

STS *POGORIA*

Nationality	Polish
Home Port	Gdynia
Length overall	48 m (158 ft.)
Professional Crew	5
Volunteer Crew	Captain + 4 Officers
Trainees	up to 43

HISTORY

Pogoria was built between 1979 and 1980 in Gdansk, Poland, for the Iron Shackle Fraternity, a marine education and sail training organisation linked with Polish Television. She was designed by Zygmunt Choreń as a prototype of the line of tall ships designed or redesigned by him (in 2009 it was 17 square riggers). The man responsible for getting her built, Cpt. Krzysztof Baranowski, already had the idea for Class Afloat – combining traditional high school education with a long-distance marine voyage, which is why the barquentine's bow superstructure was built as a classroom.

Pogoria was launched on January 23rd, 1980, and made her international debut in the 1980 *Cutty Sark* Tall Ships' Races from Kiel to Karlskrona, Frederikshavn, Amsterdam and the windjammer gathering in Bremerhaven that followed. Commanded by Cpt. Krzysztof Baranowski, with a young crew from the Iron Shackle Fraternity, she was entered in class A, among the world's largest tall ships. Both legs of the event saw the *Pogoria* cross the line first in her class. Finally, after a handicap calculation, she was classified third over each stage, but nevertheless she was unofficially titled the fastest vessel of the race.

In 1980-81 (summer in the Southern hemisphere), *Pogoria* was chartered by the Polish Academy of Sciences to transport scientists and their equipment to the Polish Antarctic station on King George Island in the South Shetlands, and there picked up another group and took them back to Poland. Commanded by Cpt. Krzysztof Baranowski, after 132 days' sailing, she returned to Gdynia, logging 20,820 Nm. On that voyage

she called also at Stanley in the Falklands and Rio de Janeiro.

In 1982, *Pogoria* took part in the *Cutty Sark* Tall Ships' Races from Falmouth to Cadiz, Lisbon and Southampton. The following summer she sailed in the Baltic.

From September 1983 to June 1984, *Pogoria* was used for the 'Class Afloat' project of Cpt. Krzysztof Baranowski, in which 30 Polish students, who were the winners of a one-year nationwide competition, were given the chance to combine traditional high school education with a long-distance sea voyage. The 278-day trip from Gdynia to Gdynia, Poland, was planned as a clockwise circumnavigation of Africa, with a loop around Bombay and Colombo.

From 1985 until mid-1988, *Pogoria* was under full-time charter to the Canadian Educational Alternative of Ottawa and Montreal, working with Canadian floating school (with breaks only for maintenance holidays). She had a Polish crew of 9 and 20-40 Canadian students together with their teachers. In 1985, she made another circumnavigation of Africa. That voyage ended in Montreal and she then sailed back to Poland, by way of the New York Op Sail '86. In 1987-88, she sailed around the world.

In 1988-1989, *Pogoria* made a voyage around South America with 'International Class Afloat,' another project of Cpt. Krzysztof Baranowski, combining a school year with a sea-voyage under the slogan "Let's Learn to Live and Work Together" for students from the USA, USSR and Poland.

In late 1989, *Pogoria* was chartered to the Canadians again and operated in the Atlantic between Europe and the West Indies, the USA and Canada. The charter ended at Cape Town before Christmas 1991, after which she set sail for home and another refit. This took place in 1993 and was financed by the City of Gdynia, as the Sailing Foundation of Gdynia had become the co-owner of the ship.

Immediately after the refit, *Pogoria* joined the cruise-in-company and the second leg of the 1993 *Cutty Sark* Tall Ships' Races from Bergen to Larvik and Esbjerg. In 1994, she sailed across the Atlantic to join the series of Maritime Festivals on the Great Lakes.

In 1995, the *Sail Training Association Poland* became the ship's operator and *Pogoria* entered the *Cutty Sark* Tall Ships' Races from Edinburgh to Bremerhaven, Frederikshavn and Amsterdam.

In 1996, the operator chose the Mediterranean series of *Cutty Sark* Tall Ships' Races from Genoa to Palma and Naples. *STA Poland* is a subsidiary of *Sail Training International*, which educates young sailors through

marine voyages and organizes the Tall Ships' Races also known as Operation Sail. From 1997 onward, *Pogoria* participated in the Tall Ships' Races every summer.

In 1999, in Aalborg, the final port of the race series, *Pogoria* won the most important and prestigious award – the *Cutty Sark* Trophy. The winners of this award are the crew and the ship which contribute the most to international understanding and friendship during the series of races.

In 2000, *Pogoria* successfully completed the *Cutty Sark* Tall Ships' Races 2000 on the route from Genoa to Cadiz, Bermuda and ports on the eastern coast of the US (Boston, Halifax) to Amsterdam. In 2001, *Pogoria* joined the *Cutty Sark* Tall Ships' Races from Antwerp to Ålesund, Bergen and Esbjerg.

Since 1999/2000, the ship has been operating in wintertime from her base in Genoa, sailing in the Mediterranean in cooperation with *STA Italia*.

ON BOARD

Trainees live in the 2, 2 x 4, 8, 10 and 15-person cabins, where each of them has his/her own bunk.

They are divided into four watches of 11 people each. Three of those 11 do four hours on watch and eight off, while the fourth person is on the galley watch, helping the cook with the preparation of meals and also keeping the ship tidy. Most of the watch time is spent on look-out, taking the helm, keeping the log and trimming sails. It is not absolutely necessary to go aloft, but most trainees do so for the experience and thrill of handling square sails.

During the Class Afloat voyages, which are commanded by Cpt. Baranowski, all trainees except those on galley watch have classes from 08.15 to 13.30.

Pogoria's permanent crew consists of a Chief Mate, Boatswain, Engineer, Mechanic and Cook together with a voluntary Master and four Mates. The usual trainee age is between 15 and 25.