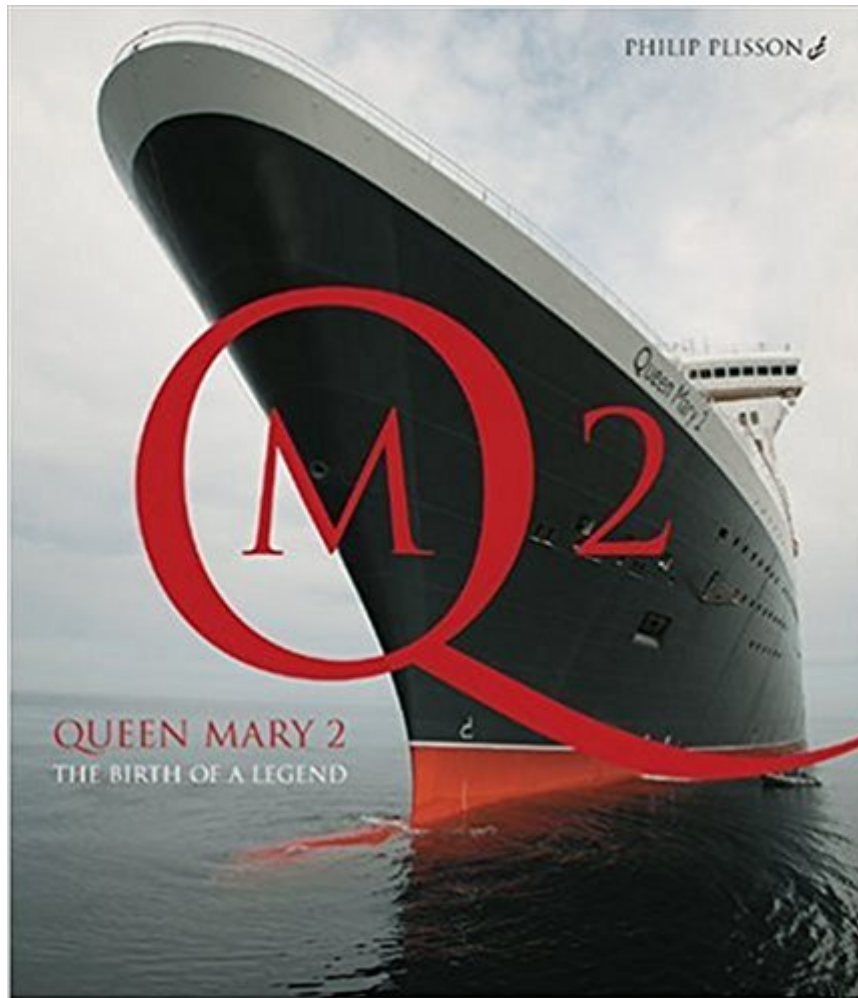




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Queen Mary 2: The Birth Of A Legend



Synopsis

The Queen Mary 2 is a feat of technology when one considers the massive scale of the project and the number of services offered on board this floating city. In length (1,100 feet), height (equal to that of a 23-story building), and weight (160,000 tons), the Queen Mary 2 surpasses all of its predecessors. It is the most technologically advanced and environmentally friendly liner ever built, and is captured in its full glory by Plisson's photographs. The informative text by journalist Gwen-Hael Denigot examines the construction, architecture, style, and mission of the Queen Mary 2, and also offers the historical background of Cunard Cruiseline Ships. This luxurious homage to the birth of a legend reveals the intrinsic beauty of technological excellence that will appeal to anyone interested in liners, travel, and architecture alike.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A "giant of the seas," the transatlantic liner Queen Mary 2 is longer than the Eiffel Tower is high and can carry more passengers than any ship in history (up to 3,090, in addition to 1,253 crew members). This book provides an in-depth look at the ship, with photos illustrating the laborious construction process. Everything about the QM2 is dizzying, from the 17,000 people involved in its construction to the amenities offered on board, which include a planetarium, dog kennels, five meals a day plus snacks and a "College at Sea" program. The opening text describes the ship's history and capabilities, and is full of impressive facts (for example, the QM2 is the biggest consumer of caviar worldwide, and 1,000 bottles of champagne are drunk every day). However, the

book was produced with the collaboration of Cunard and its mother company Carnival, and the text at times resembles that of a promotional brochure ("In true Cunard tradition, passengers on board the QM2 will see the vastness of the ocean seascape matched by the evocative luxury of the ship's Art Deco interior"). Many photos document the construction process, from the cutting of the first plate to the interior decoration. Though views of the cranes on the dry docks or scaffolding around the stern are not conventionally beautiful, they are fascinating in their own way. Images of the first months of sailing show the ship in all its glory, welcomed by revelers in Martinique and gliding past the Statue of Liberty to reach New York's harbor. This lavish book is an appropriate tribute to the luxury of the QM2; even those who will never be able to afford a ride on the ocean liner will enjoy seeing how it came to life. More than 300 color illustrations. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Philip Plisson is a highly acclaimed marine photographer, who in 1990 was admitted into the exclusive and historic group *Peintres de la Marine* (Official Painters of the French Navy). Gwen-Hael Denigot is a freelance journalist specializing in subjects relating to the sea. She is a regular contributor to the science magazines.

QM2 is an amazing ocean liner and one of the last of the kind. Ever wonder why the new QE (3) and QV don't have a book like this? Well, they are mere cruise ships (Vista-class) formulated and altered to be like a liner, but they are not. This book is all about the construction and launch of the RMS QM2, which today stands as the last ocean liner ever built by Cunard since the QE2. The book has a very thick cover, almost padded like, and not textbook feel. It has some very interesting and rare photographs of the liner during construction to fitting out to sea trials. The pages are thicker than a regular book, but are very good quality. Please note that there seems to be two covers that exist for this book. The one I have is the straight bow-on view that the bridge cannot be seen. Obviously, the cover shown on is the one that is more collectible and highly sought after, with the bow-on slightly angled revealing more of QM2's superstructure and bridge. This book will be rare in the future and a collectible for fans of ocean liner and travels.

I actually bought this book from during a cruise aboard the QM2! The ship's book store is ridiculously overpriced, but I was able to see this book up against some others that were available. I chose this one. (QM2 also has an overpriced internet connection, so the book was waiting for me when I got home.) This book is loaded with good pictures about the construction of the ship, her

fitting out, acceptance trials, and many shots of the interior while it was being finished out. One real positive- unlike most other books of this type, you don't have almost a third of the book devoted to the history of ocean liners or the Cunard line!

A collection of large format photos taken during construction, and a short history of Cunard are the best part of this book. I found the book lacking in narrative about the ship's design and I found most of those big photos uninteresting. I bought this book used for a fraction of the price it sold as new and recommend interested parties do the same.

We were lucky to get our copy signed by the captain of the QM2 - highly recommend getting a copy to get signed, if you are planning a trip across the pond!!!!

Great story in photos of how an amazing ship was built. Most of book is delegated to the construction and development of the ship. There are images of the completed ship in later chapters. Wonderful angles and imagery, and behind the scenes shots. It is a great value for the money.

The book capturing the birth of the Queen Mary II is awesome. The photography and narrative, as well as, the construction technique of the world's newest transatlantic liner are incredible. It is amazing to realize that the Titanic with a capacity of almost as many passengers and crew is less than one third the size of the QM2.

I bought the book, Queen Mary 2: The Birth of a Legend as a birthday gift for a friend who had crossed the Atlantic in her last September. He was very excited about receiving the book. He has said that he has since gotten in trouble with his wife because he has been ignoring his "honey-do list" in order to enjoy the book. He is enthralled with the visual images, and has enjoyed reading about its birth. It is a highly recommended book.

Words can't describe how wonderful this book is. A must for all ocean liner enthusiasts.

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