NASA's spacecraft soared to the asteroid that could destroy the Earth for specimens

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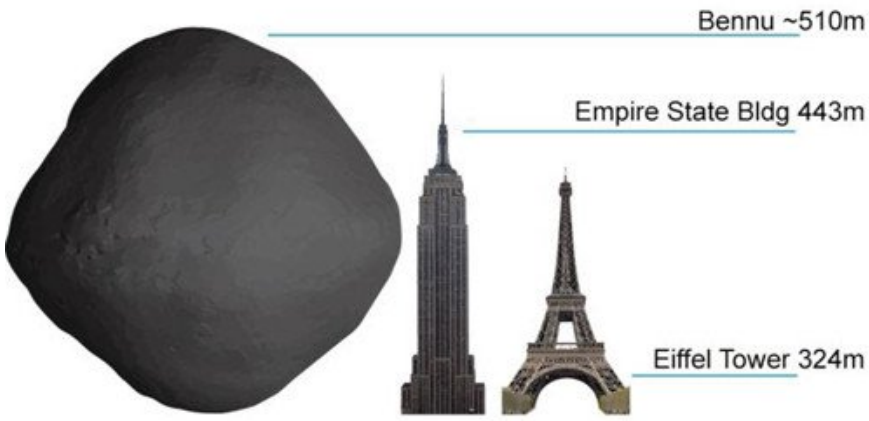
Atlas rocket successfully launched OSIRIS-Rex spacecraft on the evening of September 8, 2016 (local time) in Florida, USA.
OSIRIS-Rex has been around for a year to fly around the Sun and it will fly over Earth today. Taking advantage of Earth's gravity and using planetary orbit, OSIRIS-Rex will reach a speed of nearly 13,700 km / h to reach its position in a plane with Bennu. As expected, in August 2018, OSIRIS-Rex will arrive at this asteroid.

Bennu asteroid was discovered in 1999, 500m high, more than the height of the Empire State Tower in the US and has the ability to collide causing serious consequences for our planet.

University of Arizona professor Dante Lauretta, who led the project, said if Bennu crashed into Earth, a collision would be equivalent to detonating 3 billion tons of TNT. At that time most of the life on the ground was blown away like 'hung god' that had swept away dinosaurs about 66 million years ago. The estimated risk of collisions is about 1: 2,700, and in the period from 2175 to 2196.



Bennu asteroid has a larger diameter than the height of Empire State Tower.(Graphic: BBC).
Scientists hope, the OSIRIS-Rex spacecraft will gain about 60 to 400 grams of the asteroid's specimens brought to Earth, opening Bennu's research opportunities more closely to its chemical properties and ways. Go through the solar system.

OSIRIS-REx will return to Earth in March 2021. Part of the ship will return home and drop the sample container into the Utah desert on September 24, 2023. The rest of it will continue to fly. follow the Sun's trajectory and serve NASA's next purposes.

If the specimen landed safely and intact, this would be the first time NASA brought it back from an asteroid

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