

HMAS Adelaide (III)



The largest ships ever built for the Royal Australian Navy (RAN), the Amphibious Assault Ships also known as Landing Helicopter Docks (LHD) were built by contractors BAE Systems Australia and Navantia.

The ships will provide the Australian Defence Force (ADF) with one of the most capable and sophisticated air-land-sea amphibious deployment systems in the world.

Each ship is divided into 112 modules, which are built and fitted out as discrete units and then consolidated together to form the completed ship. This allows work on the ship to be completed at a number of different locations prior to assembly. There are 105 modules that make up the hull and seven modules that make up the superstructure.

The construction of the hull to the level of the flight deck and the majority of fitting out was undertaken at Navantia's shipyard in Ferrol, Spain. The work undertaken at the BAE Systems shipyard in Williamstown, Victoria, included consolidation of the superstructure and installation of the Combat and Communication Systems.

The vessels can embark, transport and deploy military forces along with their equipment and supporting aviation assets.

The ships have a conventional steel mono hull design with the superstructure located on the starboard side of the flight deck. They are designed with the shallowest possible draft to operate in secondary ports and harbours as well as manoeuvre in the shallow waters common in the littoral regions.

There are four main decks; heavy vehicle, accommodation, hangar and light vehicles and flight decks.

Purpose build water craft will enable transport of troops and equipment to shore, including where there are no fixed port facilities.

The ships are equipped with modern Command and Control and combat systems including air and surface radar, advanced communications capability and surveillance systems.

The ships are fitted with defensive systems and weaponry including an anti-torpedo towed system and gunnery.

HMAS *Adelaide* was commissioned at a ceremony at Fleet Base East, Sydney on 4 December 2015.



Commanding Officer	Captain Jonathan Earley
Class	Canberra Class
Type	Amphibious Assault Ship (LHD)
Pennant	L01
Motto	United for the Common Good
Home Port	Fleet Base East
Builder	BAE Systems Australia and Navantia
Laid Down	18 February 2011
Launched	4 July 2012
Commissioned	4 December 2015
Resources	
Newsletter	The Adelaide Line
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Dimensions & Displacement	
Displacement	27,800 tonnes (unloaded and not docked down)
Length	230 metres
Beam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 32 metres 29.5 metres (at waterline)
Draught	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 metres (transit) 10 metres (docked down)
Flight Deck	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 202.3 metres (length) 32 metres (width) 4,750 square metres (area) 27.5 metres (height)
Performance	
Speed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20+ knots (maximum) 19 knots (sustained maximum at full-load) 15 knots (economic cruising)

	up to 8 knots (reversing speed with full directional control)
Range	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6,000 nautical miles (at 20 knots)• 9,000 nautical miles (at 15 knots)

