



## **Queen Mary 2 to Make Encore Visit to Busselton in 2018**

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Busselton's growing popularity as a cruise destination has been given a major boost, with Cunard today announcing that its magnificent flagship Queen Mary 2 will make her second call to the port in February 2018.

Queen Mary 2 is due to make her first visit to Busselton on February 13 next year, with guests spending the day exploring the coastal town and the famous Margaret River wine region.

Her encore visit will happen exactly one year later with the liner scheduled to call at Busselton again on February 13, 2018 as part of her 120-night world voyage.

Announcing the 2018 visit, Ann Sherry, Executive Chairman of Carnival Australia, which represents Cunard, said Queen Mary 2's return was testament to Busselton's growing appeal as a cruise destination.

"Since it received its first cruise ship visit in late 2014, Busselton has featured on many cruise lines' itineraries, with guests keen to explore the wonderful attractions and natural beauty of the region," Ms Sherry said.

Ms Sherry said a one-day transit visit by a cruise ship could generate up to \$500,000 for local communities in crew and guest spending.

"Cruise tourism is booming around Australia so it's wonderful to see the Busselton region sharing in the economic benefits with a second Cunard visit on the cards," she said.

Queen Mary 2's 2018 call will form part of an extended season in Australian waters, with the liner due to sail on a 13-night circumnavigation of New Zealand as well as a four-night roundtrip cruise to Kangaroo Island from Melbourne.

Carrying 2600 guests, Queen Mary 2 is the world's most famous passenger ship, attracting spectators wherever she goes. Her many features include more than 1300 staterooms, a soaring six-storey Grand Lobby, the largest ballroom and library at sea, the three-storey 1347-seat Britannia Restaurant and Illuminations, the first planetarium at sea.

**Cunard's 2018 World Voyage program will be on sale from April 13. For more details on Cunard visit [www.cunard.com](http://www.cunard.com), phone 132 441 or see a licensed travel agent.**

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