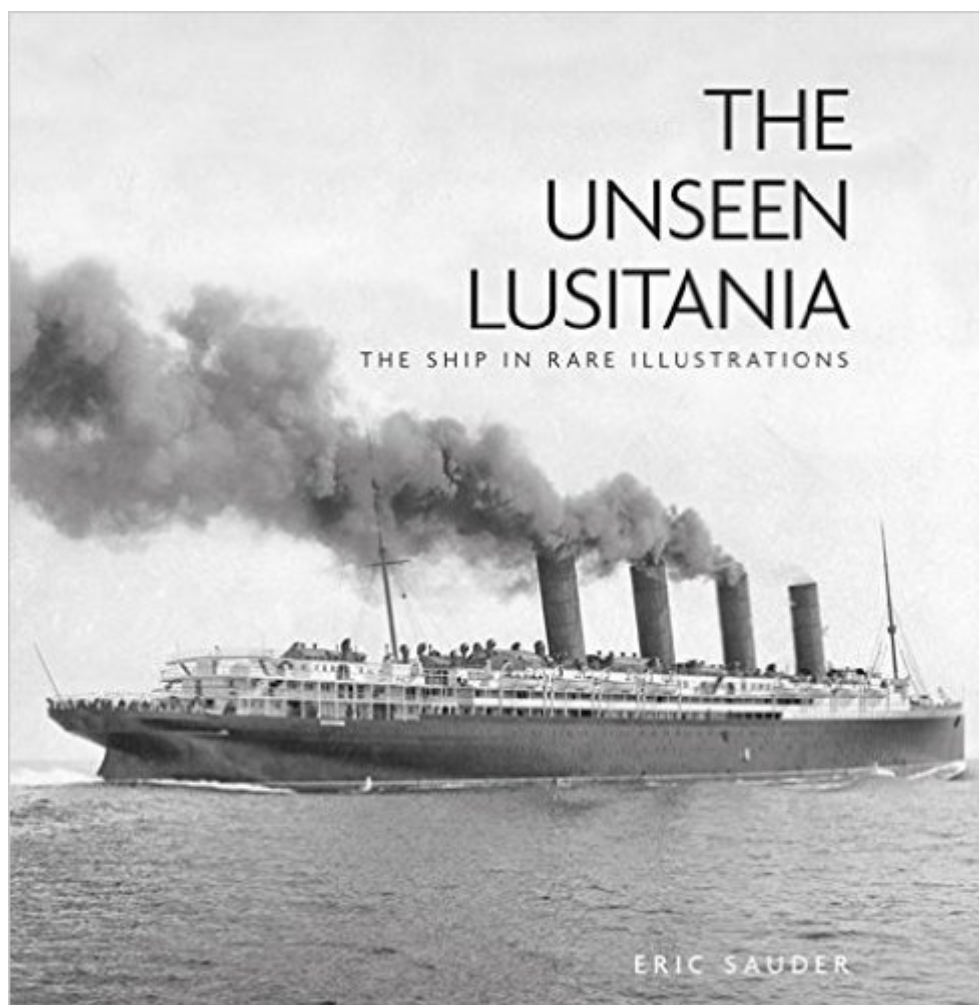


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The Unseen Lusitania: The Ship In Rare Illustrations



Synopsis

The ill-fated Lusitania revealed as never before, complete never-seen artifacts from the 1982 wreck salvage and a complete salvage inventory Lost to a German torpedo on May 7, 1915, Cunard's RMS Lusitania captured the world's imagination when she entered service in 1907. Not only was she the largest, fastest ship in the world, she was revolutionary in design. Also a record breaker, Lusitania is now sadly remembered for her tragic loss, when she was hit by a U-boat torpedo on May 7, 1915, sinking in 18 minutes with the loss of 1,198 souls. Through never-before-seen material, expert Eric Sauder brings RMS Lusitania to life once again. With vivid, unseen photographs and postcards from his extensive private collection, this absorbing read will transport the reader back 100 years to a time when opulent Ships of State were the only way to cross the Atlantic.

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Customer Reviews

A loving tribute by the man who not only has spent over thirty years researching the ship, but who has gone beneath the Irish sea to see her on an expedition. Eric Sauder has put together a beautiful volume that is filled with such clear photos that the reader would feel like they could step through time to be in that moment. The very beginnings of the planning for the Lusitania and her sister ship, Mauretania gives us a certain anticipation of history unfolding. Rare documents and letters help augment page after page of photos as the ship goes from conception, to a steel frame in a shipping

yard, to the fitting out and finally the momentous launch. We also get to know the people behind the decision making such as Lord Inverclyde, James Miller, Alexander Mearns, Alfred Booth. A unique surprise are several drawings of the Lusitania's interiors. Comparison photos show of how Cunard found ways to reduce the vibration from the propellers. A sizable section in the middle of the book reveals how the rooms aboard the Lusitania would look in color. Also shown are unique views of items raised from the wreck in 1982. Towards the end of the book, there is also an inventory of the recovered items. As we fade back to black and white we see shots taken aboard by passengers and crew, including a one-of-a-kind photo taken by a passenger inside a first class cabin. Two survivor accounts, one printed for the first time in almost 100 years reveal life aboard the ship on the final voyage and re-live the experience of the torpedoing and eventual rescue. The aftermath starting with the mass funerals is also fully covered along with the first dives to the ship. As the book comes to a close, the author puts a human face on the tragedy with many photos of the Lusitania's passengers and crew from the final voyage. The book is a must as the centenary approaches.

A great book. I am a big fan of ocean liners from 1900 thru 1965. Today's cruise ships don't interest me. This book is excellent with great photographs I hadn't seen before and plenty of details. Well worth the price.

I echo Michael's sentiments in his review of this book. The book is packed with illustrations and photographs not seen before, and are presented in a way that often leaves you lost in the picture, looking at every last detail of this once-magnificent ship. If you're interested in the Lusitania, especially with the 100th anniversary of its loss, this book is for you. Eric is a well-learned, well-researched historian on Lusitania and *The Unseen Lusitania* is a welcomed, must-have addition to my modest collection of liners of days gone by.

As a pictorial edition, hard to beat. Plenty of apparent builders' photos with clear resolution for the period. However I would have liked to have seen more engine space photos as these were the heart of these two vessels. The photos on the dust jacket taken on the trials really demonstrate the power of the ship. But fewer potted palms and more turbines would have told the whole story. The actual disaster is not covered extensively, or well. While this may not have been the remit of this book, the whole story could have benefited with a more thorough explanation of the where's and why's. The Robert Ballard and Ken Marschall version a few years back tells the complete story.

I had an uncle that was an Able Bodied Seaman (deck crew). I believe that he was in the baggage compartment when the torpedo hit. Actually being able to see where he was and worked is fascinating. I don't have any photos of him, I may have seen him and not known it.

Beautiful pics and able to enjoy more after reading Dead Wake.

As a big Titanic fan I have to admit to not knowing as much about Lusitania as I probably should. Sauder has written a very easily read, but interesting, book about this most fantastic early 20th century ocean liner. Most of us know Lusitania as one of the causes of US entry into the War to End all Wars, but most probably know little of the time before her sinking by a German unterseeboot. Fantastic photos of the gorgeous vessel being built. Great background knowledge pertaining to the liner and those who built, designed and crewed her. In addition to the pre war career of this ship there is also a section devoted to the sinking and the aftermath of the tragedy. If you have an interest in ocean liners and the fate of Lusitania this book is for you.

This book is just beyond fantastic. I am a luxury liner enthusiast, and have a huge library of books about the liners of the past -- this book gave me information that I did not know and I was surprised and delighted!!! All the photos are dynamic - clear and wonderful and just jump off the page to make the book a living part of liner history. Do not hesitate to add this valuable book to your collection even if you are only mildly interested in the subject matter!! It is wonderful!!

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