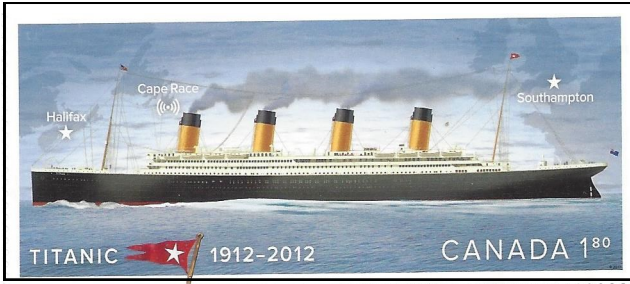
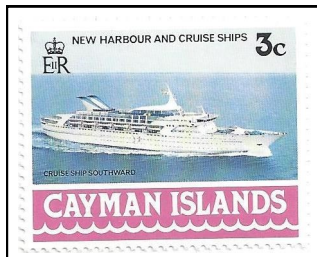


Ocean Cruising, From Transportation to Vacations



Issued by Canada for the 100th Anniversary of the "Titanic"

The second era is the modern period. This is when cruising for leisure/vacations began with Norwegian Caribbean Line, Royal Caribbean Cruise Line, and Carnival starting in 1966 to 1968, offering leisure cruising in the Caribbean. With each subsequent year more and more passengers sailed and through the decades ships were built bigger and bigger in both weight and passenger capacity. From about 750, to now, the larger ships holding up to 6400 passengers.



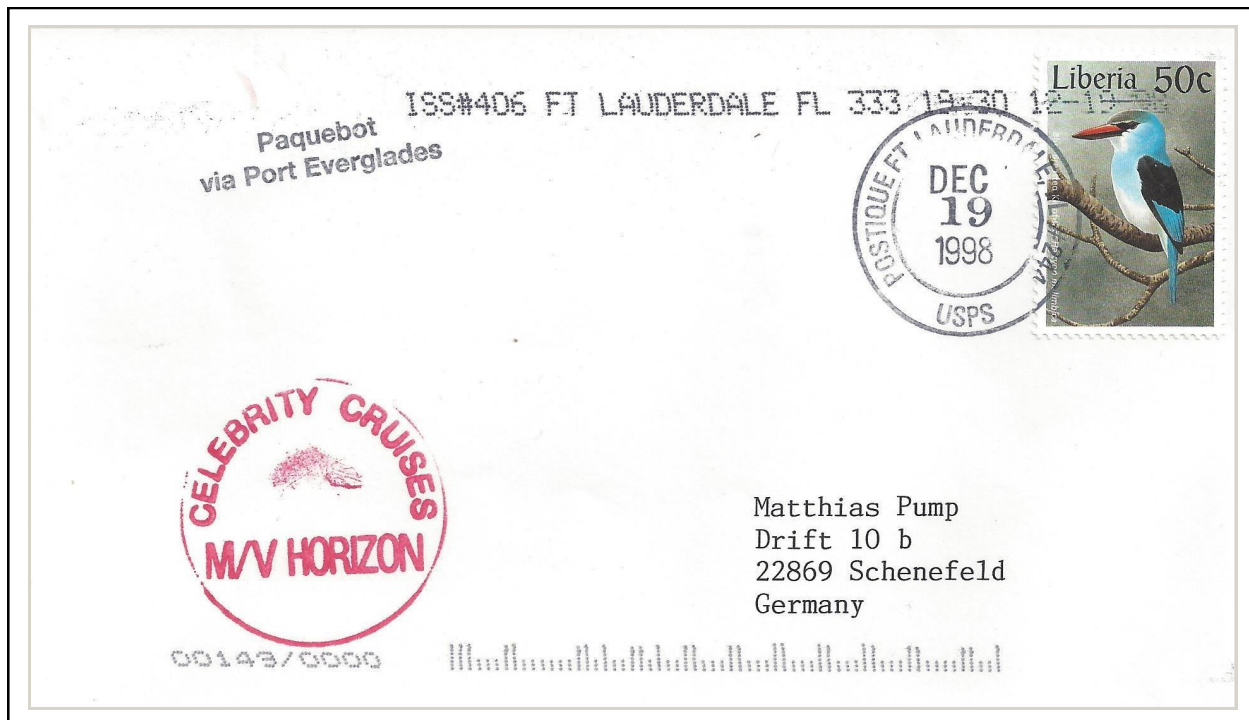
Cayman Islands issue for the NCL "Southward"

There are two distinct eras in ocean cruising. The classic period which I define as the time period that trans-Atlantic cruising was primarily for transportation from Europe to America as well as any other world wide destinations. This was certainly going on in the 1800's but for this treatment it started in 1912 with the launch and doomed maiden voyage of the Titanic.



Souvenir Sheet issued by Grenada of the world's largest cruise ship, Royal Caribbean International's "Allure of the Seas".

Per the 1893 Universal Postal Union Congress, with regularly updated regulations, mail posted on board a ship with stamps of the ship's county of registration can be deposited into the mail stream at any foreign port with an auxiliary marking of "Paquet Boat" or similar marking and then is dated and postmarked by the receiving postal administration.



Cover mailed on board the Celebrity Cruises "M/V Horizon", ship's registry of Liberia. The cover franked with a 50c Liberian stamp received the ships cachet and auxiliary marking of "Paquetbot via Port Everglades", dated and postmarked in Ft. Lauderdale, FL with a special USPS postmark, "Postique Ft. Lauderdale, FL USPS".