

Messageries Maritimes Ships having served on Far East Lines (1867 to 1932)

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The content of this document, as described in its title, is to illustrate each of the 90 Messageries Maritimes' ships that have operated on the Far East lines, having often called on Hong Kong, in order to associate them to their corresponding postal markings.

This monograph was initially intended as an appendix to a monograph from the same author describing the “**French Maritime Markings on stamps & mail related to Hong Kong & its Treaty Ports - according to the classification of Raymond Salles (La Poste Maritime Française – 1966 - Tome V: page:101-119, 158-159)**”.

The appendix having been completed ahead of the monograph to which it referred, and not knowing when this monograph would be finished, if ever, it occurred to the author that there was no point waiting before uploading it on the Hong Kong Study Group website as a standalone.

This monograph may provide further illustrations to Lee C. Scamp book “**French Messageries Imperiales / Maritimes Mail Paquebot Itineraries to, from, and within the Far East 1862 – 1880**”.

Over 70% of the illustrations are from the author's past or present picture postcards collection, for all the others, a specific reference is indicated.



Complete ships' technical descriptions may be found on the following resources from which informations, history and almost 30% of the illustrations, have been extracted:

- L'Encyclopédie des Messageries Maritimes: <http://www.messageries-maritimes.org/>
- Wikipedia: <https://en.wikipedia.org>
- The Ships List: <http://www.theshipslist.com/ships/lines/mm.shtml#laos>
- Flickr, collection MIKOS-35: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/97069214@N08/collections/72157634337342354/>

Note: “Messageries Maritimes” is abbreviated as “M.M.” and “Hong Kong” as “HK” throughout this document.

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**Table of M.M. Ships
having served on
Far East Lines N, R, S, O and
Marseilles to & from Yokohama & Kobe**

according to the information provided by Raymond Salles
(La Poste Maritime Française - 1966 - Tome V: page:101-119 & 158-159)

M.M. Ship	Launched	Ligne R HK to Shanghai	Ligne N	Ligne S Shanghai & HK to Yokohama	Marseilles to Yokohama	Marseilles to Kobe specific cancels	Ligne O Colombo	Tonneaux (registerd tonnage)
		1867 to 1871	from 1870	1867 to 1887	from 1887	from 1932	1867 to 1882	
ALPHÉE ¹	1861	R	N	S				1,793
AMAZONE ²	1869		N		Y			3,350
AMBOISE (ex-Friedrichsruh)	1905				Y			8,408
ANADYR ³	1873		N					3,714
ANDRÉ LEBON ⁴ (ex Rio de Janeiro)	1913				Y	K		13,681
ANGERS (ex Cap Arcona)	1907				Y			9,847
ANGKOR (ex Atlantique)	1899				Y			6,478
ANNAM ⁵ (then Tourane)	1899		N					6,300
ARAMIS ⁶ (then Teia-Maru)	1931					K		17,536
ARMAND BEHIC ⁷	1891		N		Y			6,635
ATHOS ⁸	1914				Y			12,692
ATHOS II	1926				Y	K		15,275
ATLANTIQUE (then Angkor)	1899				Y			6,478
AUSTRALIEN	1889		N		Y			6,570
AVA	1870		N					3,361
AZAY-LE-RIDEAU (ex General)	1911				Y			7,988
BERNARDIN DE SAINT-PIERRE	1926					K		10,086
CALÉDONIEN ⁹	1882		N		Y			4,170
CAMBODGE ¹⁰	1861		N					2,205

¹ ALPHÉE & ERYMANTHE were 2 sisterships.

² AMAZONE was first of 5 ships specifically built for Indochina lines with AVA, MEI-KONG, PEI HO & SINDH.

³ ANADYR was second of 5 identical ships with DJEMNAH, IRAOUADDY, OXUS & YANG TSÉ.

⁴ ANDRÉ LEBON was second of 3 of almost identical ships with PAUL LECAT & SPHINX.

⁵ ANNAM, INDUS, LAOS & TONKIN (renamed LOTUS), were a set of almost identical ships.

⁶ ARAMIS was third of 3 almost identical ships with FELIX ROUSSEL & GEORGES PHILIPPAR.

⁷ ARMAND BEHIC was third of 4 similar ships with AUSTRALIEN, POLYNÉSIE & VILLE DE LA CIOTAT.

⁸ ATHOS & PORTHOS were two sisterships, both launched in 1914.

⁹ CALÉDONIEN was third of 7 sisterships with MELBOURNE, NATAL, OCÉANIEN, SALAZIE, SYDNEY & YARRA.

¹⁰ CAMBODGE, DONNAÏ & IMPERATRICE were 3 sisterships.

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