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Cunard ventures globally with expanded destinations, voyages

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Cunard's Queen Mary 2

By STAFF REPORTS

In 2017, Cunard's fleet will travel more than 207,000 nautical miles as the cruise line expands its range of destinations.

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With the launch of its 2017 Voyages Programme, next year will see the current ships sail to 93 destinations in 32 countries. Keeping with its heritage, Cunard will continue to complete regular Transatlantic Crossings, helping to differentiate its offerings from those of other lines.

Sailing away

Cunard's 2017 Voyage Program will take Cunard to four maiden ports of call, including Souda Bay, Greece; Sibenik, Croatia; Brindisi, Italy; and Praia da Vitoria, Portugal.

Across these trips, consumers will spend overnight calls in St. Petersburg, Venice and Barcelona, and the ship will be in port for the evening in 18 locations, including Dublin, Monte Carlo and Boston. The Queen Victoria will also sail around the continent of Africa, stopping at 22 ports along the way.

The Queen Mary 2 will be crossing the Atlantic Ocean 24 times throughout the year in journeys lasting seven to eight nights. The ship will undergo a remodel this year, which includes the refurbishing of every stateroom.



Remastered Britannia Balcony stateroom aboard Queen Mary 2

Special cruises will celebrate Le Havre's 500th Anniversary in France, or transport travelers to the Arena di Verona, the longest running open air opera festival worldwide.

The 2018 World & Exotic Voyages Programme will cover 93 ports in 46 countries, with 17 new ports of call.

A first for Cunard, its Queen Victoria will offer a two to three month voyage to South America. This will take guests to the Magellan Straits, Chilean Fjords and Cape Horn, with overnights in Rio de Janeiro and Buenos Aires.

"We are proud to announce a robust 2017 Voyages and 2018 World & Exotic Cruise Programme," said Richard Meadows, president of Cunard North America, in a brand statement. "With the remastering of our flagship Queen Mary 2 this year, and Queen Victoria's planned refit in 2017 which includes the significant addition of Britannia Club accommodations - Cunard's iconic vessels will be more luxurious than ever, offering new and richer experiences for our guests."

Cunard is continuing its tradition of on-board events by hosting the Big Band Ball on its Queen Elizabeth and Queen Victoria, letting guests dance to the sounds of a 13-piece orchestra.

The global cruise line also showed off its creativity with a pair of newly announced event programs.

"Transatlantic Fashion Week" will put patrons in touch with industry members in the lead up to New York Fashion Week, while "British Isles Culinary Discovery" will do the same with gastronomical celebrities. Creative "event" cruises help differentiate Cunard from other cruise lines and foster a reputation of "luxury" because of its ties to other sectors, events and people ([see story](#)).

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