

The Titanic Sails Again

On April 10, 1912, the ocean liner *Titanic* set off on its first voyage with more than 2,200 people on board. It was a historic moment. The massive ship was the largest passenger vessel in the world.

But on the night of April 14, the *Titanic* slammed into a giant iceberg. Within hours, it sank to the bottom of the ocean. There were only enough lifeboats for about half the people on board. More than 1,500 passengers and crew members died.

The tragedy made headlines around the world. The tale of the doomed ship has inspired many books, plays, and movies. That includes 1997's *Titanic*—one of the most popular films in history.

Now, more than a century later, a **replica** of the ship is being built. The *Titanic II* is expected to follow the route of the original vessel. It is scheduled to launch in 2022 and sail from Southampton, England, to New York City (see map).

Traveling Back in Time

In many ways, the *Titanic II* will be hard to tell apart from the original ship. It will have the same cabin layouts and serve the



The *Titanic II* will look identical to the original ship that sank in 1912 (below).



A scene from the 1997 movie *Titanic*



Where the *Titanic* sank

same fancy meals. (The *Titanic*'s first-class passengers feasted on lobster, lamb with mint sauce, and other dishes.)

But according to Blue Star Line, the company building the ship, there will be some important differences. The *Titanic II* will

have the latest technology and safety features—including enough motor-driven lifeboats for everyone on board.

Though the ship itself will be more modern, sailing on it will be a journey back in time, says Clive Palmer, the owner of Blue Star Line.

“It is a tribute to the spirit of the men and women who worked on the original *Titanic*,” he says.

WORD TO KNOW **replica** *noun*. an exact or very close copy

Saving Shelter Pets



A new law in California is giving a lot of animals a reason to purr or wag their tails. Since January, 1 all pet stores in the state can sell only animals from shelters or rescue groups. The law applies to dogs, cats, and rabbits. More than 250 cities and towns across the United States have similar laws. But California's law is the first statewide **restriction**.

Most of the cuddly animals you see in pet shop windows are raised by breeders.

Many of them take good care of the animals they sell to pet stores. But the new law is aimed at breeders who treat animals cruelly. They run what are known as puppy and kitten mills, where they raise animals in cramped, filthy spaces. Those dogs and cats

often don't get enough food or water—or proper medical care.

Supporters of the law hope it will put these mills out of business. The other main goal is to find homes for a greater number of shelter pets. Each year, shelters across the U.S. take in more than 6 million animals.

“This new law will give thousands of rescue animals the chance to get out of shelters and find their forever homes,” says Patrick O'Donnell. He is a lawmaker in California who co-wrote the law.



WORD TO KNOW

restriction *noun*. a law or rule that limits or controls something

Happy New Year—Again!

On January 1, we rang in 2019. But in Asian communities around the world, the partying will soon start again. February 5 is the beginning of the Chinese New Year. Instead of lasting one night, the celebration goes on for 15 days.

One of the many Chinese New Year's traditions is a big parade that includes a dragon dance. Dozens of people use poles to make a long, colorful dragon “dance” down the street.



Picture THIS