

Ahoy!

We're thrilled that you want to join the Carnival UK team as part of our youth crew. The role is all about creating unforgettable experiences for our youngest guests while sailing to some of the most exciting destinations in the world.

If you're curious about the application process, training, life onboard, or what it takes to thrive in this unique role, below you'll find answers to the most common questions to help you feel confident and informed every step of the way.









Working onboard

What does a typical day look like?

Days onboard for our youngest VIPs are fun packed and your role will be to support in the delivery of our activity programmes in line with Carnival UK safeguarding, children's policies, and procedures.

In addition to building a good rapport with the children in your care you'll communicate effectively with parents and carers and complete necessary documents / records on the child's day, accurately reporting any incidents or accidents. You'll be an excellent team player, working well alongside your colleagues and line manager/s.



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When will I find out which cruise ship I'll be working on?

You'll receive your Joining Instructions and SEA Contract from your employer, Fleet Maritime Services International (FMSI) or Fleet Maritime Services Bermuda (FMSB), 45 days before you embark.

Am I able to specify a preferred ship?

Yes, but as assignments are based on operational needs, we can't guarantee your first choice.

I'm early years qualified but have experience with older children. Will this be taken into account when the rotas are planned?

Yes, your experience will be considered when assigning age groups and planning rotas.





What are the start and finish times of a shift?

Everyone on board works seven days a week with set times off during the day to eat, meet friends and rest. Once on board you'll receive a work schedule with details of your daily shifts. Average working hours are 10 hours on a sea day and 8 hours on a port day, with children's clubs typically opening around 9:30am. When there's high numbers of teenagers on board, clubs stay open longer, closing as late as 1am.





Are there break times and how does this work?

Yes, breaks are scheduled between sessions or during quieter periods. These are coordinated with your team.

Do I have to complete any additional training for the role?

As part of your onboarding process you'll complete first aid and safeguarding training plus a youth staff induction.



Are there opportunities for promotion?

Of course, we encourage and support all youth team members with their development. Everyone receives ongoing performance reviews and there's regular internal promotion opportunities – if your line manager endorses you, you're able to apply for a new role.

Apart from working in the children's club venues, are there any other expected duties?

Yes, there's regular family-friendly events across the ship which youth staff support with. These include discos, sailaway parties and character events, either as a chaperone or in the character costume! All crew on board also have a safety responsibility in the unlikely event of an emergency – you'll receive full training on this.







Living onboard

What will my accommodation be like?

Crew cabins are compact and functional, usually with bunk beds, a small desk, storage, and a private or shared bathroom. We recommend bringing family photos or items that help make you feel comfortable and at home.

Will I share a cabin with others?

Yes, youth staff share with up to three other crew members of the same gender and where possible, same nationality.

and toiletries.

Am I able to purchase essentials onboard like toiletries?

Basic toiletries are available in the crew shop, but selection may be limited. It's best to pack enough for at least the first few weeks.

Will I need to bring bedding and towels?

We provide and launder bedding and towels, but bringing a personal towel and blanket is often recommended for comfort. There's laundry facilities on board for personal items.

What is the food like and are dietary requirements catered for?

The crew mess (ship's dining room) offers a variety of meals including dietary options such as vegetarian and gluten free.

How much room is there in a cabin for storage?

Storage is limited. Use soft luggage and pack efficiently essentials, uniforms, casual clothes (including warm layers),

Is there a recommended amount to pack?



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Will I be able to access Wi-Fi on board the ship?

Yes, the cost of crew Wi-Fi is heavily subsidised and there's free WhatsApp text messaging.

Will there be times I can contact my family and friends?

Yes, during your off-hours. You'll need to purchase a Wi-Fi package to use WhatsApp video calling, or there's normally free Wi-Fi in every port.

Are there fitness facilities on board?

All ships have a crew pool and most have a sports area for games like basketball or football. There's a gym on every ship with exercise machines and free weights, plus organised fitness classes. Usage of these depends on your shift schedule and availability.



How often will I be able to explore ashore?

Travelling the world and visiting new places is a brilliant benefit of a career at sea. Our ships usually dock in port so it's quick and easy to go ashore during off-hours. There are free crew bikes to borrow for exploring further away, and organised crew shore experiences that are excellent value for money.

Going ashore will depend on your shift schedule and port timings. Youth staff often get time off when the children's club is closed during port day mornings. Note: when you first join your ship, training takes place on port day mornings, so you'll need to stay on board.







Youth Team structure





Your journey to joining the team

Apply via our online jobs portal

You must have either a level three childcare qualification which has included practical placements/experience or be a qualified teacher/QTS status, alongside post qualifying experience in a childcare setting or school.

CV screening

Your application is reviewed by our resourcing and onboarding team and you're contacted by them about the next steps.

Automated video and skills interview

To learn more about you and your reasons for applying, you're recorded answering questions via our automated online interview platform.

Face-to-face interview (In person or online)

Colleagues meet you to ask questions about your skills and experience. Depending on the level of the role you may also attend an assessment centre.

Congratulations. Receive an assignment offer from the resourcing and onboarding team

Once you've received an assignment offer you'll start the onboarding process. This is very robust and involves an enhanced disclosure



and barring service check, alongside several forms and documents that you need to complete/provide as a priority – if we don't receive these it slows the onboarding process and delays your start date.

Seasonal opportunities

Make a lasting impact on families holidaying with us during peak holiday periods. You'll need to commit to a minimum of four weeks per year, with at least two of those weeks falling within the summer holiday season.



Fixed-term assignments

We offer enriching 4-month and 6-month assignments, providing a unique opportunity to deliver exceptional experiences to young guests while developing your skills in a vibrant, international environment.





