

Titanic

The titanic, a wonderful, beautiful, big unsinkable way to America. A story of triumph and tragedy. On April 10, 1912 the miraculous boat was ready to sail. it was owned by the White Star Line and was built at Harland and Wolff Shipbuilding company. The Titanic was 882 ft. long and weighed 45,000 tons. It could hold 3200 passengers, but it only had enough life boats for about 1200 people. That did not matter because even God could not sink this ship.

The price for a ticket varied greatly, the highest price being \$870.00 for a first class ticket all the way down to \$2.00 for a third class ticket . Most people were third class. This was really an amazing ship, too bad it went down on it's maiden voyage. On the boat there were 28 staterooms and suites for the first class passengers (Titanic, p.2). Special staterooms located on decks B and C of the ship were designed with different motifs. The upperclass passengers had about eight different styles to choose from, so they could better enjoy the voyage (Titanic, p.2). Some of the suites had fire places that burned coal in the sitting room and gigantic beds in the bedroom. the most expensive suite had five rooms and a private bathroom, this truly was a luxury liner. Most upper class people had dinner at a huge restaurant on deck D (Titanic, p.2). It was 92 ft. wide and 114 ft. long. (Titanic, p.2) . The restaurant sat about 500 people (Titanic, p.2). There were a few other places to have dinner on the boat, even a real French restaurant called, "Cafe Parisien" (Titanic, p.2). During the day many rich people went to the Lounge at the Promenade deck, the walls were similar to the ones at Versailles Castle near Paris, it was truly magnificent. Next to this was the Georgian reading and writing room for women and next to that was the Smoking room for men. The Titanic had a sense of space and openness (Titanic, p.2)

Exactly 860 people worked on board the Titanic. (RMS Deck Crew p.1). 340 of them worked below decks in the engine department as engineers, timmers, boiler makers, grease men, window cleaners, or line keepers (RMS Engineering p.2). Only a few dozen of them were engaged in the seamanship directly. Even fewer were officers. The captian of the boat was E. J. Smith. He had sailed over two million miles with the White Star Line before the Titanic, which was to be his last ship before he retired, but he never got the chance because like a good Capitan should, he went down with the ship.

The ship set sail and traviled 386 miles on the first day, then 519 miles on the second day (Titanic, p.4). the ship was on the way to New York from Great Britian and everyone was eager to get there. So again the Captian increased their speed. The fourth day was April 14, 1912, the day the unsinkable ship sunk. They hit an iceberg at the speed of 22.5 knots (Titanic, p.4). The icepberg made a huge hole in the ships double bottoms. No one beleived the ship would go down and it wasn't until half an hour later that the first call for help went out. At least five other ships got the distress signal, among the was the ship, Carpathia. This ship was competing with the Titanic for passengers, but never the less they quickly changed course to save the people aboard the shinking ship. Only 700 people, mostly women and children boarded the life boats, most women would not leave their husbands behind (Lord, p.7). Some men dressed in women's clothing to get off the ship, I guess in a life and death situation some people are shameless.

One of the more famous things about the Titanic was the Orchestra, which kept on playing while the shiop went down. There are some speculations as to which song they were playing, but most say it was happy to help raise people's spirits.

The Carpathia arrived around dawn. A lot of people were saved, but so many would die in the moments to come. The second officer of the Carpathia wrote these words as he watched the ship go down, and I quote... "Slowly and

almost majestically, the immense stern reared itself up, with propellers and rudders clearing the water of the cold Atlantic.... Like a prayer as the disappeared, the word were breathed, 'she is gone' end quote (Anderson, p.2). The unsinkable ship had sunk on her maiden voyage.

Among the loss of a beautiful ship about 1495 trusting lives had been taken by the awful disaster (Titanic, p.2). There were exactly 2207 people aboard the Titanic and only 712 made it off the boat alive (Titanic, p.3). The last known survivor, a Swedish lady named Mrs. Beatrice Sandstrum who was only two years old when she and her mother and sister were aboard the Titanic. recently died at the age of 85 years old (Billnitzer, p.1). The three were in their cabin when the iceberg hit the boat. They stayed there until a steward came and told them to put on their life jackets and to the to upper deck to board the life boats. They were on one of the last boats to leave the ship to go to safety and 40 minutes later the Titanic sank to the bottom of the cold dark sea (Billnitzer, p.1).

The Titanic was a true story of triumph and tragedy. A ship that was so big and beautiful that nothing could bring it down. Then on it's maiden voyage this incredible ship that could withstand any thing but nature, hit an iceberg and went down. The Titanic is still at the bottom of the Atlantic ocean in between Great Britain and the United States (Davis, p.1)

