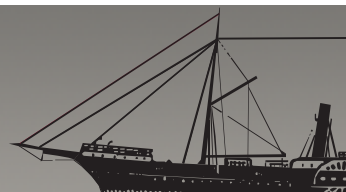




Ship Fact Sheet



INDUS (1871)

Base data at 10 May 1871. Last amended November 2008

* indicates entries changed during P&O Group service.

Type	Passenger liner
P&O Group service	1871-1885
P&O Group status	Owned by parent company
Former name(s)	Laid down as <i>Timsah</i>
Registered owners, managers and operators	The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company
Builders	William Denny & Brothers
Yard	Dumbarton
Country	UK
Yard number	149
Registry*	London, UK
Official number	65564
Signal letters	
Classification society	Lloyd's Register
Gross tonnage	3,462 grt
Net tonnage	2,205 nrt
Deadweight [1883]	1,998 tons
Length	109.81m (360.4ft)
Breadth	12.31m (40.4ft)
Depth	10.39m (34.1ft)
Draught	7.467m (24ft 6in)
Construction (if not steel)	Iron
Engines	Compound inverted direct-acting steam engine
Engine builders*	William Denny & Brothers
Works	Dumbarton
Country	UK
Power	2,368 ihp
Propulsion	Single screw
Speed	13 knots
Passenger capacity	129 first class, 50 second class
Cargo capacity [1883]	2,971 cubic metres (104,950 cubic feet)
Crew	
Employment	Indian and Eastern services

Career

- 17.02.1870: Laid down as *Timsah*. The contract had been purchased for £106,100 from Burns & McIver (Cunard Line). She was a sister to Cunard's *Parthia*, and the first P&O ship with a straight stem.
- 20.02.1871: Launched as *Indus*.
- 22.04.1871: Registered.
- 05.05.1871: Stranded at the mouth of the River Leven.
- 08.05.1871: Refloated.
- 10.05.1871: Ran trials and delivered as *Indus* for The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company. Her name is from a great river of the Indian subcontinent rising in Tibet and flowing through what is now Pakistan, reaching the sea south of Karachi, it had previously been used by P&O in 1847.
- 03.06.1871: Maiden voyage Southampton to Bombay via Suez.
- 17.03.1874: Ran down and sank the sailing ship *Princess Somawatty* off Gravesend.
- 24.11.1874: Collided with the steamer *Abbotsford* when outward bound of Dover, and put into Southampton for repairs. The other ship was alleged to have turned into *Indus*'s starboard quarter and was initially found wholly to blame, but this was reversed on appeal.
- 09.11.1875: Re-registered in Glasgow.
- 06.1876: Broke down and towed to Singapore.
- 1878: Fitted with new compound engines by J Howden & Co, Glasgow.
- 08.11.1885: Stranded on Mullaittivu Shoals, 95km (60 miles) north of Trincomalee, Ceylon, when on passage from Calcutta to London with wheat, 780 chests of indigo, tea and 22 passengers, about half travelling on deck..
- 09.11.1885: Started taking water, slipped off the reef and sank in deep water, together with most of her cargo. The passengers and mails were taken to Trincomalee by the gunboat HMS *Ranger*, with the P&O steamer *Clyde* picking up the officers and some of the crew. Captain Breeze's certificate was suspended for 12 months for not using the lead when in sight of land, and not making allowances for the set of the current. The ship's chart of the area was reported to be out of date.

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