



Aug 21, 2020 16:38 BST

Fred. Olsen Cruise Lines confirms new ships *Bolette* and *Borealis* will take over from classic vessels *Boudicca* and *Black Watch*

Fred. Olsen Cruise Lines has today confirmed it will retire two classic vessels, *Boudicca* and *Black Watch*, as the company prepares to welcome two new ships, *Bolette* and *Borealis*, into the fleet.

The two new ships will take over existing itineraries for *Boudicca* and *Black Watch*, when cruising begins again with the company's 'back in the water' plan for next year.

When *Bolette* and *Borealis* join the fleet it will increase Fred. Olsen's overall capacity by circa 30 percent – meaning more guests can enjoy exciting new itineraries. Both vessels carry under 1,400 guests and have new and larger public areas, whilst remaining true to Fred. Olsen's small ship experience.

Those guests who had cruises booked on the two classic vessels will be among the first to sail on the new ships, with their bookings being automatically transferred onto either *Bolette* or *Borealis*. Additional cabins will go on sale in early September.

Peter Deer, Managing Director at Fred. Olsen Cruise Lines, said:

"I am pleased to say we are now at the stage of finalising our back in the water plans and we are very excited to be doing this with two new vessels within our fleet.

“While we are still looking at a number of options for *Boudicca* and *Black Watch*, what we do know is that they won’t resume sailing with us when we do start to cruise again.

“We know that these ships are much loved among our guests, as indeed they are by us, but it is time to evolve and look ahead to a long and bright future for Fred. Olsen Cruise Lines.

“We will soon be revealing more details on our plans to resume sailing again, but in the meantime we hope many of you will join us on our virtual farewell cruises to see our two ships off in style.”

As part of Fred. Olsen’s virtual cruise programme, the company will be holding virtual farewell sailings for both *Boudicca* and *Black Watch* on Facebook, with guests and crew invited to share their favourite photographs and memories of the two ships.

The virtual cruises will be held for two weeks starting from Monday, 24th August.

Guests who were booked to sail on *Boudicca* and *Black Watch* will automatically have their booking transferred to the same itineraries on *Bolette* or *Borealis*, and will be contacted by Fred. Olsen Cruise Lines with final details in the coming weeks.

For further information on Fred. Olsen Cruise Lines, the new ships or to **book online, visit www.fredolsencruises.com/newships, call Reservations on 0800 0355 242 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm), or contact your ABTA travel agent.**

To join in the virtual cruises and to share your memories of *Boudicca* and *Black Watch*, search for Fred. Olsen Cruise Lines on Facebook or visit www.fredolsencruises.com/memories

Fred. Olsen Cruise Line operates in the UK with four intimately sized ships for a more personal cruising experience.

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