

theday.co.uk/billionaires-plan-to-bring-back-the-titanic-4



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Maritime malady: The original Titanic sailed just over 2,000 miles before sinking.

Would you go on the first voyage? An Australian billionaire plans to take passengers across the ocean on a full-scale replica of a ship that crashed over a century ago.

What's happening?

It has been more than 100 years since the **Titanic** sank. Now an Australian billionaire wants to recreate the Titanic and set sail again.

Clive Palmer's ship would be called the *Titanic II*. It would be exactly the same as the Titanic, with the same dining room, swimming pool, libraries and barber shops. The staff would even be in costumes.

He thinks it could set sail in 2027.

Find out more

The Titanic was only on its **maiden** trip from England to the USA when it sank after hitting an iceberg. It had been called "unsinkable" — and its makers were so confident that they did not include enough lifeboats to keep everyone safe.

Many of the people on board died when it sank, including some very rich people.

The shipwreck was not found until 1985 — but the story of the Titanic has never gone away. In 1997, a film about the sinking of the Titanic made actor Leonardo diCaprio into a worldwide star.

Meanwhile, last year, five people died when they tried to go to the bottom of the ocean to see Titanic's wreck.

Would you go on the first voyage?

Some say

Yes! There is nothing to be afraid of. We have much better safety systems now than we did 100 years ago. And if the ship did crash, everyone would be saved.

Others think

No! The Titanic and everything related to it seems to be cursed. It is not worth the risk!

1. According to *The Guardian*.
2. Quoted in *ITV*.

Some people say

"The Titanic hit the iceberg not because they could not see it coming but because they could not change direction."

Dean Devlin (1962 –), American screenwriter and director

What do you think?

Six steps to discovery

1. Connect

How do you feel about this story? -

Do you think it is silly to build a replica of a sunk ship?

2. Wonder

What questions do you have? - For

example: Is there such a thing as a curse?

3. Investigate

What are the facts? - Pick out one thing we know for certain about this story and one thing we cannot say for sure.

4. Construct

What is your point of view? - Imagine that you are being interviewed as a passenger on the Titanic replica's first voyage. What would you say?

5. Express

What do others believe? - In small groups, design your own dream cruise ship. Think about how big you would like it to be, what facilities and activities you would like it to have, and where you would like it to go.

6. Reflect

What might happen next? - Imagine that you are a passenger on the Titanic replica when it crashes into another iceberg. Write a diary entry explaining what happened.

Glossary

Titanic - The RMS Titanic was the largest ship afloat at the time and it is the deadliest cruise ship disaster in history.

Maiden - First.