



**Jean-Marie Zimmermann**

***Executive Chef, Cunard Line***

Jean-Marie Zimmermann was born in 1956 in Strasbourg, France in a small region of Alsace. By the age of 12 he was already cooking with his adopted grandmother at home as cooking was her passion. His apprenticeship started in 1969 at the Restaurant Gourmet de L'orangerie and he studied in the Ecole Hoteliere of Strasbourg until 1972.

He first started his culinary career at the Majestic in Canne working for the group Lucien Barriere in the South of France. He later moved to Germany working for the Intercontinental in Frankfurt.

In 1975 he moved to England in order to learn English and was appointed to the London Hilton as Chef Saucier. He later moved on to work at the Sheraton Skyline. At 21 years old he was approached to participate in the opening of Frederick's Hotel in Berkshire as Chef de Cuisine where he was awarded to AA Rosettes and a Gold medal at the Salon Culinary Hotel Olympia in London.

At the age of 23 he was named Executive Chef at the Sheraton Heathrow Hotel and put in charge of 35 chefs. In 1980 he was awarded a Bronze medal and Silver Medal and in 1984 a Gold medal at the Culinary Olympics in Frankfurt, Germany. During that year he was appointed as full judge at the salon Culinary of London.

In 1986 he became the proprietor of the Warrener Restaurant in Henley, Berkshire, close to Michel Roux's Restaurant Water Side Inn in Bray. During this time he was awarded with a Red M and an "Egon Ronay Star" and later with his first "Michelin Star". He was also nominated President of Euro Toques England under the direction of Paul Bocuse.

In 1992 Jean-Marie was appointed as Executive Chef of the Royal Garden 5 Star – a prestigious hotel facing Kensington Park in London.

In 1998 he was appointed by Michel Roux as Corporate Executive Chef overseeing Celebrity Cruises Ships; in charge of the total startup of the Millennium and Infinity Ships. This included working very closely under the direction of Michel Roux to

implement cuisine and set up of all the gourmet Restaurants.

In 2004 Jean-Marie was appointed to his current position as the Executive Chef for the world famous ocean liner, *Queen Mary 2*. Jean-Marie has brought diversity and insight into the ship's menu. His background in private restaurants and also hotels has made him an exceptional and creative force behind Cunard Line's fabulous cuisine.

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#### **About Cunard Line**

Cunard Line, operator of the luxury ocean liners **Queen Mary 2** and **Queen Victoria**, has long been synonymous with the quest for new discoveries and the epitome of British refinement since the company's first paddle-wheeled steamer, Britannia, crossed the Atlantic in 1840. Cunard voyages bring together like-minded travellers who seek a civilised adventure and relish the Cunard hallmarks of impeccable White Star Service™, gourmet dining and world-class entertainment. Today, Cunard offers the only regularly scheduled Transatlantic liner service and continues the legacy of world cruising which it began in 1922. **Queen Elizabeth** joins the fleet in October 2010.

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