



Our History Ships

FLOATING HOSPITALS. VESSELS OF HOPE AND HEALING.

What makes Mercy Ships different is that we use a unique platform – a ship – to bring world-class medical care to the poorest nations of the world. Because over 50% of the world’s population lives within 160 kilometres of the coast, we’re able to sail a modern hospital ship with a crew of 400 volunteers directly to people who lack access. A ship gives us a number of advantages including:

- The ability to provide our services to millions who live in those areas of the globe that are difficult to access in normal circumstances allowing thousands to experience the same kind of medical care available to those of us who live in the West.
- Our staff work and are accommodated in a secure environment.
- In the unfortunate event of civil unrest, both staff and the self-contained hospital can be evacuated quickly to move onto the next assignment without loss of investment or capabilities.

Find out more about our current flagship, the Africa Mercy, our new Mercy Ship, and our other ships, now retired, that have brought hope, healing and renewed health to thousands.

Our ships are state-of-the-art facilities that offer clean water, reliable electricity, and modern health care facilities. Because over 50% of the world’s population lives within 160 kilometres of the coast, we’re able to sail a modern hospital ship with a crew of 400 volunteers directly to people who lack access to safe, affordable medical care.

GLOBAL MERCY

Our newest ship, the Global Mercy™, is the world’s largest purpose-built non-governmental hospital ship, capable of more than doubling our surgical and training capacity. Over her 50 year expected lifespan, more than 150,000 lives are estimated to be changed on board through surgery alone.

The sequential steps in the building process include up to 16 months of detailed design work, construction of the hull and installation of machinery systems, outfitting the accommodation decks/hospital, extensive testing and trials prior to delivery from shipyard, installation of additional medical equipment and general supplies and further testing prior to deployment.

The vision to transform lives by bringing hope and healing has guided Mercy Ships since the beginning. With each ship, lives are transformed in the nations we serve. But the need is ongoing.

The Global Mercy hospital deck will be ready to carry out a wide range of surgeries like maxillofacial and plastic-reconstructive surgery to address tumour removal and debilitating burn contractures, cleft lip and palate repair, orthopaedics, cataract removal, and obstetric fistula repair.

This expansion and growth will facilitate more — more surgeries for those in need; more health professionals trained and mentored; more lives changed.

FACILITIES & FEATURES

Hospital

The hospital covers most of decks 3 and 4 – approximately 7,000 square metres containing:

- supply services
- 6 operating theatres
- 102 acute care beds
- 7 ICU/isolation beds
- an additional 90 self-care beds

The hospital area includes dedicated classroom/conference spaces as well as simulator labs for more effective training. All pre-operative and post-operative work can be done on board rather than ashore, which minimises the Mercy Ships footprint when operating in busy ports.

The new ship will more than double our annual medical capacity and is designed to carry out a wide range of surgeries including, but not limited to:

- maxillofacial & reconstructive surgery
- tumour removal
- cleft lip & palate repair
- plastics
- orthopaedic surgery
- cataract removal
- obstetric fistula repair

On-Shore Programs

In addition to the surgeries performed on board, ship-based teams serve in local villages providing a wide array of services to increase health and well-being which includes:

- Dental clinics
- Medical clinics
- Community health education
- Construction and agricultural training

Accommodations

The Global Mercy will have meeting and work spaces with numerous design considerations based upon prior operating experience and crew feedback. The ship incorporates the latest comprehensive technology for crew safety and security and will provide accommodation for 641 people including crew and medical staff on board. The ship services are designed to host up to 950 people when the hospital is working and additional day crew are serving on board in various functions such as translators.

Safety & Security

- Automatic water mist system located throughout the accommodation and hospital areas
- Smoke detector system pinpoints any fire's exact location
- 24-hour security guards, metal detector, and screening devices
- Closed-circuit TV monitors
- Critical spaces locked 24/7

Specifications

Registered: Malta
Crew Capacity: 641
Main Engine: 4 x Wartsila 6L32 w/ 2 x ABB Azipul Pods
Draft: 6.1m
Length: 174m
Breadth: 28.6m
Gross Tonnage: 36,600

Deadweight: 4,300MT
Hospital Beds: 199
Operating Theatres: 6
Decks: 11
Design: Deltamarin
Build Oversight: Stena RoRo
Built: Tianjin Xingang Shipyard
Surveyed By: Lloyd's Register

Partners

The following partners have supported the build and outfitting of the Global Mercy.

- Alcon
- A-Dec
- BD
- Bemis Manufacturing
- Caresimatic Brands
- Carestream Dental
- GF Health
- Labconco
- Midmark
- MSC Foundation
- Omnicell
- Pedigo
- Philips Foundation
- Steelco



AFRICA MERCY

History

Deployed in 2007. Acquired in 1999, the Dronning Ingrid underwent conversion from a Danish rail ferry into the world's largest non-governmental hospital ship. Sponsored by corporate and individual donors, the purpose-built Africa Mercy has five operating rooms and an 80-bed ward.

FACILITIES & FEATURES

Hospital

The hospital covers most of the original rail deck – approximately 1,200 square metres. It is divided into quadrants containing supply/services, five operating theatres, recovery/intensive care and low-dependency wards with a total of 80 patient beds. Projected annual medical capacity is approximately 7,000 surgical procedures onboard including cataract removal/lens implants, tumour removal, cleft lip and palate reconstruction, orthopaedics and obstetric fistula repair. The hospital contains a CT Scanner as well as X-ray, laboratory services and a Nikon Coolscope, which allow remote diagnosis almost instantaneously. Whenever required, diagnoses are transmitted via an onboard satellite communication system to doctors in developed countries.

Programs Ashore

In addition to the operations performed on board, on-land teams of volunteers work to increase health and well-being using dental clinics, eye clinics, and medical capacity building programs that train local health care professionals in their fields of expertise to better serve their own people.

Accommodation

The Africa Mercy has meeting and work spaces as well as accommodation for an average crew of 450. The 474 berths are split between 26 family cabins, 25 two-berth cabins for couples, and shared and single cabins for individual occupants.

Safety & Security

The vessel is fitted with an automatic sprinkler system throughout the accommodation and hospital areas. An addressable smoke detector system pinpoints the exact location of the source of any potential fire. Machinery spaces are covered by CO₂ gas flooding system as well as a "Hi Fog" system which can be very effective in controlling localised fires in the machinery space. Gurkha security guards man the gangway 24 hours a day with metal detectors and other screening devices. They are backed up by CCTV around the vessel, while critical spaces such as the bridge and engine room remain locked at all times.

Specifications

Length: 152 m
Breadth: 23.7 m
Gross Tonnage: 16,572
Built: 1980 Elsinore, Denmark
Registered: Malta
Crew Capacity: 474

Cargo Capacity: 1,724 m³
Main Engines: 4 B&W (3120 kW each)
Draft: 6.0 m
Surveyed By: Bureau Veritas



ANASTASIS (RETIRED)

Deployed 1978 Retired 2007

History

Formerly the Victoria, the Anastasis was built in 1953 as an Italian passenger liner and served as the flagship of the Mercy Ships fleet from 1978 to 2007. During that time, the Anastasis contributed more than half of Mercy Ships' total output in terms of number of services, value and beneficiaries. An average of 350 crew from more than 30 nations lived and worked onboard.

FACILITIES & FEATURES

The former passenger liner was modified to contain three fully-equipped operating rooms, a hospital ward, a dental clinic, a laboratory, an X-ray unit, three cargo holds and accommodation for 420 crew. She carried a fleet of over 20 vehicles for onshore work.

Services Delivered

Between 1978 and 2007, the Anastasis performed more than 1 million services, at a total value today of over \$328 million with an estimated 1.2 million people as direct beneficiaries.

- Performed more than 18,800 surgeries such as cleft lip and palate repair, cataract removal, straightening of crossed-eyes, orthopaedic and facial reconstruction.
- Treated more than 88,600 people in village medical clinics.
- Performed more than 137,000 dental treatments.
- Coached over 4,000 local health-care professionals who have in turn trained many others, ensuring that medical expertise is retained after the ship's departure.
- Taught more than 59,700 local people in basic health care.
- Completed more than 540 construction and agriculture projects including schools, clinics, orphanages and water wells.

Ports Visited

The Anastasis visited 275 total ports, and conducted 66 field assignments in 23 nations: Guatemala, New Zealand, Fiji, Tonga, Samoa, Mexico, Jamaica, Dominican Republic, Poland, Togo, Ghana, Estonia, Ivory Coast, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Lithuania, Senegal, Latvia, South Africa, Madagascar, Benin, Gambia and Liberia.

Trivia

An estimated 25,000 volunteer crew members served on the Anastasis. Over 250 couples met as crew, and several weddings were held onboard, including one at sea.

Specifications

Length: 159m

Breadth: 20.73m

Gross Tonnage: 11,701

Built: 1953 Triese, Italy

Registered: Malta

Crew Capacity: 420

Cargo Capacity: 3 holds/3,060m³

Main Engines: 2 Fiat 7,510 (8,050 BHP each)

Draft: 7.2m

Surveyed By: Lloyds



CARIBBEAN MERCY

Deployed 1978 Retired 2007

History

Formerly a Norwegian ferry (Polarlys), the Caribbean Mercy was acquired by Mercy Ships in 1994. In her 12-year history, the Caribbean Mercy contributed more than 20% of Mercy Ships' total output in terms of number of services, value and beneficiaries, serving primarily in Central America and the Caribbean basin. While in port, she hosted an average crew of 120 volunteers from more than 20 nations.

FACILITIES & FEATURES

The *Caribbean Mercy* was outfitted with an eye surgery unit, cargo capacity and accommodation for up to 150 people while in port, as well as conference and seminar facilities used for a variety of programmes. Her fuel and water tanks provided a cruising range of 12 days, or 3,600 miles.

Services Delivered

Crew onboard the *Caribbean Mercy* offered close to 289,000 services, at a value of over \$100 million and with 348,800 people as direct beneficiaries.

- Performed more than 7,000 surgeries such as cataract removal, strabismus, dental and orthopaedic procedures.
- Treated more than 54,300 people in village medical clinics.
- Performed 18,200 dental treatments.
- Taught more than 1,500 local health-care workers, who have in turn trained many others in basic health care.
- Trained local medical professionals in modern health-care techniques to carry on after the ship's departure.
- Delivered more than \$2 million of medical equipment, hospital supplies and medicines.
- Completed more than 140 construction and agriculture projects including schools, clinics, orphanages and water wells.

Ports Visited

The *Caribbean Mercy* visited 137 total ports in her 12-year history, and conducted 56 field assignments in 13 nations: Dominican Republic, Haiti, Nicaragua, Guatemala, El Salvador, Russia, Korea, China, Philippines, Colombia, Puerto Rico, Honduras and Belize.

Trivia

During her first 42 years the ship only travelled within Norway. During her 12 years of service as a Mercy Ship, she visited 18 countries. In 2006 she was sold to a family foundation to be renovated.

Specifications

Length: 80m

Breadth: 12.2m

Gross Tonnage: 2,125

Built: 1952 Aalborg, Denmark

Registered: Panama

Crew Capacity: 87

Cargo Capacity: 688m³

Main Engine: 1 MAK diesel (3,670 BHP)

Draft: 5.18m

Surveyed By: Det Norske Veritas



ISLAND MERCY (RETIRED)

Deployed 1983 Retired 2001

History

The former Newfoundland coastal ferry *Petite Forte* was donated to Mercy Ships in 1983. She sailed for 11 years as the *Good Samaritan* serving the Caribbean, Central and South America, until 1994 when she was renamed the *Island Mercy* and redeployed to the South Pacific where she served until 2001. The vessel went through extensive renovations including the building of operating theatres onboard. The ship was sold in 2001 to a Philippine interest.

FACILITIES & FEATURES

The *Island Mercy* focused on eye and dental services, and carried cargo and a permanent crew of 60 people. Her shallow draft allowed her access where larger Mercy Ships could not reach.

Services Delivered

Crew onboard the *Island Mercy* offered more than 145,000 services at a value of over \$70 million and with 113,000 people as direct beneficiaries.

- Performed more than 1,150 surgeries such as cataract removal, strabismus, dental and orthopaedic procedures.
- Treated more than 12,750 people in village medical clinics.
- Performed 29,370 dental treatments.
- Trained local medical professionals in modern health-care techniques to carry on after the ship's departure.
- Taught local health-care workers to train others in basic health care.
- Delivered more than \$359,000 of medical equipment, hospital supplies and medicines.

Ports Visited

Over 19 years, the *Good Samaritan /Island Mercy* sailed to over 109 ports and conducted medical missions in 88 port visits to 24 developing nations from South America to the South Pacific.

Trivia

As the *Good Samaritan*, she carried cargo and personnel to the Pan-American games for the U.S. Olympic committee in 1991, and became the first ship to legally sail from the United States to Cuba in 30 years. To her crew she was affectionately known as the "Little Giant".

Specifications

Length: 52.7

Breadth: 11.6m

Gross Tonnage: 998

Built: 1961 Canada

Registered: Panama

Crew Capacity: 80

Cargo Capacity: 359m³

Main Engine: 2 Crossley diesel (1,100 BHP each)

Draft: 3.8m

Surveyed By: Lloyds