



Ship Fact Sheet



DOMALA (1921)

Base data at 14 December 1921. Compiled April 2009

* indicates entries changed during P&O Group service.

Type	Passenger/cargo liner
P&O Group service	1921-1940
P&O Group status	Owned by subsidiary company
Former name(s)	
Registered owners, managers and operators	British India Steam Navigation Company Ltd
Builders	Barclay, Curle & Co Ltd
Yard	Glasgow
Country	UK
Yard number	579
Registry	
Official number	146266
Signal letters	KLFG
Call sign	
Classification society	Lloyd's Register
Gross tonnage	8,441 grt
Net tonnage	5,100 nrt
Deadweight	10,400 tons
Length	141.43m (464.0ft) loa; 137.16m (450.0ft) b/p
Breadth	17.75m (58.3ft)
Depth	9.98m (32.9ft)
Draught	8.503m (27.9ft)
Engines	2 x North British 4-stroke diesel engines
Engine builders	North British Diesel Engine Works Ltd
Works	Glasgow
Country	UK
Power	4,000 bhp
Propulsion	Twin screw
Speed	13 knots (service); 13.6 knots (trials)
Passenger capacity*	100 first class, 50 second class
Cargo capacity	14,611 cubic metres (516,000 cubic feet) including 28.3 cubic feet (1,000 cubic feet) refrigerated
Crew	140 Total
Employment	UK/India service

Career

- 23.12.1920: Launched as *Magvana* for the British India Steam Navigation Company Ltd.
- 24.11.1921: Ran trials.
- 12.1921: Delivered. Because she was diesel driven, the first major British passenger vessel so propelled, a new 'D' for 'diesel' class was introduced and she emerged as *Domala*. Her propulsion saved 40 stokers.
- 23.05.1922: Rammed aft by the *Pallas* as she moved up the Scheldt to Antwerp. She reached her berth safely but the icebreaker bow of the *Pallas* had cut into the stern down to below the waterline and she did not return to service until the end of the year.
- 1928: Re-measured. Now 111 one-class passengers.
- 1934: Re-measured. Now 140 one-class passengers.
- 07.09.1937: Had a breakdown of her steering machinery off the Sunk Lightvessel but was able to reach the Royal Albert Dock the same day and to sail on time four days later.
- 17.02.1940: Requisitioned for the Liner Division.
- 02.03.1940: Bombed by a Heinkel 111 and set on fire in the English Channel en route from Antwerp to Southampton with Indian seamen released by the Germans. Out of 143 passengers and 148 crew, 108 lives were lost. She was the first air attack by German aircraft on English Channel shipping. The *Jonge Willem* picked up 50 men along with a Royal Navy destroyer and some boats from the shore. *Domala* was towed, on fire, into Cowes Roads and was condemned. Then acquired by the Ministry of War Transport and rebuilt as *Empire Attendant* (Andrew Weir & Co Ltd, managers).
- 15.07.1942: Torpedoed by U582 off Rio de Oro, West Africa (23°48'N-21°51'W) and lost her entire crew of 59.

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