

TRAVEL AND HOSPITALITY

Cunard connects with literature lovers with special sailing

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The Queen Mary 2 is hosting the 2022 Literature Festival at Sea. Image credit: Cunard

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

Cruise line Cunard is honoring the art of literature with a special event aboard the Queen Mary 2.

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This December, the flagship ocean liner will host the Literature Festival at Sea, curated by the programming team of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*. The festival will consist of workshops, talks and readings during a seven-night transatlantic journey.

"Cunard is delighted to once again host a dazzling line-up of acclaimed literary talent who will headline our 2022 Literature Festival at sea," said Jamie Paiko, vice president of [Cunard North America](#), in a statement. "Our guests will truly relish this second-to-none ocean travel experience as they sail with these renowned authors amidst the elegance and style of our flagship, Queen Mary 2."

Stories set sail

Literary talents including Bernardine Evaristo, Richard Osman, Mary Beard, Ian Rankin, Rachel Johnson, Alexander McCall Smith, Damian Barr and Ed Balls will be joining the 2022 festival.

During the voyage, which sets sail from New York to Southampton on Dec. 3, passengers can attend talks and readings from authors and journalists. They also have the opportunity to participate in workshops to improve their own writing.

The last Literature Festival at Sea took place in 2019

"This unique floating literature festival adds another dimension to that feeling of freedom we get when we're lost in a good book," Mr. Barr said in a statement. "Away from the world and all its concerns, I find that I think more deeply and have richer conversations with fellow writers and chance chats with passengers along the way."

The seven-night sailing is priced at \$1,039 per person.

Supporting arts and culture is at the core of Cunard's ethos.

Cunard now operates as the official cruise line of Orange County's Pacific Symphony.

The partnership provides Cunard an opportunity for West Coast cruise and classical musical enthusiasts to learn more about the line's presence in the region. Queen Elizabeth will be sailing north through Los Angeles in late May 2022, followed by the second Alaska season beginning in early June ([see story](#)).

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