



# PRINCIPI GAAD-A

Lighthouses have been used for thousands of years as navigational aids; almost as long as humans have been sailing, the need for lighthouses has been obvious. Early lighthouses were used to indicate rough shoals and other dangers, and over time, people also began to use them to orient themselves, recognizing particular lighthouses and using them as a frame of reference to figure out where they were. Lighthouses have also historically been used to mark harbors where ships can dock.

The basic form of a lighthouse includes a tower, along with a maintenance facility. Historical lighthouses provided housing for staff who kept the lights burning, while modern automated lights typically consist of just a tower. In any case, the signal of each lighthouse is different, and these signals are marked on navigational charts, allowing sailors to use the light patterns of regional lighthouses to figure out where they are; this use has largely been supplanted, but it can be useful for casual sailors who lack navigation systems.

The use of warning lights to indicate navigational hazards is very important, and it is one reason why lighthouses continue to survive. Although most sailors can use complex electronic systems to pinpoint their position within

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## SVETIONIK

What is a lighthouse?

It is a tower with a bright light at the top, located at an important or dangerous place regarding navigation (travel over water). The two main purposes of a lighthouse are to serve as a navigational aid and to warn boats of dangerous areas. It is like a traffic sign on the sea.

