

TRAVEL AND HOSPITALITY

Cunard donates 23 tons of food for distribution to impoverished in rural and coastal UK

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Cunard's Queen Mary 2 in the foreground with the Queen Elizabeth and Queen Victoria in the background. Image credit: Cunard

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

The Cunard cruise line has made a number of food donations from two of its ships to charity in its home country of the United Kingdom.

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The Queen Mary 2 and Queen Victoria have donated 25 pallets, or nearly 23 tons of their supplies to U.K. food rescue charity UKHarvest. The two ships are currently moored in their home, the English port of Southampton, due to COVID-19 travel restrictions.

"The Cunard team, both ship and shore, are so pleased to have been able to make a small difference with these donations, especially at this time when so many people globally are going through such a difficult time," said Cunard executive chef Nicholas Oldroyd in a statement.

"We would like to thank our partners, including the Port of Southampton, in making this happen."

Ship shape?

Cunard is known for its stately cruise liners, including Queen Elizabeth, that ply transatlantic journeys as well as other trips across oceans. Those journeys have been paused amid the COVID-19 coronavirus outbreak that generated restrictions on ports and travelers from affected countries.

The food donations from both ships comprise frozen and chilled fruit and vegetables as well as dry food including staple pantry eatables, cereal and chocolate.

UKHarvest is a nonprofit perishable food rescue operation that collects quality excess food from commercial outlets and delivers it, direct and free of charge, to charities. This food is distributed to vulnerable men, women and children across mostly rural and coastal U.K.

"This contribution of nutritious food has been incredible, especially during the COVID-19 lockdown period," said UKHarvest founder/CEO Yvonne Thomson in a statement.

"We have been able to donate to COVID-19 Emergency Centers, deliver food parcels to vulnerable people and ensure that school children have been fed," she said. "This is the beginning of a relationship with Cunard and we can't thank Cunard enough for their generosity."

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