



Ship Fact Sheet



DEVON (1915)

Base data at 7 September 1916. Compiled December 2008

* indicates entries changed during P&O Group service.

Type	Refrigerated cargo liner
P&O Group service	1916-1941
P&O Group status	Owned by subsidiary company
Former name(s)	Originally laid down as <i>Cornwall</i>
Registered owners, managers and operators*	Federal Steam Navigation Company Ltd
Builders	Ateliers & Chantiers de France
Yard	Dunkirk
Country	France
Yard number	98
Registry	London, UK
Official number	139098
Signal letters	JMBL
Call sign	
Classification society	Lloyd's Register
Gross tonnage	9,661 grt
Net tonnage	6,147 nrt
Deadweight	11,300 tons
Length	144.26m (473.3ft) loa; 150.87m (495.0ft) b/p
Breadth	18.25m (59.9ft)
Depth	11.18m (36.7ft)
Draught	9.235m (30.3ft)
Engines	Triple expansion steam engine
Engine builders	Ateliers & Chantiers de France
Works	Dunkirk
Country	France
Power	5,000 ihp
Propulsion	Twin screw
Speed	13 knots
Passenger capacity	300 emigrants
Cargo capacity	12,459 cubic metres (440,000 cubic feet)
Crew	
Employment	UK/Australia/New Zealand service

Career

- 12.1914: Launched. Originally laid down as *Cornwall* (she actually appears under that name in the 1914 edition of Lloyd's Register).
- 02.06.1915: Left the yard in tow to London where she was completed by Silley, Weir & Co Ltd. It was decided to move her to a UK yard due to the advancement of the German army through Belgium and Northern France.
- 01.11.1915: Registered.
- 07.09.1916: Takeover of the New Zealand Shipping Company (including its subsidiary Federal Steam Navigation Company) by The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company agreed.
- 14.11.1916: Collided with the steamer *A1* in the Bristol Channel.
- 13.12.1916/04.07.1917: Requisitioned as an Expeditionary Force transport.
- 05.07.1917/24.03.1919: Came under the Liner Requisition Scheme.
- 29.05.1922: Suffered a bunker fire at Lyttelton.
- 15.03.1924: Arrived at Napier after having lost half her rudder and proceeded to Auckland for docking.
- 1926: Stood by the New Zealand Shipping Company's *Paparoa* when she caught fire in the South Atlantic. Her passengers being taken off by P&O's *Barrabool*.
- 18.05.1926: Towed the disabled American steamer *Eastern Moon* 710km (440 miles) from off Elizabeth Reef to Sydney when the latter lost her propeller in heavy weather.
- 13.01.1927: While lying in the stream at Wellington, the hulk *Arawata* coming alongside to bunker her, bumped heavily on the *Devon* and had to be beached in a sinking condition.
- 1927/1933: Served as a cadet ship for 20 cadets. At the conclusion of her service in this capacity, her cadets were transferred to the *Northumberland*.
- 07.05.1929: Suffered a fire in the bunkers at Port Chalmers.
- 08.1933/03.1934: Laid up at Truro.
- 28.08.1934: Sold for £10,000 to the British India Steam Navigation Company Ltd of London.
- 09.1934/08.1939: Served as a cadet ship for 38 cadets, taking those persons who were removed from the *Nerbudda*.
- 02.04.1940: Requisitioned for the Liner Division.
- 19.08.1941: Sunk by the raider *Komet* masquerading as the Japanese (then neutral) *Royoku Maru* 320km (200 miles) south-west of the Galapagos Islands (04°08'S-92°23'W), bound Newcastle to New Zealand. 144 crew and passengers were taken off the ship and taken prisoner. Her crew spent the rest of the War in German prisoner-of-war camps.

- ends -