Cadets Careers at Sea

A cadetship with Princess Cruises offers the unique opportunity to study for a recognised professional qualification and travel the world whilst earning a competitive salary.

Whether you’re still at school, thinking about university or currently studying for a degree, we've got a range of training programmes on offer that will enable you to develop new skills, gain practical on-the-job experience and enjoy all kinds of international travel opportunities.

What's more, at the end of your training, not only will you come out with a strong qualification, you'll also be able to look forward to outstanding career prospects with Princess Cruises and beyond.

There are two cadetship programmes available to you – Deck and Engineering. As a Deck Cadet, you will be learning how to navigate the ship and ensure its safe, efficient operation. As an Engineering Cadet, you will be developing the range of expertise needed to ensure the technical wellbeing of a modern, high-tech cruise ship.

Cadetship programmes take 3 years to complete and comprise periods of theoretical study at a shore-based nautical college, interspersed with periods of practical work experience onboard one of our many cruise ships in the fleet. When working onboard, you will be able to enjoy the benefits and lifestyle that working on a cruise ship has to offer. Access to exquisite dining, dazzling entertainment and on-shore organised activities will all be available.

Although we want you to have fun onboard, whatever cadetship programme you choose will require a high level of hard work, commitment, resourcefulness and initiative, as the decisions you and your team make will ultimately impact the successful running of the ship and the safety of all onboard.

Deck/Navigation

A Deck Officer is a vital part of the ship's management team and will make decisions on navigating and manoeuvring the ship, including communications, which will affect the safety of the ship, its passengers and crew.
As a Senior Deck Officer, you will assist in leading, directing and supervising crew to ensure the maintenance of the ship and its equipment.

If you enjoy being part of a team, are interested in technology, and have good mathematical abilities and communication skills, a Deck Officer Cadetship could be the route for you.

**Course Description**
Training to become a Deck Officer comprises a balanced programme of academic study ashore and practical experience at sea within the Princess fleet, over the course of three years.

There are two training routes available - the Foundation Degree (FD) or a Higher National Diploma (HND). The minimum entry requirements differ for each option so check out the course entry requirements section for more information on which one is right for you.

**Deck Officer Cadetship - Higher National Diploma (HND) Route**

**Phase 1 - Initial College Period**

The first stage of the programme involves a residential course at a nautical college and is designed to prepare you for the new environment at sea. The course includes shipboard familiarisation, safety and survival at sea and the structure of the shipping industry.

**Phase 2 - At Sea**

During this period at sea, the Cadet will be under the guidance of the Staff Captain of the ship and spend many hours working alongside the Deck crew gaining first-hand practical experience in seamanship. Cadets will also understudy the Officers on the Bridge and learn the practical and theoretical aspects of keeping a safe navigational watch.

For all Deck Cadets, an important part of this phase is to spend time with other Departments and gain a clear understanding of the overall operation of a cruise ship.

**Phases 3 and 5 - At College**


**Phases 4 and 6 - At Sea**
Further periods at sea interspersed with periods of leave. Practical training of a more involved nature takes place and it is expected that the Cadet will have attained the level of a competent Deck Officer at the completion of Phase 6.

**Phase 7 - At College**

A further course at College, with studies to complete a Higher National Diploma in Nautical Science and an NVQ Level 3 in Marine Vessel Operations. Candidates who obtain an HND, NVQ Level 3 and pass MCA orals and signals examinations will be awarded an Officer in Charge of Navigational Watch Certificate of Competency.

**Deck Officer Cadetship - Foundation Degree Route**

The Foundation Degree route consists of five phases over three years, with three phases spent at college and two at sea gaining practical experience. The education and training programme consists of three distinct but complementary elements:

- Academic study in conjunction with training onboard ship which will ultimately lead to the Foundation Degree in Marine Operations.
- The practical training onboard ship includes the completion of an MNTB Training Record Book which enables candidates to develop the professional competency needed for initial certification by the UK’s Marine & Coastguard Agency (MCA).
- In addition to academic study, the MCA requires Deck Officer Cadets to take a number of safety and survival courses during the cadetship. These include:
  - Personal Survival Techniques (PST)
  - Personal Social and Safety Responsibilities (PSSR)
  - Basic Fire Fighting
  - Elementary First Aid (EFA)
  - Efficient Deck Hand (EDH)
  - Medical First Aid Onboard (MFA)
  - Certificate of Proficiency in Survival Craft & Rescue Boats (CPSC)
  - Advanced Fire-Fighting (AFF)
  - Global Maritime Distress & Safety System Restricted Operator’s Certificate (GMDSS)
  - Navigation, Radar & ARPA

**Engineering**

The role of a marine Engineering Officer stretches way beyond that of other engineering professions, with far greater responsibilities, technical skill and personal qualities required.
An Engineering Officer will operate and maintain all the mechanical equipment in the high-tech environment of a modern cruise ship. Key responsibilities include the running and maintenance of the ship's Engine Room and equipment, electrical power generating plant and other equipment such as the refrigeration plant and ventilation systems.

The monitoring, overhaul and maintenance of mechanical, electrical, hydraulic and control equipment throughout the ship is also the Engineering Officer's responsibility, as well as controlling the ship's computer-controlled engine management systems. When things go wrong, you will be required to diagnose the fault, repair the equipment and get it back into operation as quickly as possible.

This role requires a good communicator, a practical, resourceful individual with a real interest in mechanical systems.

Course Description

Training to become an Engineering Officer comprises a balanced programme of academic study ashore and practical experience at sea within the Princess Cruises fleet, over the course of three years.

There are two training routes available - the Foundation Degree (FD) or the Higher National Diploma (HND). The minimum entry requirements differ for each option so check out the course entry requirements section for more information on which one is right for you.

Engineering Officer Cadetship - Higher National Diploma (HND)

Phase 1 - Initial College Period
This is a residential course at a nautical college and includes the study of Mathematics, Applied Heat, Applied Mechanics, Engineering Drawing, Workshop Processes and Materials, Electrical and Electronic Principles and Marine Engineering. This phase will also include short courses in safety and survival at sea, and a basic firefighting course.

Phases 2 and 4 - At Sea

Periods at sea interspersed with periods of leave to accumulate the requisite sea service. The Cadet will be under the guidance and instruction of the Staff Engineer Officer as the knowledge gained during the previous College phase is applied practically in the machinery spaces on board.

For all Engineer Officer Cadets, an important part of this phase is to become involved with other Departments and gain a clear understanding of the overall operation of a cruise ship. It is expected that the cadet will have attained the level of a competent junior Engineer Officer at the end of the sea phase(s).

Phases 3 and 5 - At College

A further course at College with studies to complete a Higher National Diploma in Marine Engineering and an NVQ Level 3 in Marine Vessel Engineering. This is an integrated course where emphasis is placed on the range of skills necessary to complete a Cadetship successfully.

Candidates who obtain an HND, NVQ Level 3 and pass an MCA oral examination will be awarded a Class 4 Certificate of Competency.

Engineering Officer Cadetship - Foundation Degree Route

The Foundation Degree route consists of five phases over three years, with three phases spent at College and two at sea gaining practical experience. The education and training programme consists of four distinct but complementary elements:

- Academic education at college in conjunction with training onboard a ship to attain the Foundation Degree in Marine Engineering.
- Engineering workshop skills training at MNTB-approved standard.
- Practical training onboard ship, including completion of an MNTB Training Record Book. This enables candidates to develop the professional competency needed for initial certification by the UK's Maritime & Coastguard Agency.
- In addition to the academic studies, the MCA requires Engineering Officer Cadets to take a number of safety and survival courses during their cadetship. These include:
- Personal Survival Techniques (PST)
- Personal Social and Safety Responsibilities (PSSR)
- Basic Fire Fighting (BFF)
- Elementary First Aid (EFA)
- Medical First Aid Onboard (MFA)
- Certificate of Proficiency in Survival Craft & Rescue Boats (CPSC)
- Advanced Fire Fighting (AFF)

**Entry requirements for both Deck and Engineering programmes**

- **Higher National Diploma Route**
  - High grade passes at GCSE (grades A - C) / Scottish Standard level (1 - 3) or the equivalent in English, Mathematics, Physics or Combined Science and at least one other subject.
  - All candidates must be of good general health and physique, and pass a Maritime & Coastguard Agency certified medical examination (ENG1), including the eyesight examination.

- **Foundation Degree Route**
  - 120 UCAS points (preferably including a numerate subject) plus good grades in GCSE Maths, English and a Physical Science.
  - All candidates must be of good general health and physique, and pass a Maritime & Coastguard Agency certified medical examination (ENG1), including the eyesight examination.

**After you've qualified**
Once you’ve successfully completed your Cadetship, you will have the following qualifications:

- Deck programme - Higher National Diploma (HND) in Nautical Science, or a Foundation Degree in Marine Operations.
- Engineering programme - Higher National Diploma (HND) in Marine Engineering, or a Foundation Degree in Marine Engineering.
- Certificate of Competency.

These qualifications will enable you to work as an Officer on one of our cruise ships and earn an excellent salary. There will be many different career routes you can follow right up to Captain (if you choose the Deck programme) who is in overall command of the ship, or Chief Technical Officer (if you choose the Engineering programme) onboard who is in charge of all the engineering and technical services.

Alternatively, later in your career you may wish to transfer ashore and choose from one of the hundreds of roles available to you, including Port Pilots, Marine Lawyers, Surveyors, Fleet Operation Managers, Technical Superintendents or Technical Buyers.

**Application**

If you would like to progress your application, we would ask you to complete our enclosed Application and Personal Information Forms and return these to the following address;

Recruitment Department  
Fleet Personnel - Princess Cruises  
c/o Carnival UK  
Carnival House  
100 Harbour Parade  
Southampton  
SO15 1 ST

Email: princess.recruitment@princesscruises.co.uk

[www.princess.com](http://www.princess.com)