



# Ship Fact Sheet



## MODASA (1921)

Base data at 9 December 1921. Last amended April 2009

\* indicates entries changed during P&O Group service.

Type	Passenger/cargo liner
P&O Group service	1921-1954
P&O Group status	Owned by a subsidiary company
Registered owners	British India Steam Navigation Company Ltd
Managers	Mackinnon Mackenzie & Co
Operators	British India Steam Navigation Company Ltd
Builders	Swan, Hunter & Wigham Richardson Ltd
Yard	Wallsend, Newcastle-upon-Tyne
Country	UK
Yard number	1104
Registry	Glasgow, UK
Official number	146272
Signal letters	KLHC
Call sign	GFDZ
Classification society	Lloyd's Register
Gross tonnage	8,896 grt
Net tonnage	5,566 nrt
Deadweight	11,045 tons
Length	147.78m (485.0ft) loa, 140.92m (465.2ft) b/p
Breadth	17.76m (58.3ft)
Depth	10.97m (36.0ft)
Draught	8.608m (28ft 3in)
Engines	2 Metrovick-Rateau double-reduction-g geared steam turbines
Engine builders	Swan, Hunter & Wigham Richardson Ltd
Works	Wallsend, Newcastle-upon-Tyne
Country	UK
Power	4,000 bhp
Propulsion	Twin screw
Speed	13.6 knots (trials)
Passenger capacity*	103 or 67 first class, 45 or 81 second class
Cargo capacity	14,495 cubic metres (511,963 cubic feet) including 28 cubic metres (1,000 cubic feet) refrigerated
Crew	
Employment	London/East Africa or London/Calcutta services

**Career**

- 24.12.1920: Launched.
- 09.12.1921: Delivered as *Modasa* for The British Steam Navigation Company at a cost of £560,200. The only Swan Hunter ship in the 8-strong post-war batch of 'M's.
- 12.1921: Maiden voyage UK/East Africa, where she generally served with some diversions to UK/Calcutta until about 1927.
- 1925: Now 103 or 97 first class passengers.
- 1927: Carried first cargo of Kenyan maize exported to London.
- 1930: Carried the Prince of Wales and his party from Beira to Mombasa.
- 1933: Now 178 one-class passengers.
- 08.1935: Collided with steam yacht *Latharna* in the Mediterranean, diverting to Malta for running repairs.
- 06.1940: Requisitioned for the Liner Division.
- 1941: Spent 4 months as a Military Store Ship.
- 12.12.1942: Reputed torpedo attack in the Bay of Bengal (14°15'N-80°30'E) although this was probably imaginary.
- 1946: Now 183 one-class passengers.
- 17.07.1946: Resumed peacetime service London/Mombasa/Tanga/Zanzibar/Dar-es-Salaam.
- 17.11.1952: Fire in sisal cargo at Kilindini burned for 13 hours. Sailed for London 5 days late.
- 07.01.1954: Last arrival in London.
- 24.01.1954: Sold to British Iron & Steel Corporation for £61,000 to be broken up by Hughes Bolckow Shipbreaking Co Ltd.
- 28.01.1954: Delivered at Blyth.

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