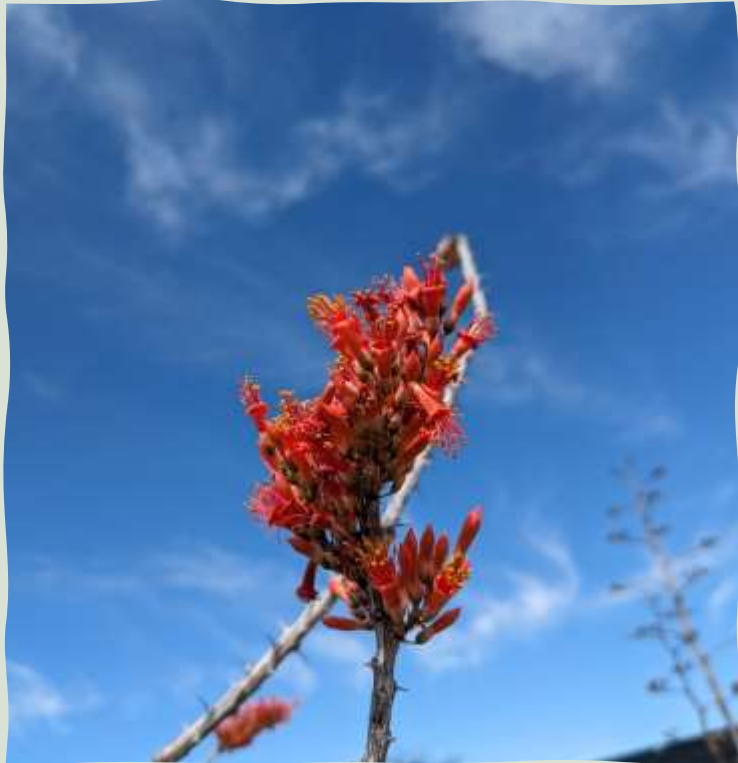
-Big Bend national park-



Prime farmland

Zand & doornen

Kleur in april





‘Deju das hier warm...’

-Alpine-

101°

Rio "Grande"







Meep Meep





't was niet
allemaal glitter
en glamour



Een licht ontbijtje tussen de cowboys



‘Waar is de spiegel...?’

-Fort William-



McDonald Observatory



Old McDonald had a farm eh, observatory



On May 5, 1939, leading astronomers from around the world gathered for the dedication of McDonald Observatory and the world's second-largest telescope. Notable among the attendees in this photo are Walter Baade, Bart Bok, Edwin Hubble, Jan Oort, Cecilia Payne-Gaposchkin, and Henry Norris Russell.

Key Plate



W. J. McDonald

William Johnson McDonald was born December 21, 1844 near Paris, Texas. As a wealthy, lifelong bachelor, McDonald had time to pursue wide-ranging interests.

He bought a small telescope and read widely in astronomy as well as botany, zoology, geology, history, and literature. McDonald traveled to Mexico and Europe, and attended summer school at Harvard in 1895 and 1896, where he took classes and visited the Harvard College Observatory.

When he died in February 1926, McDonald gave the bulk of his fortune to the University of Texas. McDonald's family contested the will, arguing he was not of sound mind. After multiple trials, the matter was settled out of court and McDonald's dream of an observatory was fulfilled.



tentoonstelling



Building an Observatory



Construction of McDonald Observatory's first large telescope ran from 1933 to 1938 at the Warner and Swasey Company in Cleveland, Ohio. The 82-inch telescope was installed in its dome on Mount Locke and dedicated on May 5, 1939. At the time of its dedication, the dome housed the entirety of McDonald Observatory — including the world's second-largest telescope, as well as living and sleeping quarters for astronomers.

Over its history, astronomers have used this telescope to study all types of astronomical objects, from distant galaxies to the Milky Way, from planets and moons to other bodies in our solar system. The telescope has undergone upgrades over the years; its instruments now use electronic detectors rather than photographic plates. The 82-inch Telescope was renamed the Otto Struve Telescope in 1966, three years after Struve's death. The Struve Telescope is still an important scientific instrument that will continue to peer into the universe for many years to come.

First Observatory Director: Otto Struve



When The University of Texas received W.J. McDonald's bequest, it had no astronomy department. On November 23, 1932, the University partnered with the University of Chicago, which had a talented astronomy faculty and ran its own Yerkes Observatory. The deal allowed the University of Chicago to operate McDonald Observatory for 30 years.

Russian-born astronomer Otto Struve was the director of Yerkes Observatory at the time. Under the partnership, he became the first director of McDonald Observatory, serving from November 1932 to August 1947. With more than 900 journal articles and books, Struve was one of the most distinguished and prolific astronomers of the mid-20th century. He received the Gold Medal of the Royal Astronomical Society in 1944 and his research involved spectroscopic observations of stars and gas in the Milky Way.

Scientific Discoveries



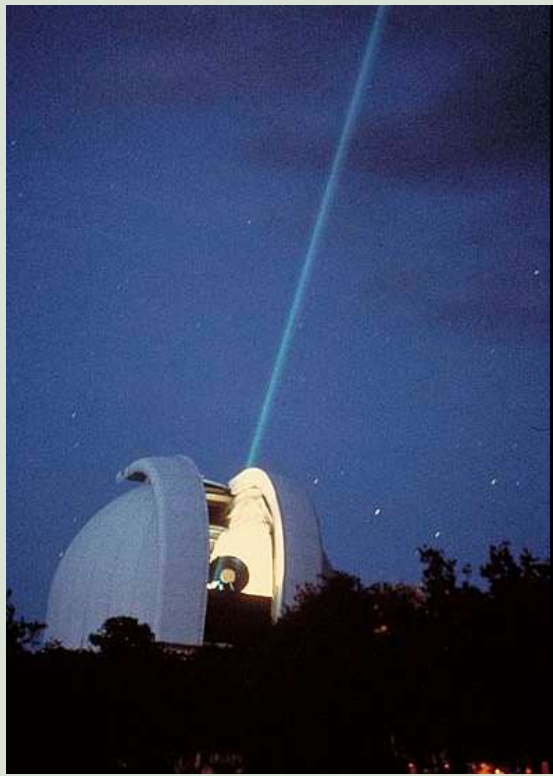
Gerard Kuiper: Discovering Titan's Atmosphere (1944)

In 1944, astronomer Gerard Kuiper used McDonald Observatory's 82-inch Telescope to discover methane on Saturn's largest moon, Titan. This proved that Titan has an atmosphere — the first moon in the solar system known to have one. Titan's thick atmosphere hides its surface from telescopes, but in 2004 the orbiting Cassini spacecraft peered through with radar to detect lakes and seas. Kuiper used the 82-inch Telescope for many solar-system investigations.

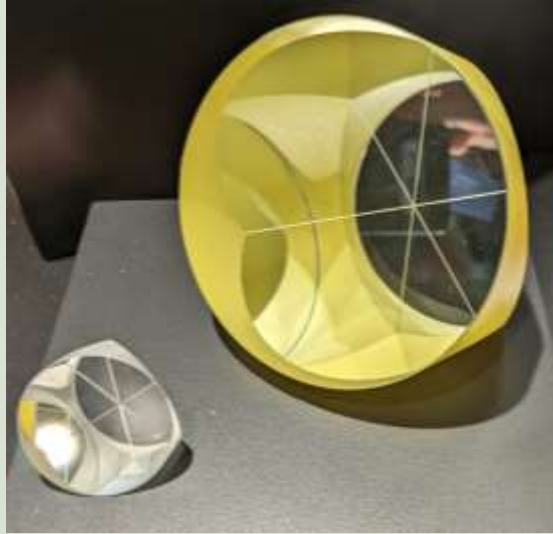
In 1948, he discovered the fifth-known moon of Uranus (Miranda). The following year, he discovered Neptune's second moon (Nereid). Kuiper also posited the idea of a ring of comet-like objects orbiting beyond Neptune. Now called the Kuiper Belt, its existence has been confirmed and Pluto is considered one of its largest members, rather than a planet.

1939 - Otto-Struve 2.1m telescope





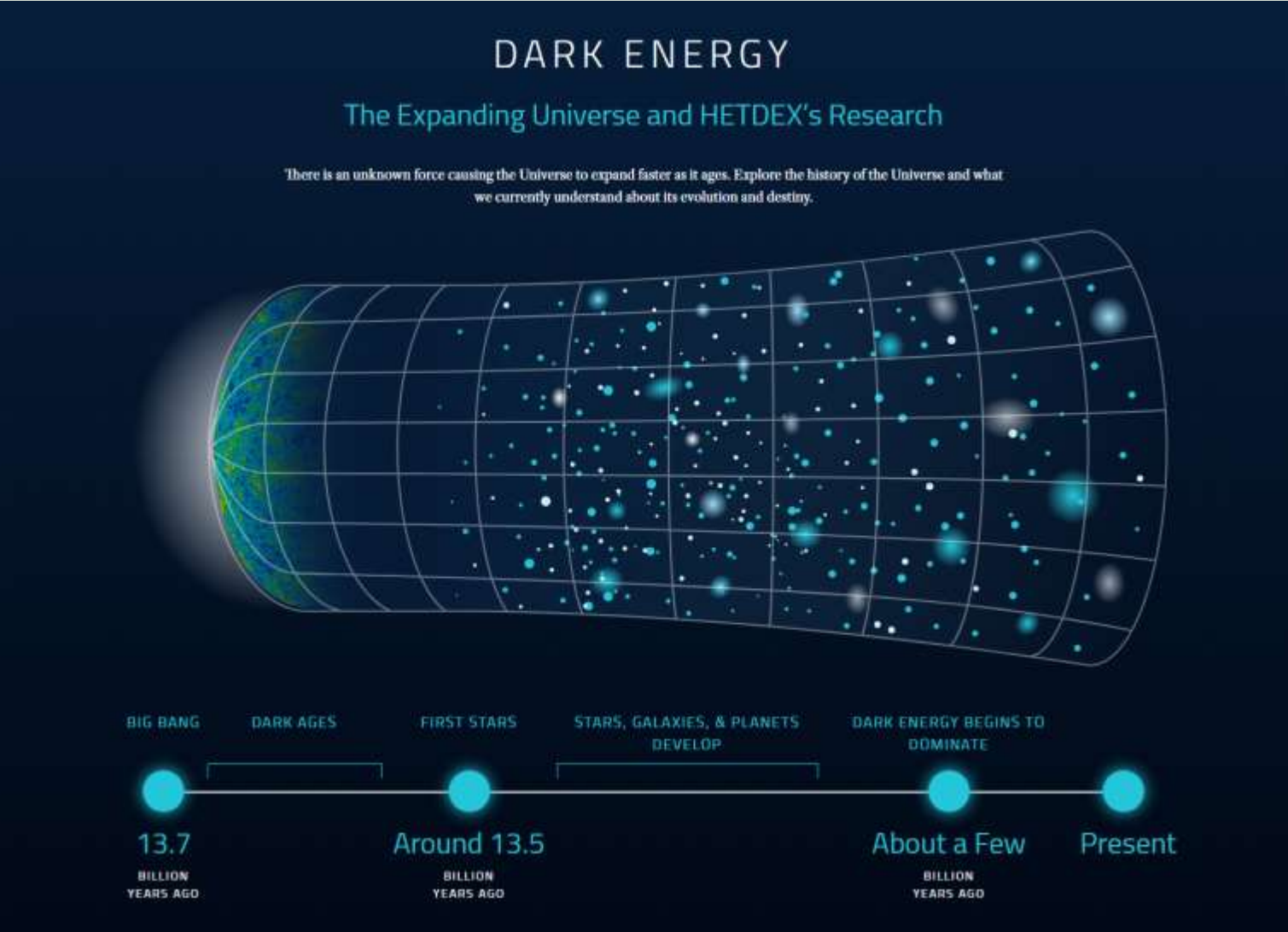
1968 – Harlan J. Smith 2.7m telescope



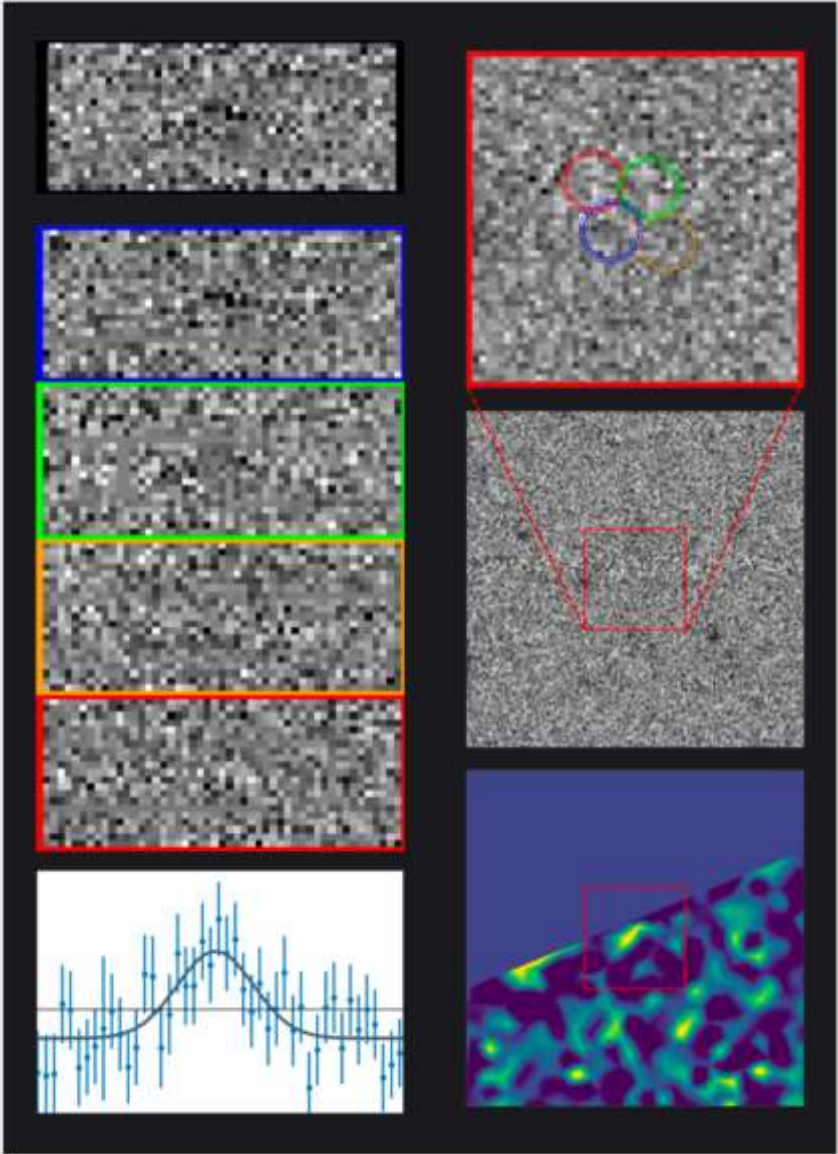
1997 Hobby-Eberly Telescope 10m



Hetdex



Is this a Real Galaxy to KEEP or is it Noise to THROW BACK ?



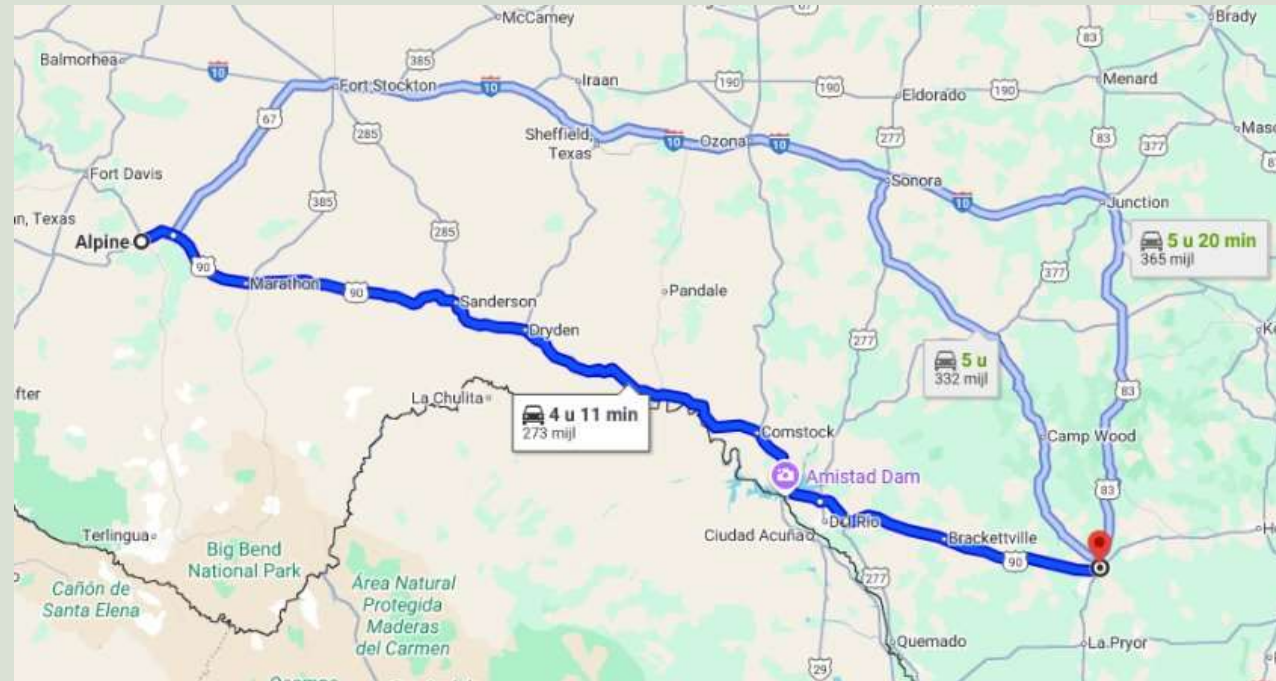
Throw back . . .

Keep this Galaxy!

‘Met 6 in bed ...’

-Uvalde-

Kort tripje van +/- 420km





3 queensize
bedden is
niet genoeg !



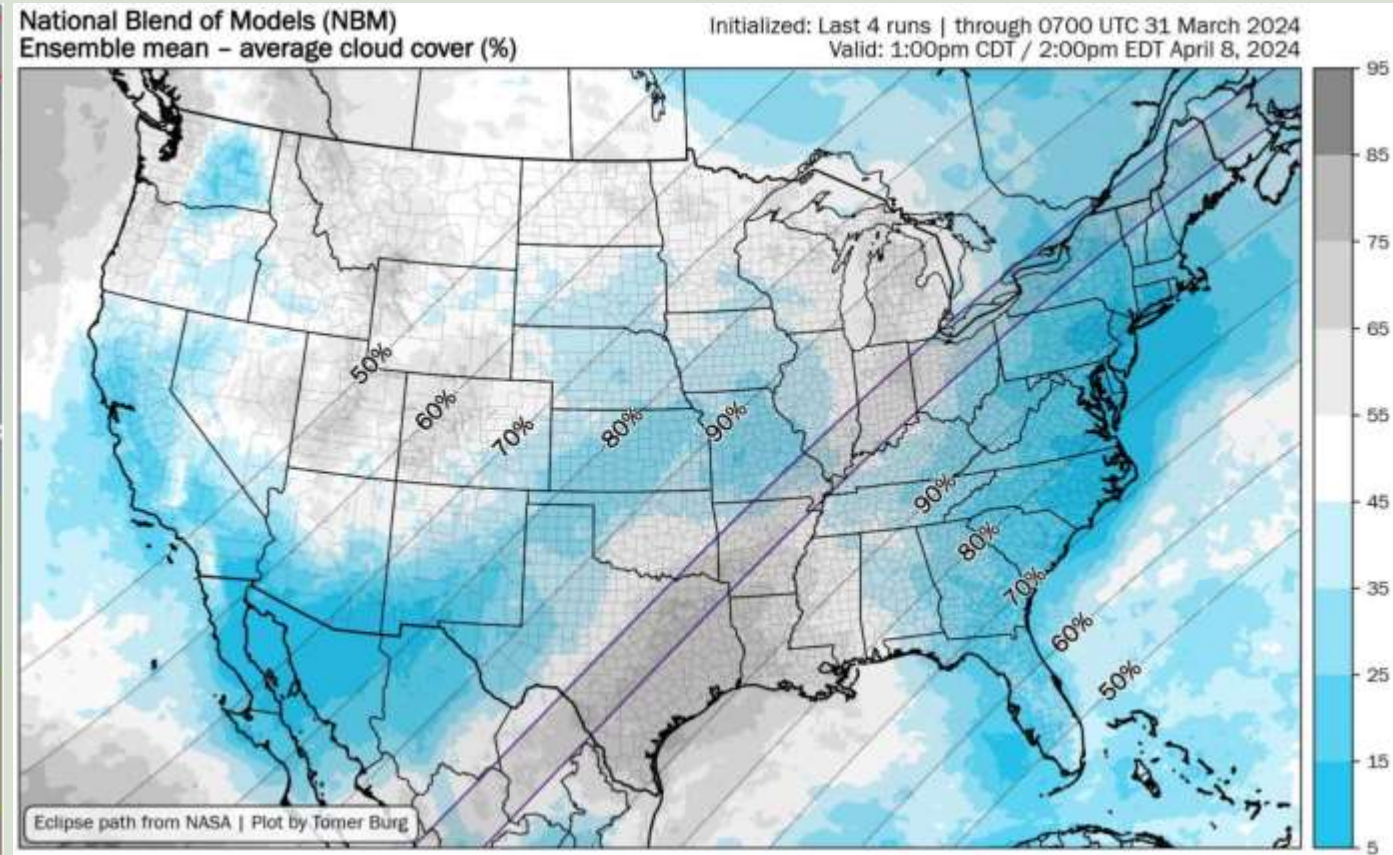
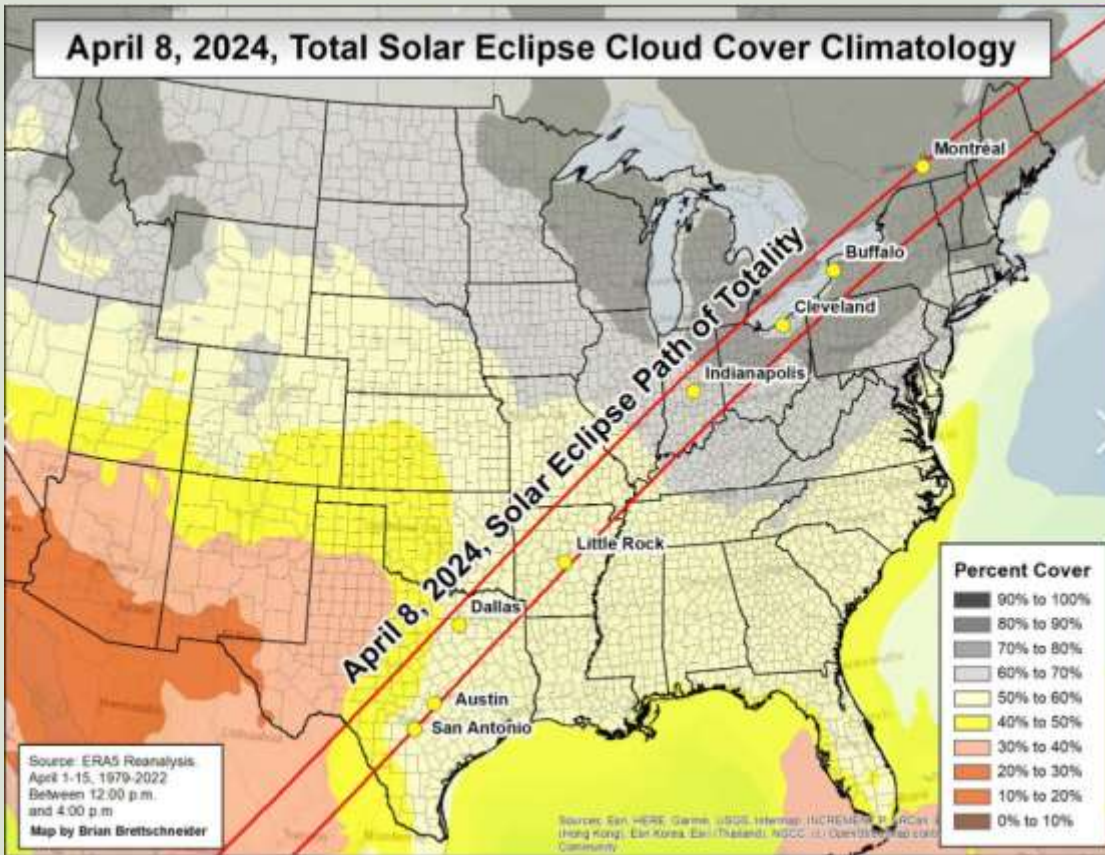
Best wings along the eclipse path



‘Ho nee wolken...’

-Eclips dag-

Verwachting vs realiteit



Cloudy Uvalde – Texas
T-minus 3 hours

Geboekte eclipsparty
op ranch : NOGO



T-minus 90min
Sunny Junction





T-minus 10 min

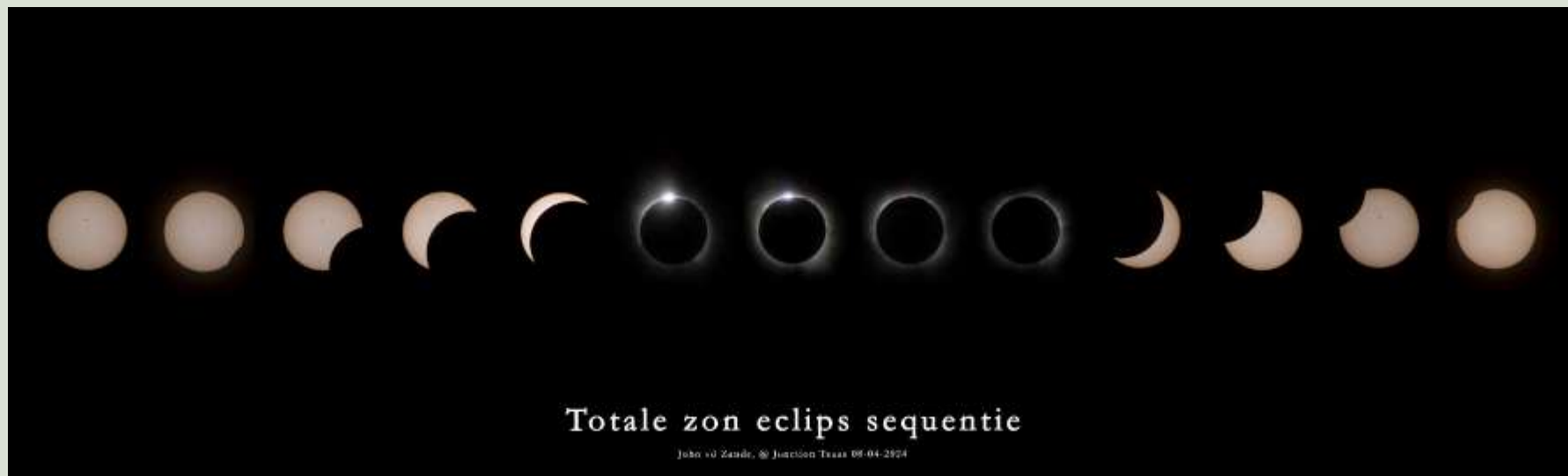
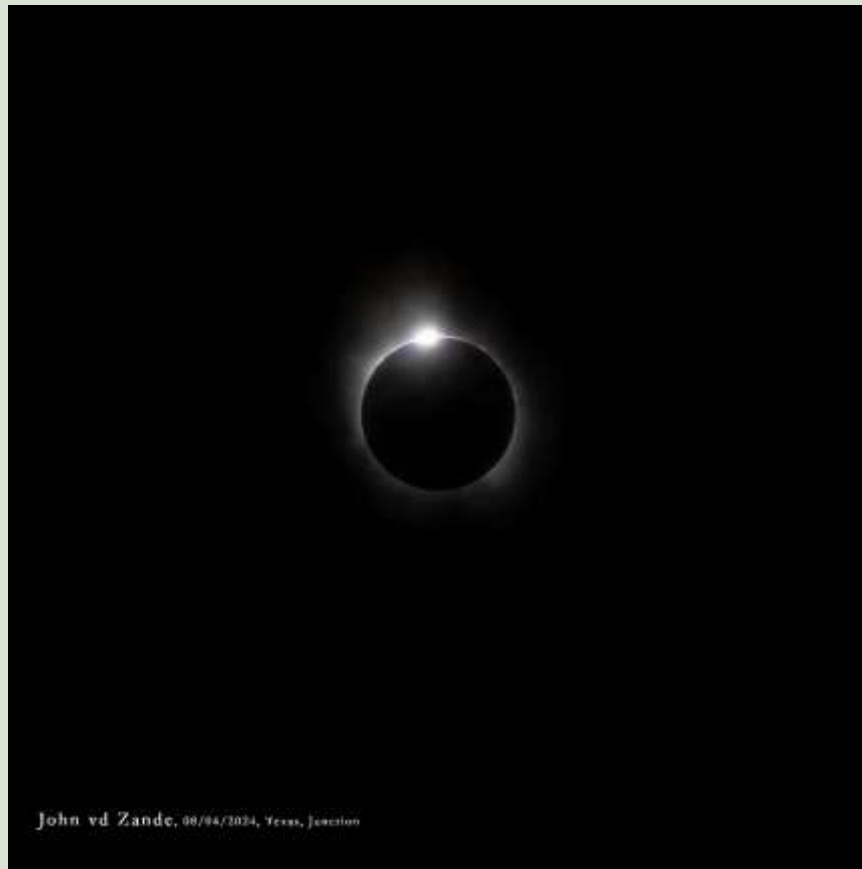


Time





John



Wim



Sven





Carhartt

Fredericksburg
& Uvalde
Texas
08-04-2024



TOTAL '24
SOLAR
ECLIPSE

‘Zweten en cowboybotten’

-Austin-





Colorado river



Mag het een onsje meer zijn ?

Rudy's smokehouse







‘Tornado alarm...’

-Austin-



Al goed dat dit geen dag eerder kwam ...

Onze roadtrip:
2319 mile / 3731 km





The end