

A Long History in United Kingdom for World's Largest Cruise Company

Carnival Corporation & plc, the world's largest cruise company, has a long history of operations in the United Kingdom and of providing legendary service to England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland and Northern Ireland that goes back to the first half of the 19th century. Today, the dually-listed British-American company has its U.K. headquarters in Southampton, England, and its world headquarters in Miami, Florida.

On a combined basis, Carnival Corporation's family of nine cruise lines, which include P&O Cruises UK, Cunard and Princess Cruises, offers hundreds of sailings each year from ports all over the U.K. and Ireland and makes port calls in nearly 50 different locations in the British Isles.

Carnival Corporation's P&O Cruises UK, which began operations in 1837, is the leading and most recognized cruise brand in the U.K. With a reputation for delivering exceptional holidays, dining, entertainment, customer service, programming and shore excursions uniquely tailored to British tastes, P&O Cruises is focused on serving primarily the U.K. and Irish markets, but offers cruises to global destinations and serves customers from around the world. It has two new ships on order to be delivered in 2020 and 2022. In 2015, P&O Cruises launched the 141,000-ton, 3,611-passenger Britannia as its new flagship.

Cunard is one of the most storied passenger ship lines in history, beginning in 1840 as the first line authorized to provide regularly scheduled transatlantic sailings. Cunard maintains a significant operational presence at Carnival Corporation's U.K. office in Southampton. The line operates three world-famous luxury ships: the recently remastered 148,500-ton, 2,620-passenger true ocean liner Queen Mary 2; the 90,000-ton, 2,000-plus-passenger Queen Victoria that also recently went through an extensive refurbishment; and the newest, the 92,000-ton, 2,092-passenger Queen Elizabeth. A new 3,000-passenger capacity ship is scheduled for delivery to the line in 2022, heralding the next generation of Cunard vessels. The three Queens sail globally offering unique, sophisticated travel experiences to travelers from around the world. They still serve Cunard's most famous route – Southampton to New York – in both directions multiple times each year.

Princess Cruises is the brand considered to have introduced much of the world to cruise vacations, with its Pacific Princess being the star of the globally popular television series, "The Love Boat." Princess Cruises continues to offer a number of sailings to and from British and Irish ports each year.

Carnival Corporation's roots in the British Isles go back to 1822, when a London ship broker named Brodie McGhie Willcox and a sailor from the Shetland Isles named Arthur Anderson became partners in operating a shipping line that served routes primarily between England and the Iberian Peninsula. In 1835, a Dublin ship owner and captain named Richard Bourne joined the business and the three men began operating scheduled service under the name Peninsular Steam Navigation Company. In 1840, the company incorporated as the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, which quickly became commonly known as P&O.

Throughout its history, P&O focused on carrying both passengers and cargo. Cunard did the same. Throughout the era of innovations such as transatlantic air travel, Cunard maintained a niche in luxury passenger service, while P&O focused primarily on cargo shipping around the world and the still-strong passenger travel markets in Australia, India and other parts of Asia and Oceania. In 1974, P&O acquired

Princess Cruise Lines and together formed P&O Princess Cruises. In 2000, P&O decided to focus solely on its cargo shipping and other businesses and spun off P&O Princess Cruises as an independent company.

In 2003, Carnival Corporation and P&O Princess Cruises merged to form Carnival Corporation & plc. Though managed as a single company, Carnival plc exists as a publicly-listed British company, while Carnival Corporation is a U.S.-listed public corporation. They maintain dual headquarters in Miami and Southampton, but their executive management teams are identical.

Though Carnival Corporation & plc, P&O Cruises, Cunard and Princess hire crew members from all over the world, many of those employees make their permanent homes in the U.K., where many of their ships are homeported.

Source: Carnival Corporation Corporate Communications | April 2018