

= Italian ironclad Andrea Doria =

Andrea Doria was an ironclad battleship built for the Italian Regia Marina (Royal Navy) in the 1880s and 1890s . Named for the 16th @-@ century Genoese admiral Andrea Doria , she was the third and final ship of the Ruggiero di Lauria class . The ship was armed with a main battery of four 17 @-@ inch (432 mm) guns , was protected with 17 @.@ 75 @-@ inch (451 mm) thick belt armor , and was capable of a top speed of 17 knots (31 km / h ; 20 mph) .

The ship 's construction period was very lengthy , beginning in August 1881 and completing in February 1888 . She was quickly rendered obsolescent by the new pre @-@ dreadnought battleships being laid down , and as a result , her career was limited . She spent her career alternating between the Active and Reserve Squadrons , where she took part in training exercises each year with the rest of the fleet . Andrea Doria was stricken from the naval register in 1911 and used as a depot ship until Italy entered World War I in 1915 . The ship was renamed GR 104 and employed as a guard ship in Brindisi . She was converted into a floating oil tank after the war and was eventually broken up for scrap in 1929 .

= = Design = =

Andrea Doria was 105 @.@ 9 meters (347 ft) long overall and had a beam of 19 @.@ 84 m (65 @.@ 1 ft) and an average draft of 8 @.@ 29 m (27 @.@ 2 ft) . She displaced 9 @, @ 886 metric tons (9 @, @ 730 long tons) normally and up to 11 @, @ 027 t (10 @, @ 853 long tons) at full load . Her propulsion system consisted of a pair of compound steam engines each driving a single screw propeller , with steam supplied by eight coal @-@ fired , cylindrical fire @-@ tube boilers . Her engines produced a top speed of 16 @.@ 1 knots (29 @.@ 8 km / h ; 18 @.@ 5 mph) at 10 @, @ 500 indicated horsepower (7 @, @ 800 kW) . She could steam for 2 @, @ 800 nautical miles (5 @, @ 200 km ; 3 @, @ 200 mi) at a speed of 10 knots (19 km / h ; 12 mph) . She had a crew of 507 ? 509 officers and men .

Andrea Doria was armed with a main battery of four 17 in (432 mm) 27 @-@ caliber guns , mounted in two pairs en echelon in a central barbette . She carried a secondary battery of two 6 in (152 mm) 32 @-@ cal. guns , one at the bow and the other at the stern , and four 4 @.@ 7 in (119 mm) 32 @-@ cal. guns . As was customary for capital ships of the period , she carried five 14 in (356 mm) torpedo tubes submerged in the hull . She was protected by steel armor ; her armored belt was 17 @.@ 75 in (451 mm) thick , and her armored deck was 3 in (76 mm) thick . Her conning tower was armored with 9 @.@ 8 in (249 mm) of steel plate , and the barbette had 14 @.@ 2 in (361 mm) thick sides .

= = Service history = =

Andrea Doria was under construction for nine @-@ and @-@ a @-@ half years . She was laid down at La Spezia Navy Yard on 7 January 1882 and launched on 21 November 1885 . She was not completed for another five @-@ and @-@ a @-@ half years , her construction finally being finished on 16 May 1891 . Because of the rapid pace of naval technological development in the late 19th century , her lengthy construction period meant that she was an obsolete design by the time she entered service . The British Royal Navy had begun building the Royal Sovereign class , the first pre @-@ dreadnought battleships , two years before Andrea Doria entered service ; these ships marked a significant step forward in capital ship design . In addition , technological progress , particularly in armor production techniques ? first Harvey armor and then Krupp armor ? rapidly rendered older vessels like Andrea Doria obsolete .

Andrea Doria served with the 2nd Division of the Active Squadron during the 1893 fleet maneuvers , along with the ironclad Italia , which served as the divisional flagship , the torpedo cruiser Iride , and four torpedo boats . During the maneuvers , which lasted from 6 August to 5 September , the ships of the Active Squadron simulated a French attack on the Italian fleet . Andrea Doria joined the ironclads Ruggiero di Lauria , Re Umberto , and Sardegna and the cruisers Stromboli , Etruria , and

Partenope for a visit to Spithead in the United Kingdom in July 1895 . Later that year , the squadron stopped in Germany for the celebration held to mark the opening of the Kaiser Wilhelm Canal .

In 1896 , Andrea Doria served in the 2nd Division for the summer maneuvers , held in July . The Division also included her sister Francesco Morosini and the protected cruiser Giovanni Bausan . The 1st and 2nd Divisions of the Active Squadron were tasked with defending against a hostile fleet , simulated by older ships in reserve . In 1899 , Andrea Doria , Ruggiero di Lauria , Sicilia , and Sardegna took part in a naval review in Cagliari for the Italian King Umberto I , which included a French and British squadron as well . That year , Andrea Doria and her two sisters served in the Active Squadron , which was kept in service for eight months of the year , with the remainder spent with reduced crews . The Squadron also included the ironclads Re Umberto , Sicilia , and Lepanto . In 1900 , Andrea Doria and her sisters were significantly modified and received a large number of small guns for defense against torpedo boats . These included a pair of 75 mm (3 @. @ 0 in) guns , ten 57 mm (2 @. @ 2 in) 40 @-@ caliber guns , twelve 37 mm (1 @. @ 5 in) guns , five 37 mm revolver cannon , and two machine guns .

In 1905 , Ruggiero di Lauria and her two sisters were joined in the Reserve Squadron by the three Re Umberto @-@ class ironclads and Enrico Dandolo , three cruisers , and sixteen torpedo boats . This squadron only entered active service for two months of the year for training maneuvers , and the rest of the year was spent with reduced crews . By 1908 , the Italian Navy began to discard its ironclad battleships , including Andrea Doria 's two sister ships in 1909 . She lingered on in active service only briefly , before she too was stricken on 15 January 1911 . She was thereafter used as a depot ship in Taranto . Shortly before Italy entered World War I on the side of the Triple Entente , Andrea Doria was renamed GR 104 ? a new dreadnought battleship of the same name had just been completed ? and was transferred to Brindisi , where she served as a guard ship . Following the end of the war , she was converted into a floating oil tank ; she served in this capacity until 1929 , when she was broken up for scrap .