



Cunard Culminates its 175th Anniversary Celebration in its North American Home Port of New York

July 6, 2015

SOUTHAMPTON, England, July 6, 2015 /PRNewswire/ -- On 14 July 2015, New York City will witness the conclusion of [Cunard's](#) 175th anniversary commemorative *Transatlantic Crossing* as [Queen Mary 2](#) sails into its U.S. home port for a spectacular finale. The arrival of the great Cunard ocean liner will be marked by a flotilla of historic ships and Coast Guard vessels, including the [Mary A Whalen](#), an oil tanker; the [Eric R Thornton](#), tug boat; [John J Harvey Fireboat](#); [Nantucket Lightship](#), and the [Pegasus Tug](#) after she passes under the Verrazano Bridge at approximately 5:30 am and berths alongside the Red Hook Terminal at 7:15 am. This culmination will be the end of a journey that pays tribute to the original voyage made by Cunard's first flagship, Britannia, as the company inaugurated the first scheduled mail and passenger service across the Atlantic on 4 July 1840.

Cunard has been sailing in and out of New York City ever since the Hibernia first called in 1847, and the company is very proud to call Red Hook Brooklyn its home since 2006. Sites of the company's earlier history and its relationship to the city can be seen through the Cunard White Star sign at Pier 54 and the Cunard Building at 25 Broadway, which was completed in 1921 and is considered a New York City landmark today.

"Cunard's relationship with the city of New York holds a distinctly unique place in our 175-year history," said Richard Meadows, president, Cunard North America. "From the great period of emigration in the mid-19th and early 20th century, when Cunard carried approximately one in five emigrants from the old World to North America, many to Ellis Island, to the transportation of hundreds of thousands of military troops across the Atlantic during World War II, New York has been our U.S. homeport for decades, and has played a significant role in the transformative world events during our history. We are very pleased today to extend our heartfelt thanks for our enduring relationship with this great city."

New York Stock Exchange

In the afternoon, Cunard's 175th anniversary will be marked by the ringing of the Closing Bell at the New York Stock Exchange by the master of **Queen Mary 2**, Captain Kevin Oprey, as a testament to the economic and industrial achievements of the company, as well as to the future of the brand.

"Cunard is pleased to contribute to the growing success, visibility and economic impact of the city and to be a part of New York's growing cruise business, which attracts international visitors from across the globe," Meadows added.

Queen Mary 2 Light Show Spectacular

Later in the evening, a spectacular light and music show, designed by the acclaimed [Quantum Theatricals](#), will mark the finale as **Queen Mary 2** embarks on her return journey back across the Atlantic. The show, which will be cast over the ship, illuminating New York harbor and the sky above, will bring viewers on a fantastic journey through Cunard's 175 years of history, as well as celebrate the future that lies ahead. This production will begin at approximately 9:30 pm as **Queen Mary 2** holds position in front of the Statue of Liberty, and will be available for public viewing from Battery Park.

For more information about **Queen Mary 2**, **Queen Victoria** or **Queen Elizabeth** and to book a voyage, contact your Travel Consultant, call Cunard toll free at 1-800-728-6273, or visit www.cunard.com.

About Queen Mary 2

Christened by Her Majesty The Queen in 2004, Cunard Line's flagship **Queen Mary 2** defines luxury travel for the 21st Century and continues an almost 175-year legacy of transatlantic travel. **Queen Mary 2** achieved her 200th Transatlantic Crossing in July 2013. Famous names who have experienced this iconic voyage since 2004 include President George H.W. Bush, Desmond Tutu, James Taylor, Wes Anderson, Tilda Swinton, George Takei, Kim Novak, Uma Thurman, Richard Dreyfuss, John Cleese and Angela Bassett.

About Cunard

Cunard, operator of the luxury ocean liners **Queen Mary 2**, **Queen Victoria** and **Queen Elizabeth**, has long been synonymous with the quest for new discoveries and the epitome of British refinement since the company's first paddle-wheeled steamer, Britannia, crossed the Atlantic in 1840. Cunard voyages bring together like-minded travellers who seek a civilised adventure and relish the Cunard hallmarks of impeccable White Star Service, gourmet dining and world-class entertainment. Today, Cunard offers the only regularly scheduled Transatlantic liner service and continues the legacy of world cruising which it began in 1922.

World's Leading Cruise Lines

Cunard is a proud member of World's Leading Cruise Lines. Our exclusive alliance also includes Carnival Cruise Lines, Holland America Line, Princess Cruises, Costa Cruises and Seabourn. Sharing a passion to please each guest and a commitment to quality and value, World's Leading Cruise Lines inspires people to discover their best vacation experience. Together, we offer a variety of exciting and enriching cruise vacations to the world's most desirable destinations. Visit us at www.worldsleadingcruiselines.com.

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