

THE WORLD'S LARGEST PASSENGER SHIPS

FROM 1831-PRESENT

- Title held
- Tonnage
- Capacity
- Port of Registry
- Length
- Status
- Operator

1831-37 **SS ROYAL WILLIAM**

The first to make a transatlantic voyage almost entirely steam-powered (1833)

1,370 GRT
49 meters (160 feet)
 155+ passengers
 Sank (1860)
 Canada (British North America)
 Private owners

1837-39 **SS GREAT WESTERN**

The first steamship built with the express purpose of crossing the Atlantic

1,340 GRT
76.8 meters (252 feet)
 128 passengers; 20 servants; 60 crew
 United Kingdom
 Scrapped (1853)
 Great Western Steamship Company

1837

1837-40 **SS BRITISH QUEEN**

Second steamship purpose-built for the transatlantic route

1,850 GRT
75 meters (245 feet)
 207 passengers
 Scrapped (1844)
 United Kingdom
 British and American Steam Navigation Company

1840-41 **SS PRESIDENT**

The first steamship to sink during a transatlantic run

2,366 GRT
74 meters (243 feet)
 110 passengers; 44 servants
 Lost at sea (1841)
 United Kingdom
 British and American Steam Navigation Company

1841

1841-43 **SS BRITISH QUEEN**

Sold in 1841 to Belgium, which kept its name out of respect for Queen Victoria

1,850 GRT
75 meters (245 feet)
 207 passengers
 Scrapped (1844)
 Belgium
 British and American Steam Navigation Company

1843-53 **SS GREAT BRITAIN**

The longest-running passenger ship in the world

3,270 GRT
98 meters (322 feet)
 360 passengers; 120 crew
 Retired (1886); Museum ship (as of 1984)
 United Kingdom
 Great Western Steamship Company

1853

1853-58 **SS ATRATO**

Was originally designated as a royal mail ship (RMS)

3,466 GRT
110 meters (350 feet)
 762+ passengers
 Sank (1884)
 United Kingdom
 Royal Mail Steam Packet Company

1858

1858-88 **SS GREAT EASTERN**

Was the largest passenger ship in the world for four decades

18,915 GRT
211 meters (692 feet)
 4,000 passengers; 418 crew
 Scrapped (1889)
 United Kingdom
 Eastern Steam Navigation Company

1883

1888-93 **SS CITY OF NEW YORK**

Almost collided with the RMS Titanic as it embarked on its doomed maiden voyage in 1912

10,499 GRT
170 meters (560 feet)
 1,740 passengers; 362 crew
 Scrapped (1923)
 United Kingdom
 Inman Line

1893

1893-97 **RMS CAMPANIA AND RMS LUCANIA**

These sister ships were identical, but the Lucania proved to be marginally faster.

12,950 GRT
190 meters (622 feet)
 2,000 passengers; 424 crew
 RMS Campania Sunk (1918);
 RMS Lucania Scrapped (1909)
 United Kingdom
 Cunard Line

1897

1897-99 **SS KAISER WILHELM DER GROSSE**

Was converted to an auxiliary cruiser and fitted with armaments at the start of World War I

14,349 GRT
200 meters (655 feet)
 1,506 passengers; 488 crew
 Scuttled (1914)
 Germany (German Empire)
 North German Lloyd

1899

1899-1901 **RMS OCEANIC**

In 1912, it retrieved three bodies floating in a lifeboat after the sinking of the Titanic.

17,272 GRT
215 meters (704 feet)
 1,710 passengers; 349 crew
 Ran aground (1914)
 United Kingdom
 White Star Line

1901

1901-03 **RMS CELTIC**

Throughout its career, it survived striking a mine, a U-boat torpedo attack, and two collisions with other ships.

20,904 GRT
214 meters (701 feet)
 2,857 passengers
 Ran aground (1928)
 United Kingdom
 White Star Line

1903

1903-04 **RMS CEDRIC**

Converted into an armed vessel in 1914, a troopship in 1916, and back to an ocean liner in 1919

21,035 GRT
210 meters (700 feet)
 1,223 passengers; 486 crew
 Scrapped (1930)
 United Kingdom
 White Star Line

1904

1904-06 **RMS BALTIC**

Evacuated Americans from Europe and transported war materials to Britain at the start of World War I

23,876 GRT
222 meters (729 feet)
 2,875 passengers
 Scrapped (1933)
 United Kingdom
 White Star Line

1906

1906-07 **SS KAISERIN AUGUSTE VICTORIA**

Changed hands three times and was renamed RMS Empress of Scotland under the flag of Canada in 1921

24,581 GRT
206.5 meters (677.5 feet)
 2,466 passengers
 Scuttled (1930)
 Germany (German Empire)
 Hamburg America Line

1907

1907 **RMS LUSITANIA**

Torpedoed and sank by a German U-boat in 1915, killing 1,198 people on board

31,550 GRT
240 meters (787 feet)
 2,198 passengers; 850 crew
 Sank (1915)
 United Kingdom
 Cunard Line

1909

1909-11 **RMS MAURETANIA**

Held the Blue Riband records for fastest transatlantic voyage in both directions for 20 years

31,938 GRT
240 meters (790 feet)
 2,165 passengers; 802 crew
 Scrapped (1935)
 United Kingdom
 Cunard Line

1911

1911-12 **RMS OLYMPIC**

The first of three in the Olympic-class line of ships, which included the Titanic and the Britannic

45,324 GRT
269 meters (882.5 feet)
 2,435 passengers; 950 crew
 Scrapped (1937)
 United Kingdom
 White Star Line

1912

1912 **RMS TITANIC**

Its deadly sinking led to widespread advancements in safety practices and regulations.

46,328 GRT
269.1 meters (882.9 feet)
 2,435 passengers; 892 crew
 Sank (1912)
 United Kingdom
 White Star Line

1912

1912-13 **RMS OLYMPIC**

Only ship in its class to not sink; Britannic sank in 1916 during its service as a hospital ship in World War I.

45,324 GRT
269 meters (882.5 feet)
 2,435 passengers; 950 crew
 Scrapped (1937)
 United Kingdom
 White Star Line

1913

1913-14 **SS IMPERATOR**

After World War I, it briefly served as a U.S. Navy ship before ending its career as the RMS Berengaria in the U.K.

52,117 GRT
276 meters (906 feet)
 4,234 passengers; 1,160 crew
 Scrapped (1946)
 Germany (German Empire)
 Hamburg America Line

1914

1914-22 **SS VATERLAND**
 USS LEVIATHAN; SS LEVIATHAN

Seized by the U.S. in World War I and used as a troopship; converted back to an ocean liner after the war

54,282 GRT
290 meters (950 feet)
 1,165 passengers
 Scrapped (1938)
 Germany (German Empire)
 (1914-17); U.S. (1917-37)
 Hamburg America Line
 U.S. Navy (1917-19)
 United States Lines (1919-37)

1922

1922-35 **RMS MAJESTIC**

Awarded to Great Britain as war reparations for the German sinking of the HMHS Britannic

56,551 GRT
291 meters (956 feet)
 2,145 passengers
 Sank (1939)
 United Kingdom
 White Star Line

1936

1936-46 **SS NORMANDIE**

The most powerful steam turbo-electric-propelled passenger ship of all time

79,280 GRT
314 meters (1,029 feet)
 1,972 passengers; 1,345 crew
 Destroyed by fire (1942)
 France
 French Line

1936

1936 **RMS QUEEN MARY**

Docked in Long Beach, CA, where it serves as a tourist attraction with a museum, hotel, and restaurants

80,774 GRT
310.7 meters (1,019.4 feet)
 1,165 passengers; 1,101 crew
 In service
 Museum ship (as of 1971)
 United Kingdom
 Cunard White Star

1946

1946-72 **SS NORMANDIE**

The ship was refitted to surpass the Queen Mary and regain the title of the world's largest passenger ship.

83,404 GRT
314 meters (1,029 feet)
 1,972 passengers; 1,345 crew
 Destroyed by fire (1942)
 France
 French Line

1946

1946-72 **RMS QUEEN ELIZABETH**

Upon completion in 1939, it served as a troopship in World War II. It wasn't put into use as an ocean liner until 1946.

83,673 GRT
314 meters (1,031 feet)
 2,283 passengers; 1,000+ crew
 Destroyed by fire (1972)
 United Kingdom
 Cunard White Star Line (1939-49)
 Cunard Line (1949-68)
 The Queen Corporation (1968-70)
 Orient Overseas Line (1970-72)

1987

1987-90 **MS SOVEREIGN OF THE SEAS**

The Sovereign-class cruise ships were the first of the modern "megaships" in the world.

73,529 GT
270 meters (880 feet)
 2,850 passengers; 1,193 crew
 In service
 Norway
 Royal Caribbean International

1990

1990-95 **SS NORWAY**

Financial hardship forced the France to shut down. It was bought by Norwegian Cruise Line.

66,343 GRT
315 meters (1,033 feet)
 2,044 passengers; 1,253 crew
 Scrapped (2008)
 France (1962-80);
 Norway (1980-2003)
 French Line
 Norwegian Cruise Line

1995

1995-96 **SUN PRINCESS**

Planned to be used as a floating hotel for the now-delayed 2020 Tokyo Olympics

77,499 GT
261 meters (857 feet)
 2,010 passengers; 924 crew
 In service
 Liberia
 Princess Cruise Line

1996

1996-98 **CARNIVAL DESTINY**

The first passenger ship in history to surpass 100,000 gross tons

101,353 GT
272 meters (893 feet)
 2,642 passengers; 1,150 crew
 In service
 Bahamas
 Carnival Cruise Line

1999

1999-99 **GRAND PRINCESS**

Was quarantined due to the COVID-19 pandemic, with at least 122 people testing positive and seven deaths

109,000 GT
290 meters (951 feet)
 2,590 passengers; 1,100 crew
 In service
 Liberia
 Princess Cruise Line

1999

1999-2000 **VOYAGER OF THE SEAS**

First cruise ship to have a rock-climbing wall and ice-skating rink

137,276 GT
310 meters (1,020 feet)
 3,138 passengers; 1,181 crew
 In service
 Liberia
 Royal Caribbean International

2000

2000-02 **EXPLORER OF THE SEAS**

Bested its sister ship Voyager of the Seas by a mere 32 GT to take the title as the world's largest

137,308 GT
310 meters (1,020 feet)
 3,114 passengers; 1,180 crew
 In service
 Liberia
 Royal Caribbean International

2002

2002-03 **NAVIGATOR OF THE SEAS**

Throughout the ship, \$8.5 million in art is displayed, including a seven-deck-tall sculpture in the atrium.

139,999 GT
311 meters (1,020 feet)
 4,000 passengers; 1,200 crew
 In service
 Bahamas
 Royal Caribbean International

2003

2003-06 **RMS QUEEN MARY 2**

Named after the first RMS Queen Mary, the ship is used for transatlantic travel as well as cruising.

148,528 GT
345.03 meters (1,132 feet)
 2,620 passengers; 1,256 crew
 In service
 United Kingdom
 Cunard Line

2006

2006-07 **FREEDOM OF THE SEAS**

While shorter, narrower, and less tall than the Queen Mary 2, Freedom of the Seas easily took the title in gross tonnage.

154,407 GT
338.774 meters (1,111.46 feet)
 4,313 passengers; 1,300 crew
 In service
 Bahamas
 Royal Caribbean International

2007

2007-09 **LIBERTY OF THE SEAS**

Second of the Freedom-class cruise ships and last to claim the title of largest in the world

155,889 GT
338.92 meters (1,111.9 feet)
 4,960 passengers; 1,310 crew
 In service
 Bahamas
 Royal Caribbean International

2009

2009-16 **OASIS OF THE SEAS**

The first of the 225,000 GT Oasis-class cruise ships marked a new standard in modern "megaships."

225,282 GT
360 meters (1,180 feet)
 6,780 passengers; 2,165 crew
 In service
 Bahamas
 Royal Caribbean International

2016

2016-18 **HARMONY OF THE SEAS**

The Oasis-class ships boast a seven-neighborhood promenade including a Central Park and Boardwalk.

226,963 GT
362.12 meters (1,188.1 feet)
 6,780 passengers; 2,300 crew
 In service
 Bahamas
 Royal Caribbean International

2018

2018 to present **SYMPHONY OF THE SEAS**

Uses 25% less fuel than its slightly smaller sister ships

228,081 GT
361.011 meters (1,184.42 feet)
 6,680 passengers; 2,200 crew
 In service
 Bahamas
 Royal Caribbean International