

Isla Ebusitana

The most ancient pilot´s boat of the world.
Isla Ebusitana is a pilot´s boat of 33.10 metres of length
of the hull. Maximum capacity 16 persons.

The sailing boat was launched to water by the naval builder José Coll in the year 1856 in Palma de Mallorca (Spain) with the religious name : Precious Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Its hull was made of woods from the isle, mainly pine and oak. There were doubled pine boards of 80 milimetres each one over oak ribs of 280 milimetres of thickness. This sailing boat was dedicated since it was launched until the 1970´s, to the maritime trade from the Balearic Isles and other harbours as the ones in Valencia, Vinaroz, Málaga, Barcelona and finally Ibiza.

Its first engine was installed in the year 1933. It was a second-hand Otto Bronz, made in 1920 and was only 40 horsepower. That engine is obviously not comparable with the one which is now installed, which is a Mercedes 260 horsepower; with this engine, up to 9 knots can be maintained during a crossing.

Its commercial life with Spanish flag ended in 1978 - for a long time- when its owners from Ibiza sold this motorsailing to a Dutchman. After some other change of owners, in 1987 it reached the hands of a Swiss owner, Christian Vondruska. He took care of the ship meticulously for 17 years, ensuring this historic sailing boat was preserved because very few of that kind were left in the world by then. He made several journeys with Isla Ebusitana; crossings in the Atlantic Ocean between the Mediterranean Sea and the Caribbean Sea were the most remarkable.

With almost 150 years of active history, plying the seas of the world, this ship represents a sample still alive of the long maritime tradition of Spain.

Evento Valencia

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