

HNLMS URANIA

Sail Training Vessel of the

Royal Naval College

The formal name of the Urania is 'His Netherlands Majesty's Ship (HNLMS) Urania'. HNLMS is the English equivalent of the Dutch 'Zijner Majesteit' or 'Zr. Ms'. The Royal Netherlands Navy has had a sail training vessel called Urania since 1830. She is considered the grand old lady of the Dutch fleet of yachts with a classic design. The name Urania derives from Greek mythology. She is the muse of astronomers and a protectress of sailors. The ship's coat of arms, which is displayed on her crest, depicts the celestial sphere and zodiac. The Urania's motto is 'Caveo non Timeo', which means 'Vigilant but fearless'.

Bermuda Ketch

The current Urania is the fifth vessel in succession with this name and was commissioned on 18 May 2004. Since the 1960s, the Urania has been rigged as a 'Bermuda Ketch', meaning she has 2 masts, the main mast being taller than the mizzen mast which is positioned in front of the rudder pin. Her sails are all 'top-rigged' and she has 2 forestays from where either 2 head sails or 1 larger genoa can be set. For light winds, the Urania can also set a gennaker and or a 'monkey sail' (a gennaker flown from the mizzen mast). If both these sails are set, the total sail area can amount to more than 600 m².

Training vessel for Royal Netherlands Navy

The Urania's main role is to serve as a training vessel for Royal Netherlands Navy midshipmen. During their education at the Royal Naval College all midshipmen spend 1 or several weeks on board the Urania. Besides practical navigation, the focus is particularly on character building including collaboration, team spirit and leadership under difficult circumstances. The secondary role of the vessel is her representative task, or 'showing the flag'. Both roles are combined when the Urania participates in national and international sailing events such as the STI Tall Ship Races. Urania is manned by a crew of 3: commanding officer, boatswain and sail master. During longer trips, a navigation officer is added. In addition to the crew, the Urania is manned by a maximum of 12 midshipmen.

200 days away

The sailing season runs from late March to late October. On average, the Urania is away from her home port Den Helder (being the home port of the Royal Netherlands Navy and the location of the Royal Naval College) at least 200 days per year. She sails

approximately 8,000 NM per year, chiefly on the North Sea, the Baltic Sea and around the British Isles, including the Channel. Occasionally, she also sails in the eastern North Atlantic.

General description

- Designer : Olivier F. van Meer Design, Enkhuizen, Netherlands
- Hull built by : De Gier & Bezaan, Enkhuizen, Netherlands
- Finished by : Royal Netherlands Navy Ship Yard, Den Helder, Netherlands
- Hull shape : Long S-shaped keel with integrated rudder
- Construction : Steel hull, deck and superstructure
- Deck material : Steel covered with teak
- Masts material : Aluminium
- Design class : Register Holland 1234+ (worldwide)
- Sail number : NED31
- Navy hull number : Y8050
- Call Sign : PAFG

Dimensions

- LOA : 26.85 m including bowsprit
- Length water line : 18.31 m
- Beam : 6.04 m
- Draft : 2.65 m
- Air draft : 27 m including antennas
- Displacement : 75 Gt (fully loaded)
- Ballast : approx. 14 tonnes
- Fresh water capacity : 2,300 litres
- Fuel capacity : 2,500 litres
- Engine : Caterpillar 253 hp (186 kW)

Rig

- Sail area : 305 m² (head, main, mizzen)
- Gennakers : 180-300 m²
- Mizzen gennakers : 150-200 m²

