

= Italian cruiser Urania =

Urania was a torpedo cruiser of the Partenope class built for the Italian Regia Marina ( Royal Navy ) in the 1880s . She was built by the Cantieri navali Odero shipyard ; her keel was laid in February 1889 , she was launched in June 1891 , and was commissioned in July 1893 . Her main armament were her six torpedo tubes , which were supported by a battery of ten small 47 mm caliber guns . Urania spent most of her career in the main Italian fleet , where she was primarily occupied with training exercises . She was still in service at the outbreak of the Italo - Turkish War in September 1911 , but she did not take part in any operations . Instead , she remained in Italian waters and was broken up for scrap in January 1912 .

= = Design = =

Urania was 73.1 meters ( 239 ft 10 in ) long overall and had a beam of 8.22 m ( 27 ft 0 in ) and an average draft of 3.48 m ( 11 ft 5 in ) . She displaced 931 metric tons ( 916 long tons ; 1,026 short tons ) normally . Her propulsion system consisted of a pair of horizontal triple expansion steam engines , each driving a single screw propeller , with steam supplied by four coal fired locomotive boilers . Specific figures for Urania 's engine performance have not survived , but the ships of her class had top speeds of 18.1 to 20.8 knots ( 33.5 to 38.5 km / h ; 20.8 to 23.9 mph ) at 3,884 to 4,422 indicated horsepower ( 2,896 to 3,297 kW ) . The ship had a cruising radius of about 1,800 nautical miles ( 3,300 km ; 2,100 mi ) at a speed of 10 knots ( 19 km / h ; 12 mph ) . She had a crew of between 96 - 121 .

Urania was armed with a main battery of one 120 mm ( 4.7 in ) / 40 gun and six 57 mm ( 2.2 in ) / 43 guns mounted singly. She was also equipped with three 37 mm ( 1.5 in ) / 20 guns in single mounts . Her primary offensive weapon was her six 450 mm ( 17.7 in ) torpedo tubes . The ship was protected by an armored deck that was up to 1.6 in ( 41 mm ) thick ; her conning tower was armored with the same thickness of steel plate .

= = Service history = =

Urania was laid down on 16 February 1889 at the Cantieri navali Odero ( Odero Shipyard ) in Genoa , and was launched on 18 June 1891 . After fitting out work was completed , the ship was commissioned into the fleet on 21 July 1893 . During the 1893 fleet maneuvers , Urania served with the 2nd Division of the Reserve Squadron , along with the ironclad Castelfidardo , the protected cruiser Stromboli , and four torpedo boats . During the maneuvers , which lasted from 6 August to 5 September , the ships of the Reserve Squadron defended against a simulated attack by the Active Squadron , which gamed a French attack on the Italian fleet . In 1895 , Urania was stationed in the 2nd Maritime Department , split between Taranto and Naples , along with most of the torpedo cruisers in the Italian fleet . These included her sister ships Partenope , Aretusa , Euridice , Iride , Minerva , and Caprera , the four Goito class cruisers , and Tripoli .

The ship was assigned to the 2nd Division of the main fleet in 1897 , along with the three Ruggiero di Lauria class ironclads and the protected cruisers Etna and Stromboli . In 1899 , Urania was assigned to the 2nd Division of the main fleet , which consisted of the ironclads Affondatore , Castelfidardo , and Sicilia and her sister ship Partenope . The 2nd Division was usually kept in reserve , which amounted to three months of active service per year , with the rest of the time spent in harbor with reduced crews . At the start of the Italo - Turkish War in September 1911 , Urania was stationed in Italy , alternating between the ports of La Spezia and Naples , along with her sister ships Iride and Caprera . She did not see action during the war . In January 1912 , with the war still on going , the ship was sold for scrap and thereafter broken up .