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RMS Queen Elizabeth and QE2: A History

With over 70 years cultural significance behind it, the RMS Queen Elizabeth is the very epitome of glamour and patriotism combined. The Queen Victoria was in the process of being built when the American depression halted all work being done on her and she lay derelict for years. After merging with White Star, Cunard was offered a loan to continue the work on the Queen Victoria as well as starting a new ship, the RMS Queen Elizabeth.

Once completed the Queen Elizabeth was due for a royal launch into her maiden voyage. With the outbreak of the Second World War, her original designation as a luxury liner was put on hold whilst she aided the war efforts. her unscheduled change in career didnt go unnoticed, as both her and her running mate the Queen Victoria were hailed as great helps toward the war ending by Winston Churchill. It wasnt until the mid 40s that both the Queen Elizabeth and the Queen Mary were able to begin their original commission as ocean liners. For over 20 years these magnificent ships sailed the Atlantic symbolising the golden era of the cruise industry for [Cunard Cruises](#).

To ensure Cunard was able to keep up with the times, it was decided the two liners needed to be replaced towards the end of the 60s. With transportation like air travel become more accessible, sea travel needed to become both cheaper and quicker to keep up. The QE2 was launched in 1969 and would go on to become of the most iconic ships to ever sail. Although smaller and cheaper than her predecessor, the QE2 still retained the glamour associated with a Cunard liner allowing her to compete with the air travel industry. After being the flag ship of not only Cunard cruises but the epitome of luxury [5 star cruises in general, she was brought by a Dubai investment company in 2007. Although originally brought to be added to Dubais collection of magnificent hotels the global credit crises halted these plans. As a result, this beautiful ship has been left almost abandoned.](#)

Cunard recently announced that work has started on the next Elizabeth cruise ship. With the launch of the MS Queen Elizabeth expected in the autumn of 2010 its promised to be the very embodiment of [five star cruises and one of the most advanced ships on the water. Said to have the essence of the 1930s in its interior decor it will exemplify the spirit and the class of its name sake predecessor.](#)

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