



# Ship Fact Sheet



## VECTIS (1853)

Base data at 6 August 1853. Last amended November 2008

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

Type	Passenger liner
P&O Group service	1853-1865
P&O Group status	Owned by parent company
Former name(s)	
Registered owners, managers and operators	The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company
Builders	John and Robert White
Yard	West Cowes, Isle of Wight
Country	UK
Yard number	
Registry	London, UK
Official number	25135
Signal letters	PDRN
Classification society	
Gross tonnage*	900 grt
Net tonnage	474 nrt
Deadweight	
Length	69.93m (229.5ft)
Breadth	9.26m (30.4ft)
Depth	5.15m (16.9ft)
Draught	
Construction (if not steel)	Wood
Engines*	Oscillating steam engines
Engine builders	T Penn & Sons
Works	Greenwich
Country	UK
Power	1,058 ihp
Propulsion	Paddles
Speed	13 knots
Passenger capacity	
Cargo capacity	
Crew	
Employment	Marseilles/Malta service

**Career**

- 11.01.1853: Launched for the company by Mr Thomas White.
- 25.07.1853: Left her builders.
- 01.08.1853: Ran trials.
- 06.08.1853: Registered as *Vectis* for The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company at a cost of £52,326. She was built to replace an earlier vessel of the same name (taken from the Latin for the Isle of Wight) which P&O sold to the revolutionary Sicilian Government shortly after completion by White's in 1849. Designed for the Marseilles/Malta contract, she and her sister *Valetta* (built by C J Mare on the Thames) were given paddles rather than screw propulsion because of the speeds required. *Vectis* had her builders' patent diagonal planking.
- 09.08.1853: Maiden voyage to Marseilles, Malta and back to Marseilles.
- 03.1854: Took mails for *Indus* broken down in Malta.
- 10.1854: Carried Florence Nightingale from Marseilles to Constantinople.
- 1857: Gross tonnage re-stated as 785 grt.
- 1859: The original engines having been found to be too powerful, they were removed and installed in the company's *Massilia*. New engines of 260 ihp were fitted to *Vectis* by Penn's.
- 06.1865: Sold to the Egyptian Government and renamed *Kalwab*.  
No further details.

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