



THE UK'S RELIANCE ON SEAFARERS

Shipping is one of the oldest industries in the world. Today, it plays a more important role than ever.

The UK's most valuable food export is **chocolate** £571m (exported every year)

The UK's sea ports handle over **half a billion tonnes** of goods a year (That's more than **8 tonnes** or a small lorry load for each person in the UK)

1.5 million seafarers are employed by the global shipping industry

95% As an island nation the UK relies on shipping for 95% of its imports and **75%** of its exports

71,310 people from the UK work at sea

We import **465,000 tonnes** of potatoes every year the equivalent to **38,750 London buses!**

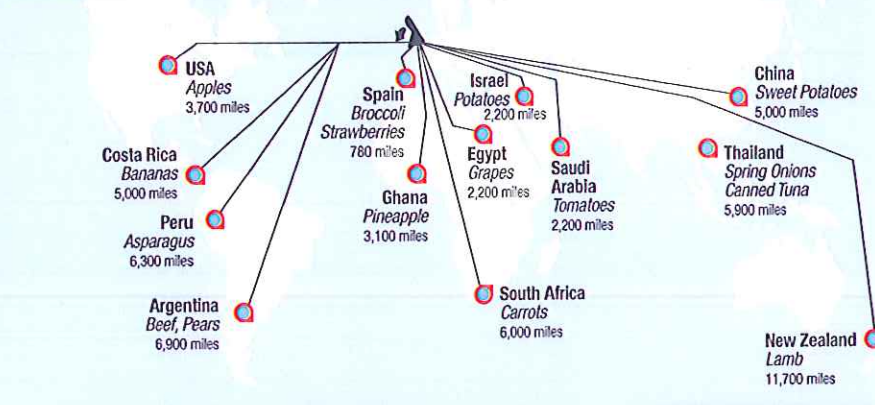
The average container ship will travel **three quarters** of the way to the moon and back every year during its trips across the oceans

Top 10 imported foodstuffs people in the UK say they cannot live without (%)

Oranges	24
Apples	26
Fresh Tomatoes	26
Bananas	36
Chicken	37
Chocolate	37
Sugar	39
Rice	39
Cheese	40
Potatoes	43

The world's largest cargo ship contains as much steel as **8 Eiffel Towers** and has a capacity equivalent to **18,000 20-foot containers**. Those containers would fill more than **30 trains** each a mile long and stacked two containers high. Inside them you could fit **863 million tins of baked beans**.

From ships to shops - how many miles has your lunch travelled?



A single **20-foot container** can hold approximately **48,000 bananas** and the average container vessel can carry 746 million in a single voyage... enough to give everyone in Europe and North America a banana for breakfast!

Many merchant seafarers work at sea for more than **9 months** every year

Seafarers UK gave grants totalling **£2.5 million** to **84** maritime charities last year

1. Top 10 exported foods from the UK (Jan-Dec 2013) Food & Drink Exporters Association 2 & 4. Department for Transport maritime factsheet 3. Lloyd's List 5. In the UK - 12,450 Fishermen; 22,830 Merchant Navy; 36,030 Royal Navy & Royal Marines (inc. Reservists) 6. HM Revenue & Customs 7. Deep Sea and Foreign Going, Rose George 8. One Poll survey of 1,000 adults 9. BBC 10. Surrey Farmers Markets 11. H&M Line 12. International Chamber of Shipping