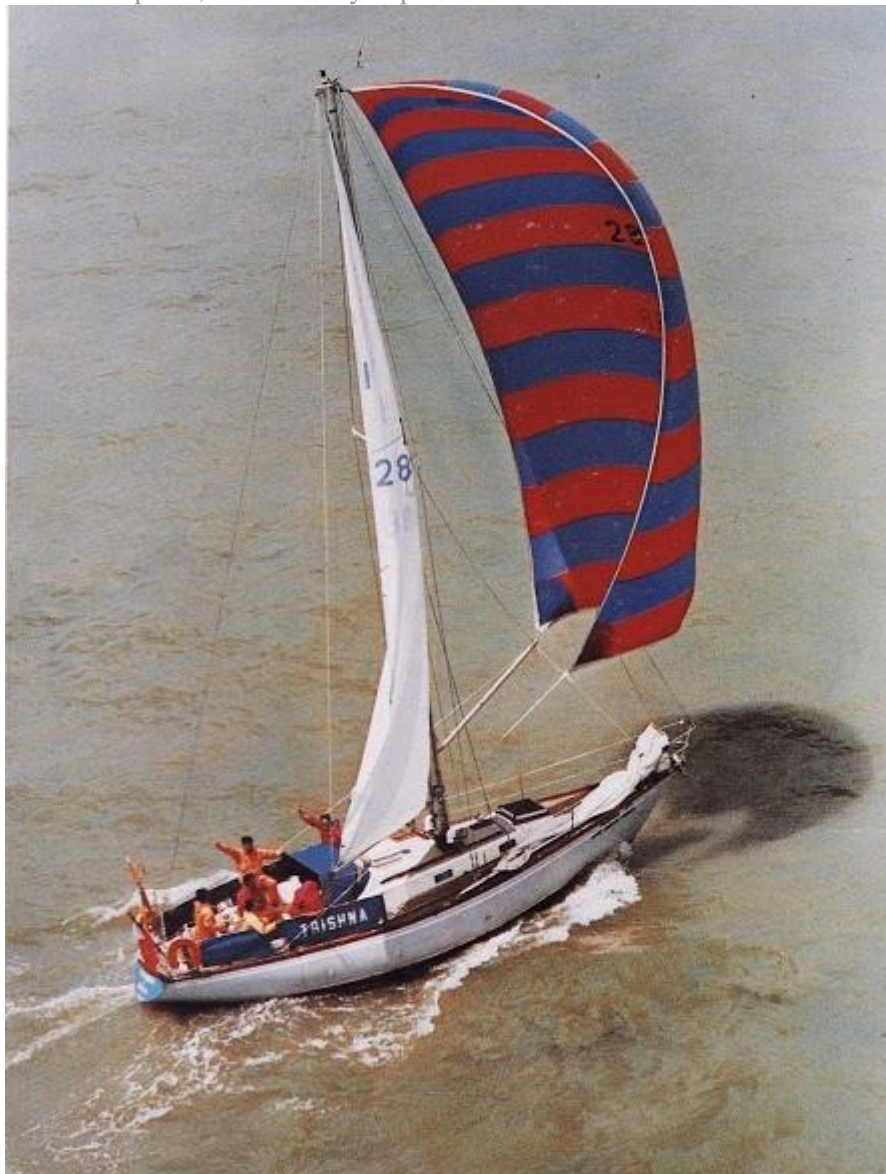


Trishna (yacht)

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[IndiaMumbaiYacht](#)

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Yacht *Trishna* begins its epic circumnavigation.

History



[India](#)**India**

Name:	Trishna
Owner:	Sapper Adventure Foundation
Operator:	Indian Army Corps of Engineers
Port of registry:	Mumbai , India
Builder:	Nautor's Swan
Launched:	1970
Christened:	Guinevere of Sussex
Acquired:	1984
In service:	Yes

Renamed: Trishna
Homeport: [Mumbai](#)
Identification: BOM 109

General characteristics

Class and type: [Swan 37](#)
Type: Yacht
Tonnage: 10.5 tonnes
Length: 36 ft 6 in
Beam: 10 ft 9 in
Draught: 6 ft 1 in
Sail plan: Sloop
Crew: 6

Trishna is a [Swan 37 yacht](#) belonging to the [Corps of Engineers](#) of the [Indian Army](#). The 1970-vintage boat, earlier known as *Guinevere of Sussex*, was purchased in 1984 from the United Kingdom. The yacht has since been used for long distance ocean sailing and training. The first of the yachts' journeys after it was acquired was its voyage from [Gosport](#) to [Mumbai](#), India. Subsequently the yacht embarked on its most notable voyage, the [circumnavigation](#) of the globe from 1985 to 1987. This was the first such achievement by an Indian crew.^[1] In subsequent years, the yacht has been used for international cruises primarily in the Indian Ocean region and is currently still operational.

Background

The Sapper Adventure Foundation had sponsored a sailing expedition from [Bombay](#) to [Bandar Abbas](#), Iran in 1977^[2] in an 18-foot 1921-vintage wooden Seabird^{III}Class sailboat *Albatross*. This was an exercise to test the sailing capabilities of the sailors of the [Corps of Engineers](#) and a precursor to the circumnavigation of the globe by the [Sappers](#) on *Trishna*.



Sailing in the Solent - October 1984

Purchase of boat and sail Gosport, England to Bombay, India

^[3] The planning for the circumnavigation commenced in early 1980s and finally took off in 1984 when a team of officers from the Corps of Engineers flew to the U.K. to buy a boat and sail it back to India. Limited funds dictated the Sapper Adventure Foundation to purchase a second-hand sailboat for the venture. After an extensive survey of the second-hand boat market in the U.K., the crew shortlisted the 1970-vintage [Swan 37](#) boat, *Guinevere of Sussex* based at [Brighton](#).^[4] After purchase of the yacht, it

was sailed by the crew to the Joint Services Sailing Center, [Gosport](#), U.K., where it underwent minor repairs and partial essential re-fit to make it sail-worthy for the voyage back to India. The crew also underwent sail training, which was organised under the aegis of the [Royal Engineers](#). Major Ron Gravels, ex-RE, was engaged and he undertook a month-long sail training program for the crew on the Solent, English Channel crossings to [\[\[Cherbourg\]\]](#) culminating in a sail to the ports of [Guernsey](#) and [Alderney](#) in the [Channel Islands](#)^{[19][10]}



Trishna - The First Indian Circumnavigation 23

Trishna set off on her first long distance voyage from the Joint Services Sailing Center, [Gosport](#), U.K. on 12 October 1984. With the onset of winter, the crew had a rough passage, especially in the [Bay of Biscay](#), [Mediterranean Sea](#) and the [Red Sea](#). With halts at [Alderney](#) (14 October), [A Coruña](#) (20 October), [Lisbon](#) (26 October), [Gibraltar](#) (1 November), [Ibiza](#) (7 November), [Malta](#) (17 November), [Iraklion](#) (24 November), [Port Said](#) (1 December) through the [Suez Canal](#), [Port Sudan](#) (15 December), [Aden](#) (30 December), [Salalah](#) (10 January 1985), [Muscat, Oman](#) (19 January) and [Bombay](#) (1 February 1985)^{[11][12][13]}

Team

The team consisted of ten members, with six on the boat at any one time. These were:^[14]

- Maj K. S. Rao, SC, SM, - the *Skipper*
- Maj A. Bhattacharya, S. M.
- Maj Amreshwar Pratap Singh, SM (Bar), VSM
- Maj A. K. Singh, KC, SM
- Capt Sanjeev Shekhar, SC
- Capt Chandrahas Bharti, SC
- Col T. P. S. Chowdhary, AVSM, the *Team Manager* - sailed from [Gosport](#) to [Port Said](#)
- Capt M.S. Pillai, SM - sailed from [Port Said](#) to [Mumbai](#)
- Maj S.N. Mathur, SM
- Maj Rakesh Bassi
- Lt Navin Ahuja, SM sailed from Trinidad to Auckland;

Maj A. K. Singh, a permanent member of the Expedition, was handicapped. His leg had been amputated above the knee after a hang gliding accident in 1981.^{[15][16]}



Crew of Trishna on its sail from UK to Bombay - October 1984 – February 1985

Voyages by Trishna

See also: [First Indian circumnavigation](#)

- [Gosport-Alderney-A Coruña-Lisbon-Gibraltar-Ibiza-Malta-Crete-Port Said-Suez Canal-Port Sudan-Aden-Salalah-Muscat-Bombay](#) in September 1984 to February 1985^{[17][18]}
- [Mumbai-Lakshwadeep-Goa-Mumbai](#) in April 1985^{[19][20][21]}

- [Around the World Sailing Expedition: Bombay-Male-Mauritius-St Helena-Ascension Island-Natal-Belem-Suriname-Guyana-Trinidad-Barbados-Jamaica-Colón-Panama Canal-Panama City-Galapagos-Tahiti-Suva, Fiji-Auckland-Sydney-Darwin-Bali-Jakarta-Campbell Bay-Colombo-Bombay](#)
- Goodwill Sailing Expedition:^{[22][23]} [Mumbai-Kochi-Galle-Campbell Bay-Penang-Singapore-Port Kelang-Phuket-Port Blair-Goa-Mumbai](#) in 1994-1995
- [Mumbai-Dubai-Muscat-Seychelles-Maldives-Sri Lanka-Kochi-Mumbai](#) in 1996-1997^[24]
- Millennium Expedition: [Mumbai-Kochi-Galle-Campbell Bay-Penang-Singapore-Port Kelang-Phuket-Port Blair-Goa-Mumbai](#) in 1999-2000^[24]
- [Mumbai-Male-Colombo-Mumbai](#)^[25] in 2010

Silver jubilee anniversary

The [Indian Army Corps of Engineers](#) celebrated the silver jubilee of the historic completion of the *First Indian circumnavigation* on 10 January 2012 by again sailing *Trishna* across Mumbai harbour to the Naval Sailing Club, [Colaba](#), [Mumbai](#), the place from where she had set off on its journey in 1985.^[26]

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