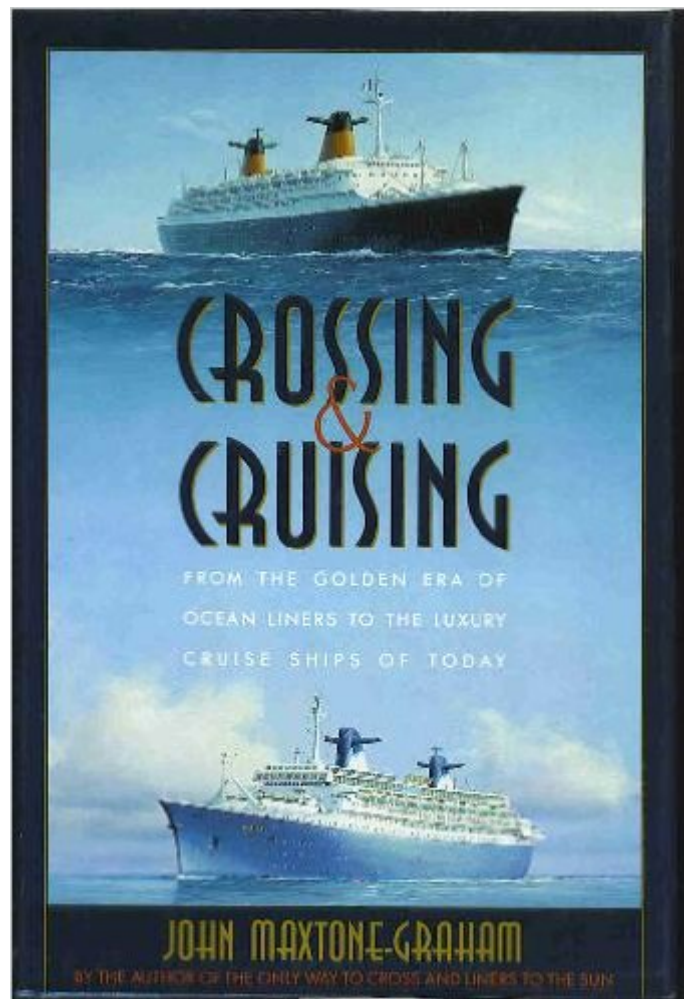


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Crossing & Cruising: From The Golden Era Of Ocean Liners To The Luxury Cruise Ships Of Today



Synopsis

1992 Charles Scribner's Sons hardcover, 3rd printing. John Maxtone-Graham (Normandie: France's Legendary Art Deco Ocean Liner). The history of cruise ships and their journeys across the oceans

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

As a shipwreck historian (itâ™s what I do) I study ships of all types and sizes. Currently engaged on a huge project involving the history of passenger-ships, my never-ending quest for information in recent years has favoured that particular genre. Although published in 1992, I came to this work because of the sub-title which reads; âœFrom the golden era of ocean liners to the luxury cruise ships of todayâ• in the expectation of finding an historical treatise on the subject. It is no such thing. This is the third work by Maxtone-Graham to cross my desk recently and each of these informs the reader he is the quintessential expert, the fount of all knowledge, the very sage itself - when it comes to the subject of big passenger-ships. Instead of learning anything of real value, however, his writing might easily be described as the perfunctory outpourings of those back-room people who are paid to produce promotional literature. The sort of people who are employed to make a company look good, make defeat look like a victory and annihilation like a temporary setback. In this particular book, we are subjected to a no-holds-barred view through the rosiest of tinted spectacles of how good cruising is and nothing else. Whereas he does occasionally mention yesterday, he does so in a style which does not seek to teach the reader of the historical context or

of the technology of the day. Instead it centres on the hardships and privations of the steerage-class passenger which is then used as a platform for returning to his self-appointed theme of how good it is today. Were he selling the product it would amount to subliminal advertising. There is a lot which is right with cruising and cruise-ships and much that is very wrong.

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