

= Italian cruiser Umbria =

Umbria was a protected cruiser of the Italian Regia Marina ( Royal Navy ) built in the 1890s . She was the lead ship of the Regioni class , which included five other vessels . All of the ships were named for current or former regions of Italy . The ship was equipped with a main armament of four 15 cm ( 5 @. @ 9 in ) and six 12 cm ( 4 @. @ 7 in ) guns , and she could steam at a speed of 18 knots ( 33 km / h ; 21 mph ) .

Umbria spent much of her career abroad , including several years in American waters . In service during a period of relative peace , Umbria never saw combat . In 1911 , she was sold to Haiti and renamed Consul Gostrück , though she did not serve for very long under the Haitian flag . Her crew was too inexperienced to operate the ship , and she foundered shortly after being transferred to the Haitian Navy

= = Design = =

Umbria was 84 @. @ 8 meters ( 278 ft ) long overall and had a beam of 12 @. @ 03 m ( 39 @. @ 5 ft ) and a draft of 5 @. @ 35 m ( 17 @. @ 6 ft ) . She displaced up to 3 @, @ 110 metric tons ( 3 @, @ 060 long tons ; 3 @, @ 430 short tons ) at full load . Her propulsion system consisted of a pair of horizontal triple @- @ expansion engines , with steam supplied by four cylindrical water @- @ tube boilers . On her speed trials , she reached a maximum of 19 knots ( 35 km / h ; 22 mph ) at 7 @, @ 400 indicated horsepower ( 5 @, @ 500 kW ) . The ship had a cruising radius of about 2 @, @ 100 nautical miles ( 3 @, @ 900 km ; 2 @, @ 400 mi ) at a speed of 10 knots ( 19 km / h ; 12 mph ) . She had a crew of between 213 @- @ 78 .

Umbria was armed with a main battery of four 15 cm ( 5 @. @ 9 in ) L / 40 guns mounted singly , with two side by side forward and two side by side aft . Six 12 cm ( 4 @. @ 7 in ) L / 40 guns were placed between them , with three on each broadside . Light armament included one 75 mm ( 3 @. @ 0 in ) gun , eight 57 mm ( 2 @. @ 2 in ) guns , two 37 mm ( 1 @. @ 5 in ) guns , and a pair of machine guns . She was also equipped with two 45 cm ( 18 in ) torpedo tubes . Umbria was protected by a 50 mm ( 2 @. @ 0 in ) thick deck , and her conning tower had 50 mm thick sides .

= = Service history = =

Umbria was built by the Odero @- @ Terni @- @ Orlando shipyard in Livorno . Her keel was laid down on 1 August 1888 . Shortages of funding slowed the completion of Umbria and her sister ships . Tight budgets forced the navy to reduce the pace of construction so that the funds could be used to keep the active fleet in service . As a result , her hull was not ready to be launched until 23 April 1891 , and fitting @- @ out work took another almost three years to complete . Umbria finally joined the fleet on 16 February 1894 . On 1 February 1897 , Umbria was assigned to the Cruiser Squadron of the main Italian fleet , along with her sister Liguria and the cruisers Marco Polo and Dogali .

In September 1904 , Umbria stopped in Rio de Janeiro , Brazil , to supervise the transfer of sailors who had been killed by a yellow fever outbreak on her sister Lombardia in 1896 . The men , 134 in all , had been buried in various cemeteries , but were re @- @ interred in a large mausoleum in São Francisco Xavier . On 29 December , Umbria stopped in Valparaíso , where she met the German cruiser SMS Falke and the United States ' cruisers USS New York and USS Marblehead and the gunboat USS Bennington . In June 1905 , Umbria represented Italy at the Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition in Portland , Oregon . She was joined there by the United States ' cruisers USS Chicago and USS Boston . Umbria ran aground outside Kingston , Jamaica in July 1906 , while en route from Puerto Rico . The salvage ship SS Premier assisted in pulling the ship free .

By 1910 , the Regia Marina had decided to dispose of the obsolescent cruiser . Rumors that year of a potential sale to the Ecuadorian Navy prompted Peru to buy the old French cruiser Dupuy de Lôme , though Ecuador did not end up purchasing Umbria . Instead , in December 1910 , the Regia Marina sold Umbria to the Haitian Navy , but she did not arrive in Port @- @ de @- @ Paix , Haiti , until 13 June 1911 . After the sale , the ship was renamed Consul Gostrück . The ship was rumored

to be carrying Cipriano Castro , the deposed president of Venezuela , though they later proved to be false . A German captain , Willy Meyer , was hired to take command of the ship upon its arrival in Haiti , but due to the lengthy delays , he quit . The cruiser sank shortly after entering service because her crew was not experienced in handling the ship . Umbria was eventually raised and towed to Rotterdam , the Netherlands , for disposal in 1913 .