

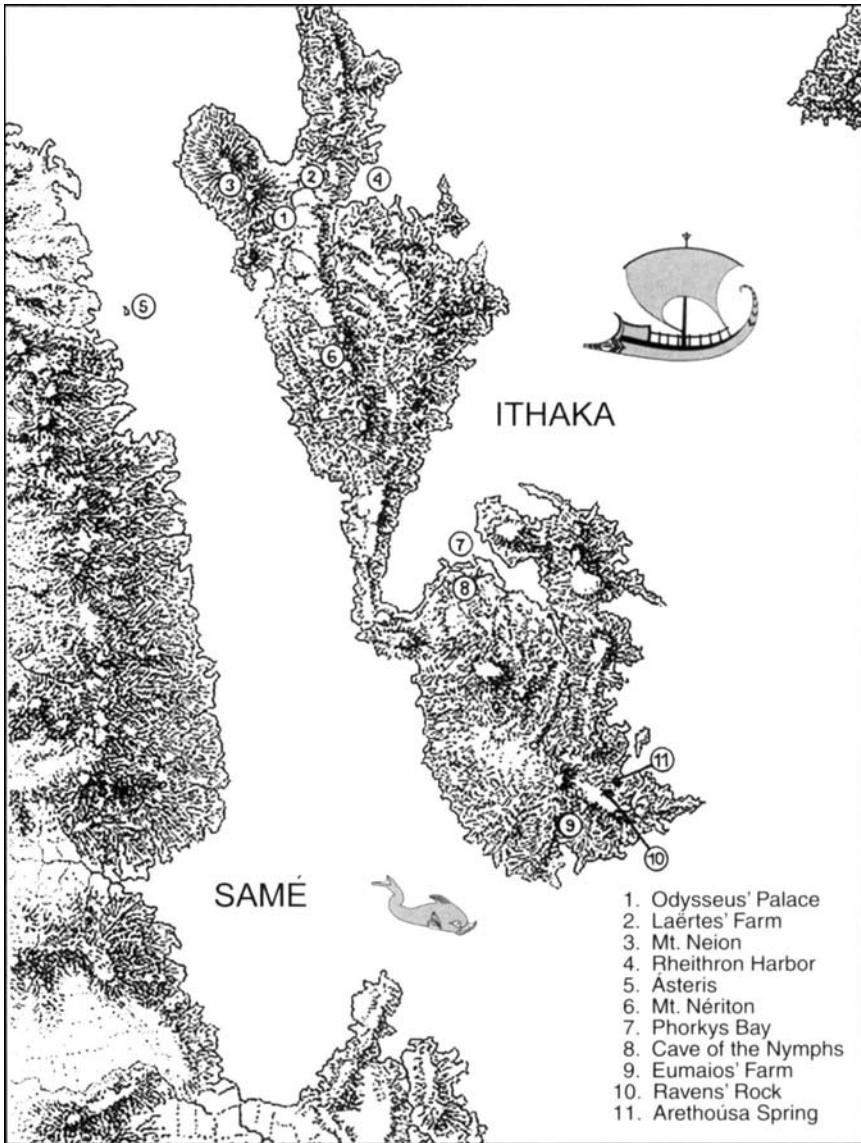
## Maps

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Almost all the geographical names mentioned in the *Odyssey* can be found on one of the following maps drawn by Bruce Burton. Most of them are on the map of Greece and its environs, depicting mainland Greece, the Aegean Sea and its islands, and Asia Minor, where many of these locations have been called by the same name since antiquity. But a few of them are uncertain, and some may be imaginary. Even the identification of Ithaka has been questioned, though most scholars now think the island called Ithaki in modern Greek to be that of the epic. Samè is the modern Kefalonia. The identity of Doulichion, assigned here to the modern island of Lefkada, is uncertain, as is the location of Taphos.

The main purpose of the map of Ithaka is apparent in the relief drawing: to give an image of the island itself in all its hilly, “rugged and rocky” (10.463) beauty so cherished by Odysseus and so suggestive of his own character in that respect, as in the way the sea interpenetrates the land. The location of Odyssean places is controversial; this map shows what British archaeological investigations have proposed, as most recently set forth in J. V. Luce’s *Celebrating Homer’s Landscapes* (165–230), which interested readers should consult. Luce’s views are contested by Prof. Sarantis Symeonoglou of Washington University in St. Louis, who says he has strong archaeological evidence for siting the palace of Odysseus and the city of Ithaka south of Mount Aetos on the southern end of the isthmus connecting the two parts of the island. He places Laërtes’ farm where the palace of Odysseus is on this map. For him, Rheithron Harbor is the water between the two parts of the island, and Phorkys Bay is the long bay leading southeastward from it. He agrees with Luce on the locations of Mount Nériton, the cave of the nymphs, Eumaíos’ farm, Ravens’ Rock, and Arethoúsa Spring, but he places Mount Neion in the southern part. He thinks that Ásteris, where the suitors wait in ambush for Télémachos, is the island off the southeast coast of Ithaka, not far from Ravens’ Rock. Symeonoglou’s views are available in Greek, with a summary in English, in his “The Homeric Geography of Ithaka.”

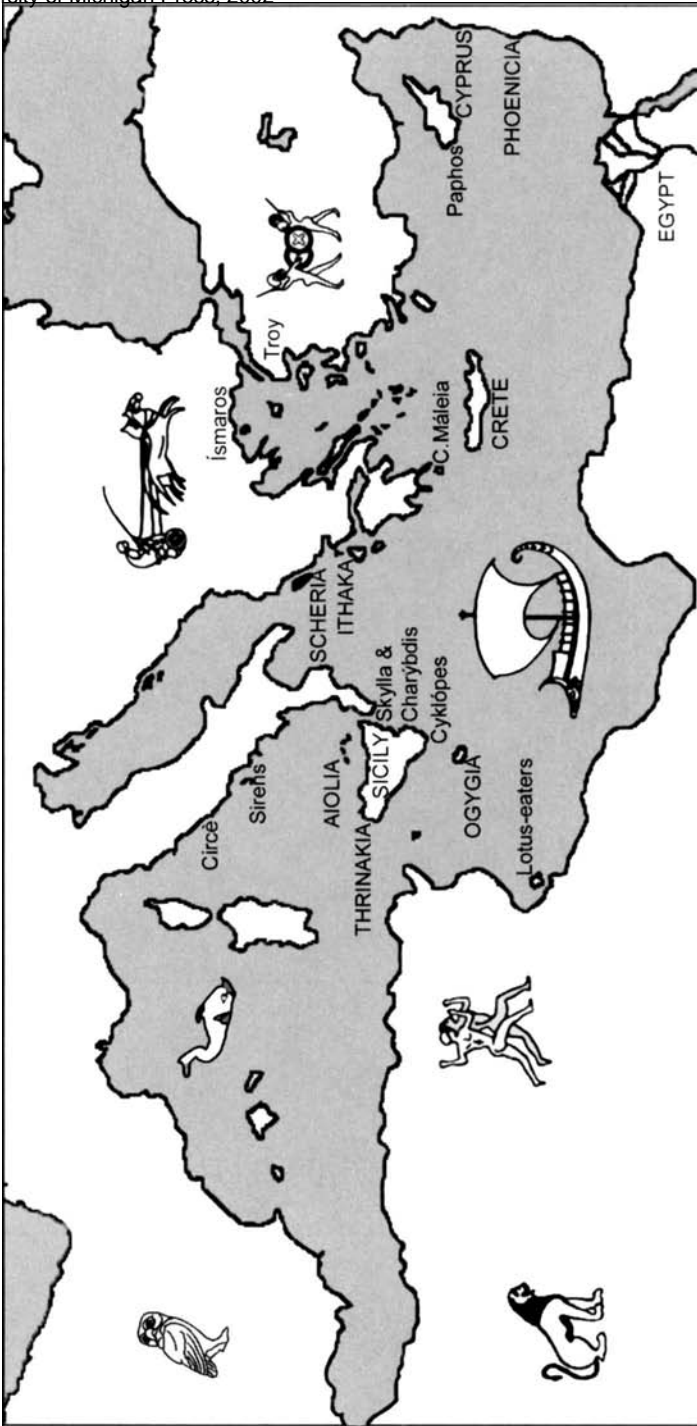
The outline map of the Mediterranean gives sites of Odysseus' adventures as conceived by ancient tradition and conveyed by such writers as the Roman geographer Strabo; it has no claim to authenticity of any sort. Even if these ideas had their origin in ancient nautical lore, they have been so transformed by the poetic imagination as to be unidentifiable. We can say that the Lotus-eaters must have been southwest of Cape Máleia, since the winds blew Odysseus' ships past Kýthera in that direction. But Odysseus' other wanderings are not so clear. In *The Ulysses Voyage*, Tim Severin claims to have recovered a sense of Odysseus' route—radically differing from the one this map would indicate—by actually taking a voyage in such a ship as Odysseus might have captained and following the indications in the text carefully, but his conclusions, while of considerable interest, are probably no more “authentic” than those of the many others who have tried to trace Odysseus.



**Ithaka**



Greece and its environs



The Mediterranean Sea of Odysseus' adventures