

EXPERT GUEST PROFILE – CAPTAIN KEVIN OPREY

“...experience it and then say if from your own heart...”



Captain Kevin Oprey comes from a long sea-faring background where his father, grandfather and great grandfather were all at sea. From a very early age, Captain Oprey knew the sea was his destiny.

As Captain of the marveled Queen Mary 2 under Cunard, Kevin Oprey is in ultimate command of the vessel. As a Captain, he is responsible for a safe and efficient operation, including cargo operations, navigation, crew management and ensuring that the vessel complies with local and international laws, as well as company and flag state policies.

Additional to this, there are the people on board, including officers and crew, other shipboard staff members, passengers, guests and pilots, all under the captain's authority and his ultimate responsibility.

“There are certainly a different set of challenges working at sea – from running a virtual city at sea to the conditions outside office window”. With a work environment dependent on the weather, coupled with the enormity of planning and risk mitigation, the Captain has been described as a leader who acknowledges the value of his peers and the true meaning of teams.

The Captain likes to think of himself as approachable but in this position, making decisions quickly and firmly is sometimes required. “Being able to listen, being able to encourage people to do things, take ownership of things and take initiative is what my style of leadership is all about.”

Captain Kevin Oprey was formally trained at the School of Navigation in London and is married with two daughters. His wife accompanies him onboard.

It is this extraordinary leadership that aligns Captain Kevin Oprey with 2020 Exchange.

Positions

2008 - present	Captain, Cunard (Queen Mary 2)
2008 - 2011	Captain, P&O Cruises
1999 - 2008	Staff Captain, Royal Caribbean Cruises Limited
1998 - 2007	Staff Captain, Royal Caribbean International

Qualifications

School of Navigation, London
Warsash Maritime College, UK