

THE ROYAL NAVY

SUPPORTING THE 2012 OLYMPIC GAMES



ROYAL FLEET AUXILIARY (RFA) MOUNTS BAY

RFA MOUNTS BAY will be based in Weymouth Bay to act as a maritime logistics hub (alongside) in support of Police maritime security operations.

RFA MOUNTS BAY is a Bay Class landing ship, tasked by the Royal Navy but manned and operated by the Royal Fleet Auxiliary Service. MOUNTS BAY provides a tactical sealift as part of an amphibious group and can also be used for routine freighting duties and ad-hoc logistic support operations, including providing humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.

Operationally the ship has the ability to deploy high end capabilities such as Royal Marines and Special Forces, either directly from the sea or by air from the sea via embarked helicopters, as well as embarking other specialist-role rotary wing platforms.



The ship is fitted with a military communications suite and is fitted to receive military weapons. Built to class 1 passenger ship certification commercial standards and classed by Lloyd's register, it is designed to carry an embarked military force of 356 fully equipped troops. This can be increased to 500 using undesignated space or up to 700 in 'overload' conditions. As well as transporting troops, the ship can carry about 1200 linear metres of vehicles including 24 challenger tanks or 150 trucks and can carry 12 x 40 foot containers.

The flight deck is large enough to enable operations by the MV-22 Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft and the Chinook helicopter. The ship has an aviation capability of transporting and operating two medium (EH101 Merlin size) and the larger Chinook helicopters, having power for starting and servicing the aircraft and the ability to re-fuel the aircraft on deck and in-flight.

The ship's design includes a dock able to accommodate a single Landing Craft Utility (LCU) Mk10 or up to four Landing Craft, Vehicle, Personnel (LCVP). Two LCVP Mk5 and two Mexeflote powered rafts can also be carried on deck and side slung respectively. Two 30 tonne upper deck cranes and strong ramps are fitted to load and unload these craft and their equipment.

