

CRUISE SHIP RECRUITMENT SCAMS (FACEBOOK)

If it looks too good to be true it probably is.

There are various types of cruise fraud, but they almost all depend on the offer of jobs that require no qualifications or training, but which will pay high wages or attract large tips.

The main type involves a promise of work in return for a bribe or payment. This may be disguised as an agency or registration fee or, increasingly, as payment for a medical examination, visa, passport processing or bank transfer that is only asked for when you think you're on the point of getting the job.

It may be made to look like something you have to pay a government department, clinic or bank, or you may be asked for money for airfares to join a ship and promised you'll get the money back when you're arrive. YOU WILL NOT.

HOW DO I SPOT A RECRUITMENT FRAUD ON FACEBOOK?

- Facebook profile will contain irrelevant posts or photos that do not relate to the person. Ask yourself this question; why would a cruise ship company use this person and Facebook to recruit people?
- The email address to contact is **NOT** a company email address. Authentic email addresses will have the company name as part of it, for example **??@princess.com** and will not have numbers are part of it, for example **princesscruises123@gmail.com**, and will **NOT** be a Gmail or yahoo address.
- The international dialling code does not look right and is for a country that have does not traditionally have cruise enterprises based there. Look

up the international dialling code and ask yourself this question; why would a major cruise vessel company use someone in this country to recruit new staff?

- Once you have accepted the fake job offer, they will ask for a **one-off** payment, possibly towards the cost of transport to the ship, or a visa fee administrative cost. Do not pay anything because if you do, they will keep coming back for more, promising each time is the last time and warning that if you don't make one final contribution you will lose what you have already paid. They will not stop until they have taken everything.
- Requesting advance payments for work on ships is prohibited under Maritime Labour Convention 2006, (MLC), so you should not be asked for one.

HOW DO THEY GET AWAY WITH IT?

By using believable Facebook profiles with high quality photographs from cruise vessels they appear to be credible and legitimate. Profile photos on these accounts can look like someone working on a cruise vessel, but they have been taken from someone .

If you have any questions or concerns regarding a job or job offer, you can contact us via email at jobscam@itf.org.uk

