



*Taormina | June 10 – 14, 2025*

**MICHAEL DOUGLAS GUEST OF HONOR AT THE OFFICIAL  
OPENING NIGHT OF TAORMINA FILM FESTIVAL 2025**

***The international film icon will receive the “Taormina Excellence Achievement Award” on June 10 at the Teatro Antico***

*Taormina, May 26<sup>th</sup> 2025* - The **Taormina Film Festival** is pleased and honored to announce that **Michael Douglas**, a legendary figure in world cinema, will be the opening guest of the **71st edition**. The actor and producer, winner of two Academy Awards and one of the biggest stars of the Hollywood scene, will receive the prestigious **Taormina Excellence Achievement Award** in the evocative setting of Taormina's Teatro Antico on the evening of **June 10**.

The event is an extraordinary occasion to celebrate the inimitable career of Douglas, who for more than 50 years has embodied the great American film tradition with charisma, talent and commitment. For the occasion, the masterpiece ***Someone Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest***, produced by Douglas in **1975** and winner of five Academy Awards, will be screened to mark the **50th anniversary** of its release.

**Tiziana Rocca**, Artistic Director of the Festival, said, “It is with great excitement and pride that we announce the presence of **Michael Douglas** as the guest of honor on the opening night of the Taormina Film Festival. An icon of world cinema, actor and producer extraordinaire, Michael Douglas has marked entire generations with unforgettable performances and an unwavering commitment to the enhancement of cinematic art. But my esteem for him is also of a personal nature; I still remember very well and with emotion the evening organized in Rome in honor of his father Kirk.

In the evocative setting of Taormina's Teatro Antico, we will pay tribute to his extraordinary career with the presentation of the **Taormina Excellence Achievement Award**, a recognition that celebrates not only his talent but also his lasting contribution to international film culture. His presence is a great honor for us and a sign of the importance of our Festival on the world stage. It will be a moment of great emotion, a memorable opening that will kick off an edition full of cinema, encounters and shared passions.”

**Sergio Bonomo**, extraordinary commissioner of the Fondazione Taormina Arte Sicilia, also enthusiastically welcomes the official announcement of the prestigious participation of Michael Douglas, an icon of the international film firmament: “The 71st edition of the Taormina Film Festival will certainly shine again with its own light, not only for the return of the film competition, but also for the participation of numerous stars, involved thanks to the intense work of Artistic Director Tiziana Rocca. And certainly, the surprises are not over...”

In addition to the ceremony and screening, Michael Douglas will be the protagonist of a **special meeting with students**, a unique moment of confrontation and inspiration for the new generations, during which he will share experiences, reflections and anecdotes related to his extraordinary career and the history of cinema.

The Taormina Film Festival thus renews its vocation to be a bridge between great cinema and the public, offering every year appointments of exceptional cultural and artistic value. The presence of **Michael Douglas**, an emblematic figure of contemporary cinema, confirms the international importance of the event and its ability to attract the great protagonists of the seventh art.

The Taormina Film Festival is an initiative organized by the Fondazione Taormina Arte Sicilia, directly promoted by the Sicily Region's Department of Tourism, Sports and Entertainment, with the support of the MiC, Ministry of Culture - General Directorate for Cinema and Audiovisual.

**NATIONAL PRESS OFFICE | MANZOPICCIRILLO**

Alessio Piccirillo 393.9328580 | Pierluigi Manzo 347.0133173 | Antonino Scalzo 339.4821000  
[info@manzopiccirillo.com](mailto:info@manzopiccirillo.com)

**REGIONAL PRESS OFFICE**

Saro Laganà | 333. 9218131 | [saro@sarolagana.com](mailto:saro@sarolagana.com)