



Odysseus Spacecraft

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Intuitive Mission's **Odysseus spacecraft**, a private Nova-C lunar lander, is on its way to the **Moon** after launching on a **SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket** from the **National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)** Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

- Odysseus is the second private attempt after the [Peregrine lander's failure](#).
- The Falcon 9 is a **two-stage rocket designed** and manufactured by SpaceX to transport people and payloads into Earth's orbit.
- The spacecraft carries six payloads for NASA under the CLPS initiative, testing new technologies and scientific instruments.
 - Key technologies being tested include a LIDAR-based sensor and an electrostatic dust-removal system for spacesuits.
- The spacecraft is set to land on the Moon on **22nd February 2024**.
- The mission aims to become the first American spacecraft to land on the Moon in over 50 years. The last time an American spacecraft landed on the Moon was in **1972, with Apollo 17**.
- The mission is part of NASA's [Commercial Lunar Payload Services \(CLPS\)](#) initiative and [Artemis campaign](#).

Read more: [Challenges in Lunar Landing Missions](#), [Space Missions in 2024](#)

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