

C 550 Cavour - 2009

Italy

Type: LHA - Amphibious Assault Ship, General

Purpose

Max Speed: 30 kt

Commissioned: 2009

Length: 234.4 m

Beam: 39.0 m

Draft: 8.7 m

Crew: 794

Displacement: 22290 t

Displacement Full: 27100 t

Propulsion: 4x General Electric LM-2500+ Gas

Turbines, COGAG



Sensors / EW:

- RAN-40S - (Type 1850M VSR, RAT-31DL) Radar, Radar, Air Search, 3D Long-Range, Max range: 398.2 km
- MM/SPY-790 EMPAR MFR - (Type 1850M VSR, RAT-31DL) Radar, Radar, FCR, Surface-to-Air & Surface-to-Surface, Medium-Range, Max range: 148.2 km
- RESM - (Horizon, FREMM) ESM, ELINT w/ OTH Targeting, Max range: 926 km
- RECM [Nettuno 4100] - (Horizon, FREMM) ECM, OECM & DECM, Offensive & Defensive ECM, Max range: 0 km
- VAMPIR-MB [CCD] - (Group, 1996, Detector) Visual, LLTV, Target Search, Slaved Tracking and Identification, Max range: 148.2 km
- VAMPIR-MB [IR] - (Group, 1996, Detector) Infrared, Infrared, Target Search, Slaved Tracking and Identification Camera, Max range: 148.2 km
- VAMPIR-MB [Laser Rangefinder] - (Group, 1996, Detector) Laser Rangefinder, Laser Rangefinder, Max range: 0 km
- MM/SPN-753(V)4 - (Gemant 2(V)1) Radar, Radar, Surface Search & Navigation, Max range: 74.1 km
- SASS IRST [IR Far] - (Group) Infrared, Infrared, Target Search, Tracking and Identification Camera, Max range: 111.1 km
- SASS IRST [IR Near] - (Group) Infrared, Infrared, Target Search, Tracking and Identification Camera, Max range: 111.1 km

Weapons / Loadouts:

- Aster 15 PAAMS [GWS.45 Sea Viper] - Guided Weapon. Air Max: 37 km.
- SCLAR H Chaff - Decoy (Expendable). Surface Max: 1.9 km.
- SCLAR H Flare - Decoy (Expendable). Surface Max: 1.9 km.
- 25mm/80 OTO Breda KBA Burst [20 rnds] - Gun. Air Max: 1.5 km. Surface Max: 2.8 km. Land Max: 2.8 km.
- CONTRALTO-V [SLAT] - (Torpedo Decoy, Ship) Decoy (Expendable). Surface Max: 1.9 km.
- 76mm/62 Super Rapido HE Burst [2 rnds] - Gun. Air Max: 2.8 km. Surface Max: 11.1 km. Land Max: 11.1 km.

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In 1985, the Italian navy began planning for a follow-on to its first aircraft carrier, Giuseppe Garibaldi. Beyond a desire for more ships, the reasoning was to avoid “key capability loss” which results when a navy possessing only a single ship of a capital type has that ship enter refit, meaning an entire strategy is missing during the refit period. The Cavour project was dogged first by funding shortfalls and then overall budget cuts following the end of the cold war. The design morphed several times; first from an enlarged Garibaldi, then to a helicopter-only LPH, then to a possible off-the-shelf purchase of an American Wasp class unit, finally back to a true aircraft carrier design.

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