



**Class:** Frigate A/S Classe Maestrale (FFGH)

**Commissioned:** 1979

**Displacement:** 3040 tons

**Length:** 123 m

**Beam:** 12.9 m

**Engine system:** 2 TAG Fiat-General Electric LM-2500; 2 D Warstila B230-20 MVM

**Speed:** 30 Kts (Max)

## OVERVIEW

The first unit to bear the name Grecale was the former Norwegian merchant tug "Ellida," delivered to the Italian Navy on May 10, 1916, and condemned on May 7, 1920; was mainly used as a patrol boat based in Taranto.

The second Grecale was a destroyer delivered to the Italian King's Navy on November 15, 1934 and condemned on June 1, 1964.

The third and current ITS Grecale is one of the 8 anti-submarine missile frigates of the Maestrale Class. Launched on September 12, 1981 and delivered to the Italian Navy on February 5, 1983, ITS Grecale is the result of an all Italian project. During over thirty years of activity, the unit has sailed over 600,000 nautical miles, in over 50,000 hours.

"Grecale" (Gregale) is a strong dry cold wind coming from north-east, typical of the winter season. Taking Malta as the point of reference, the name was given because it blows from north-east, in correspondence to where Greece is.

The Crest of the Unit shows a Greek sail ship in relief with the rostrated hull emerging from water, the name written in Latin characters. In the background, in the upper part of the medallion, the wind blows into cumulus clouds and puffs up the sail as a reminder of the ship's name. In the lower part a cartouche with the motto of the Unit: "Venti Impetu" (Tempestuous Wind).



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