



CUNARD

The Most Famous Ocean Liners in the World



QUEEN ELIZABETH 2

Fact Sheet

The world's most recognised liner, the legendary Queen Elizabeth 2, has set the standard for elegant cruising since she first put to sea in 1969.

Designed to capture the grandeur of the "golden age" of cruising, QE2 is famous for her lavish accommodation, attentive white-gloved service and opulent, yet graceful public areas. Over the decades, QE2's timeless style has attracted thousands of eminent travellers from around the globe, from royalty, to politicians and statesmen, musicians, authors and actors.

Since her first voyage, QE2 has carried millions of passengers and sailed more than 5 million nautical miles – more than any ship in history and equivalent to travelling to the moon and back more than 11 times.

2007 marks another important milestone in the stellar history of QE2, when she sails on her 25th silver jubilee world cruise. QE2 is also now the longest serving Cunard liner in history.

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II christened QE2 in 1969 and the liner operated as the flagship for Cunard Line for 35 years until she handed the baton to Queen Mary 2 in 2004.

But QE2's sailing history has not all been cocktails and canapés, with the British Government requisitioning the liner for military service in 1982 to transport troops to South Georgia for the Falklands War. The liner returned safely to Britain and was overhauled for her re-entry into commercial service.

Since her maiden voyage, Cunard has invested more than 15 times QE2's original cost in regular multi-million dollar refurbishments and redesigns to ensure she retains her prestigious identity.

Three-quarters of QE2's 950 staterooms have ocean views, and the ship features 12 decks packed with sports facilities, lounges, bars, an indoor and an outdoor pool, seven restaurants and boutiques including the first sea-going Harrods, the London-based luxury department store.

Despite her many years of service, QE2 is still the fastest merchant ship in operation, capable of speeds up to 32.5 knots.

For more information visit www.cunardline.com.au or call 13 24 41 for reservations within Australia.

Media information:

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VITAL STATISTICS

ENTERED SERVICE	1969
LENGTH	294 metres
SIZE	70,327 tonnes
WIDTH	32 metres
CAPACITY	1,906 passengers
DRAFT	10 metres
MAXIMUM SPEED	32.5 knots

QUEEN ELIZABETH 2: 36 YEARS OF ACHIEVEMENT

- QE2 has sailed more than 5.3 million nautical miles – more than any ship in history and equivalent to travelling to the moon and back more than 11 times.
- She has carried almost three million passengers – many of them returning again and again to their second home.
- QE2 has made 795 Atlantic crossings, completed 24 full world voyages and been commanded by 23 Captains.
- She has called at New York 207 times and Southampton 641 times.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Cunard Line's first ship Britannia would fit inside QE2's Grand Lounge.
- QE2 is probably the most misnamed liner in the world – Queen Elizabeth 2 not Queen Elizabeth II.
- It cost just over £29 million (A\$63.6 million) to build QE2 in 1969.
- The liner is the fastest merchant ship in operation, capable of speeds up to 32.5 knots.
- The £100 million (A\$219.4 million) cost of replacing the QE2's original engines with diesel electric engines in 1986 was the largest amount ever spent on such a project. The steam turbines have powered the QE2 2,622,858 million nautical miles, equivalent to about 120 times around the world.
- QE2 has the largest marine motors built, nine diesel electric engines each the size of a double-decker bus and the most powerful propulsion plant on a non-military vessel.
- The liner can sail backwards faster than most cruise ships can sail forwards; her full speed astern is 19 knots.
- QE2 has the only synagogue at sea and the largest cinema at sea.

FOOD & BEVERAGE

- QE2 is the largest consumer of caviar on earth.
- The number of teabags used each day would supply a family for an entire year.
- To eat QE2's daily consumption of breakfast cereal, one person would have to eat at least two packets a day for more than a year.
- Enough fruit juice is consumed annually to fill the liner's two swimming pools almost eight times.
- About 158, 520 gallons of beverage are consumed annually.
- Together, Heineken and Becks account for almost half of all the beer consumed onboard.
- The most expensive food item on board (gram for gram) is saffron.
- QE2 sends all its used cooking oil ashore for reconstituting into animal feed.