You, Me & SICILY!

THE ODYSSEY TOUR

In the Footsteps of Ulysses and Christopher Nolan

From April 13 to April 23, 2027 - 11 Days

Day 1 – April 13 | Your Odyssey Begins

Depart for Sicily and begin your own journey into a Mediterranean world where Homeric legend, Sicilian history and modern cinema come together.

Day 2 – April 14 | Catania — Gateway to the Land of the Cyclopes

Arrive in Catania beneath mighty Mount Etna and transfer to **Sicilia's Residence Hotel – Art & Spa** in Aci Catena.

This is the landscape that Sicilian tradition has long associated with the Cyclopes and the adventures of Ulysses.

Settle in before joining your fellow travelers for a welcome dinner featuring traditional Sicilian flavors and local wines. Tonight, we introduce the extraordinary story that will follow us throughout our journey.

Day 3 – April 15 | Syracuse and Ortigia — In the Presence of Athena

Explore Ortigia, the historic heart of ancient Syracuse. Wander through its atmospheric streets, colorful market and magnificent Piazza Duomo.

Inside the Cathedral of Syracuse, ancient Doric columns belonging to the Temple of Athena remain standing. This is especially meaningful to our Odyssey: Athena was the goddess of wisdom and strategy who protected Ulysses and repeatedly intervened to help him find his way home.

Experience the remarkable layers of Greek, Roman, Arab, Norman, Spanish and Sicilian history that make Ortigia one of the Mediterranean's greatest treasures.

Day 4 – April 16 | Mount Etna — Fire of the Cyclopes and Wine of the Volcano

Journey onto Mount Etna, Europe's highest active volcano, and enter a landscape shaped by fire.

Homer never identified Etna by name as the home of Polyphemus. However, ancient storytellers and centuries of Sicilian tradition placed the fearsome Cyclops and his fellow giants in the shadow of this volcano.

After exploring Etna's dramatic terrain, visit a vineyard growing in its mineral-rich volcanic soil. Enjoy a wine tasting and traditional Sicilian lunch surrounded by the vines.

Day 5 – April 17 | Taormina and Giardini Naxos — Return to the Greek World

Discover beautiful Taormina, its spectacular ancient theater and unforgettable views of Mount Etna and the Ionian Sea.

Continue to Giardini Naxos, founded in the eighth century B.C. and recognized as Sicily's first Greek colony. Although Taormina and Naxos were not stops on Ulysses' voyage, they allow us to walk through the Greek civilization that carried Homer's stories across the Mediterranean.

Conclude the day beside the sea with a memorable coastal sunset.

Day 6 – April 18 | The Strait of Messina — Between Scylla and Charybdis

Travel north along Sicily's Ionian coast toward the Strait of Messina and the gateway to the Aeolian Islands.

We will stop near Capo Peloro, the northeastern point of Sicily, for a panoramic view across the narrow waters separating Sicily from Calabria. This is the legendary passage identified with one of the most terrifying episodes in Homer's *Odyssey*.

On the Calabrian side waited Scylla, the six-headed monster who snatched sailors from passing ships. On the Sicilian side churned Charybdis, the deadly whirlpool capable of swallowing an entire vessel.

Ulysses was forced to steer between them—giving the world the enduring expression "between Scylla and Charybdis."

Continue toward Milazzo and prepare for the island adventure ahead. Cross the sea to Lipari, the largest of the Aeolian Islands.

Day 7 – April 19 | Lipari — The Island of Aeolus and Nolan's Sirens

The archipelago takes its name from Aeolus, keeper of the winds, who welcomed Ulysses and presented him with a leather bag containing the dangerous winds that might prevent his voyage home.

Lipari was also an important location for Christopher Nolan's *The Odyssey*. The waters surrounding Pietra del Bagno became the setting for the Sirens, while the magnificent Pietra Lunga and Pietra Menalda sea stacks appeared as Homer's Wandering Rocks. Port Pignataro served as an operational base for the production and its fleet of ancient-looking ships.

Explore Lipari's historic center, archaeological treasures, volcanic coastline and ancient streets.

Our stay at **Hotel Mea** adds another remarkable connection: Christopher Nolan himself stayed here while filming *The Odyssey* in the Aeolian Islands.

Day 8 – April 20 | Panarea and Basiluzzo — Sailing Through Nolan's Odyssey

Set sail across Homer's "wine-dark sea" toward Panarea, the smallest and most glamorous of the Aeolian Islands.

During our voyage, discover Basiluzzo, the wild and uninhabited volcanic islet just off Panarea that became an actual filming location for Christopher Nolan's movie. Along with Lipari and Vulcano, this extraordinary landscape helped Nolan create the dangerous and mysterious maritime world through which Ulysses traveled.

Explore Panarea's whitewashed lanes, hidden coves, dramatic coastline and relaxed island atmosphere.

Day 9 – April 21 | Return to Eastern Sicily — The Journey Toward Home

After breakfast, depart Lipari and cross the sea to Milazzo. From there, travel comfortably back to **Sicilia's Residence Hotel – Art & Spa** in Aci Catena.

Like Ulysses approaching the final stage of his long journey home, our own Odyssey now returns to eastern Sicily.

The remainder of the afternoon will be completely free. Relax at the hotel, unpack at your leisure and prepare for the final—and most relaxing—day of our adventure.

Day 10 – April 22 | Aci Trezza and the Cyclops Coast — Sailing Among the Stones of Polyphemus

After a leisurely breakfast, make the very short journey from Aci Catena to the historic fishing village of Aci Trezza.

According to Sicilian legend, the spectacular rocks rising from the sea before us are the very stones thrown by the enraged Polyphemus.

Return to Aci Trezza for a leisurely seaside lunch. The remainder of the afternoon will be deliberately unhurried, allowing time to stroll along the waterfront, enjoy a coffee or gelato, or return to Sicilia's Residence to relax.

That evening, gather for our special **Odyssey Farewell Dinner**. Together, we will raise a final glass to Ulysses, Sicily and the unforgettable journey we have shared.

Day 11 – April 23 | Your Homecoming — Until the Next Odyssey

Transfer to nearby Catania Fontanarossa Airport for your journey home.

SPACE IS LIMITED. BOOK TODAY WITH A DEPOSIT!
Tour price: $5,299 per person, based on double occupancy
Single-room supplement: $650
A non-refundable deposit of $750 per person is due immediately, with **FINAL PAYMENT due by April 8, 2027**

Price is guaranteed on a minimun 10 participants.

TOUR PRICE AND RESERVATION INFORMATION

This is a **land-only tour.** Airfare is not included, and each traveler will arrange and purchase their own flights.

The tour includes accommodations at Sicilia's Residence Hotel – Art & Spa and Hotel Mea, transportation aboard modern air-conditioned buses, and licensed professional guides throughout the scheduled program.

Enrollment will be tightly limited.

BY CHECK:

Send $750 deposit per person payable to:

Eszter Vajda Mail: 22 Railroad Street, #305, Andover, MA 01810

***CREDIT CARD PAYMENT VIA PAYPAL*:**
Eszter Vajda: eszternvajda@gmail.com

* Pay with Venmo or Zelle Eszter Vajda 978-604-1273

Contact WHAT'S APP: 978 604 1273

INCLUDED IN LAND COSTS:

- All accommodations for days listed in the program

- All transportation including airport transfers for the days listed in the program

- Two meals a day breakfast and late lunch or dinner for all days

- Guided tours

- Licensed guides and escorts

- Booking, coordinating and support throughout the tour in Sicily

- Paid admissions to all scheduled attractions

NOT INCLUDED IN LAND COSTS:

- Tips/Gratuities and anything not mentioned in the itinerary
- Any pre or post hotel nights, car rental, private tours, and airfare

- Air Flights

Please note: April weather is warm or hot. We recommend you bring appropriate clothing. There are ATM's located nearby, but it is recommended you bring some Euros with you (200 to 300 max) Also, we suggest you bring a European adapter for electronics.

When making your reservation, please make us aware of any dietary restrictions so we can plan accordingly, or any health
restrictions we should know about.

TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE is recommended.

PENALTIES FOR CANCELLATION:
Cancellations must be received in writing (can include email). The charges below will apply from the date we receive your written notice.
- The Initial Trip Deposit of $750 per person is fully non-refundable. We can hold this deposit for 2 years should you wish to reschedule on any of our tours.
- 60 to 50 days before departure you will lose 50% of the trip cost already paid or deposit, whichever is greater
- 49 to 11 days before departure you will lose 80% of the cost of the trip cost already paid or deposit whichever is greater
- 10 days or fewer before departure, you will lose 100% of your trip cost paid

Price is guaranteed on a minimum of 4 participants.

Express Disclaimer

You Me & Sicily acts only as an agent for the various independent suppliers that provide hotel accommodations, transportation, sightseeing, meals, activities, or other services connected with this tour.

Such services are subject to the terms and conditions of those suppliers.

You, Me & Sicily, its respective employees, agents, representatives, and assigns accept no liability whatsoever for any injury, damage, loss, accident, delay, or any other incident which may be caused by the negligence, defect, default of any company or person performing these services.

You, Me & Sicily does not accept responsibility for losses, injury, damages or expenses of any kind due to sickness, weather, labor strikes, hostilities, wars, terrorist acts, acts of nature, local laws or other such causes.

All services and accommodations are subject to the laws and regulations of the country in which they are provided, in this case, Italy

You, Me. & Sicily is not responsible for any lost or stolen baggage or personal effects of any individual participating in the tours/trips it arranges.

Individual travelers are responsible for purchasing a travel insurance policy that will cover some of the expenses associated with the loss of luggage or personal effects as well as trip insurance.

Price is guaranteed on a minimum of 4 participants.

TOUR IS BASED ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVE BASIS.
WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND YOU RESERVE YOUR SPOT(S) BY SENDING A DEPOSIT TODAY.

** Tour Schedule is subject to change based on weather conditions and client feedback
SPACE IS LIMITED. BOOK TODAY WITH A DEPOSIT!