

Super Mario returns for epic “Odyssey”

Super Mario Odyssey (Nintendo Switch) sees the eponymous Italian plumber return to an open world format for the first time since 2002

MARIO'S ODYSSEY (selective history)

1981



Inspired by comic strip character Popeye, **Shigeru Miyamoto** (left) creates **Donkey Kong** arcade game for Nintendo of Japan featuring **Jumpman**, later renamed **Mario** in U.S.

1985



Release of **Super Mario Bros** for **NES** (Nintendo Entertainment System)*. First side-scrolling 2D platform game to feature Mario

1989

Super Mario Land, launch game and first Mario title, for **Game Boy** handheld



1993

Super Mario Bros movie†, starring Bob Hoskins, John Leguizamo and Dennis Hopper



1996



Mario receives 3D makeover with release of **Super Mario 64** on **N64**, his first open world sandbox game — **11.9m** units sold

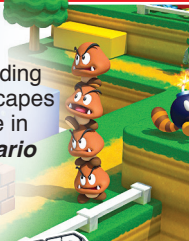
2002

Super Mario Sunshine for **GameCube**, Mario's second 3D sandbox game — **6.3m** copies sold



2011

Mind-bending 3D landscapes to explore in **Super Mario 3D Land** for **3DS** handheld

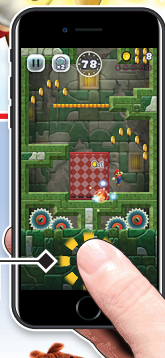


2016



Mario's first foray on smartphone. Reviews generally positive, but criticised for lack of originality

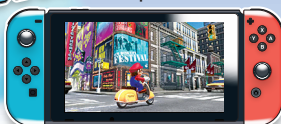
One control: Tap to jump (Mario auto-runs)



2017



Third Super Mario 3D sandbox adventure
Out: Nov 27



In series departure, Mario gains magic hat **Cappy**, which he can use to possess enemies



* known as Famicom in Japan † Widely derided – Rotten Tomatoes score: 3.7/10

Sources: Nintendo, Apple, Super Mario Wiki, wire agencies Pictures: Nintendo, AP © GRAPHIC NEWS