

TAHKUNA

1871 - the Russian tsar government bought a lighthouse from the world exhibition in Paris.

1873 - the building of the cast iron lighthouse was started

1874 - the foundation of the cast iron tower and the granite socket part were accomplished. The outbuildings were built.

1875 - the lighthouse became ready.

1879 - in connection with the switching to paraffin lightening a fuel barn from stone was built beside the lighthouse.

1910 - a telephone connection was installed. By a clear weather the lighthouse was visible at a distance of 18 miles.

1918 - the tower was practically not damaged during the war.

During the Second World War the lighthouse was badly damaged, it was reconstructed later during big repairs.

After this the appearance of the lighthouse has remained almost unchanged, only the light devices and other technics have been modernised.

1961 - an automatic autonomous diesel electric generator was installed.

1969 - the lighthouse was connected into the national electrical power network, the diesel generator was kept as a spare energy source.

2002 - the old spike was replaced with a new one.

Since 2006, the lighthouse is open for visitors.



KÕPU

The Kõpu lighthouse is the first lighthouse of the Baltic Sea and at the moment it is also the oldest continuously working lighthouse in Europe and in the world. The towers volume is circa 2500 cbm, it means circa 6000 tons of stone and lime.

Already in 1480 the Tallinn's magistrate demanded to build here a warning seamark - because of frequent shipwrecks on the Hiü shallow.

The building was started in 1504 and was continued by fits and starts until 1531 when the fire mark was finally accomplished. At first the tower was without an empty space inside and it was 20 metre high. Wood was burnt in an open fire on the top of the tower.

1805 - burning wood for lightening the lighthouse was finished and cannabis oil was used instead.

1810 - a room for a 6-member team was cut into the lower part of the tower and from there stairs up with 69 high steps, also 2 additional rooms. A new lamp room was built on the tower.

1900 - the present lantern room was bought for 3 million gold rouble from the world exhibition in Paris. By good sight the light can be seen almost at a distance of 50 km (26 sea miles).

During the Second World War the tower was seriously damaged, but fortunately it could be reconstructed.

During the interim repairs unluckily several building technological mistakes were made and the mural body started to collapse.

1988 - 1990 - proper restoration works, a ferroconcrete jacket was moulded around the tower.

1999 - the lighthouse was opened for visitors.

2001 - the fire room was restored.



RISTNA

1873 - a 21.3 metre high cylindrical tower with a diameter of 2 metres was ordered from France.

1874 - on the 1st October the new lighthouse started to work

1875 - a 7 poods copper watch was put on in the lighthouse.

1879 - a fuel barn was built for keeping paraffin.

1885 - the light system of the lighthouse was changed, rotating screens were installed.

1902 - an electric light was lit in the lighthouse

1918 - the lighthouse was badly damaged by the battles of the First World War

1920 - The lighthouse works again. During the repairs the stem and the support frames were covered with a concrete shell.

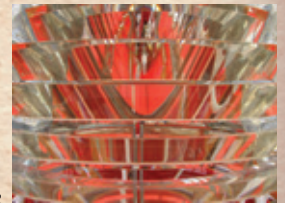
The outlook of the lighthouse remained unchanged since then, only the equipment has been modernised.

1998 - big repairs were carried out in the lighthouse

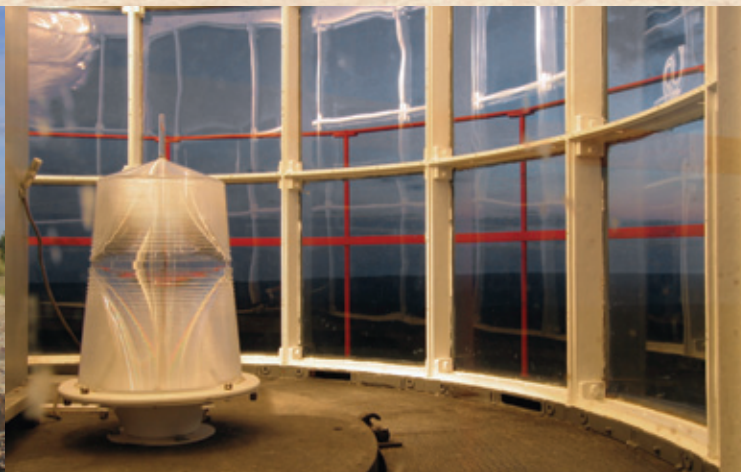
2007 - the lighthouse is open for visitors

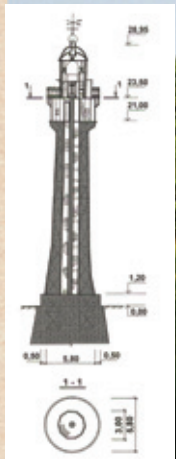
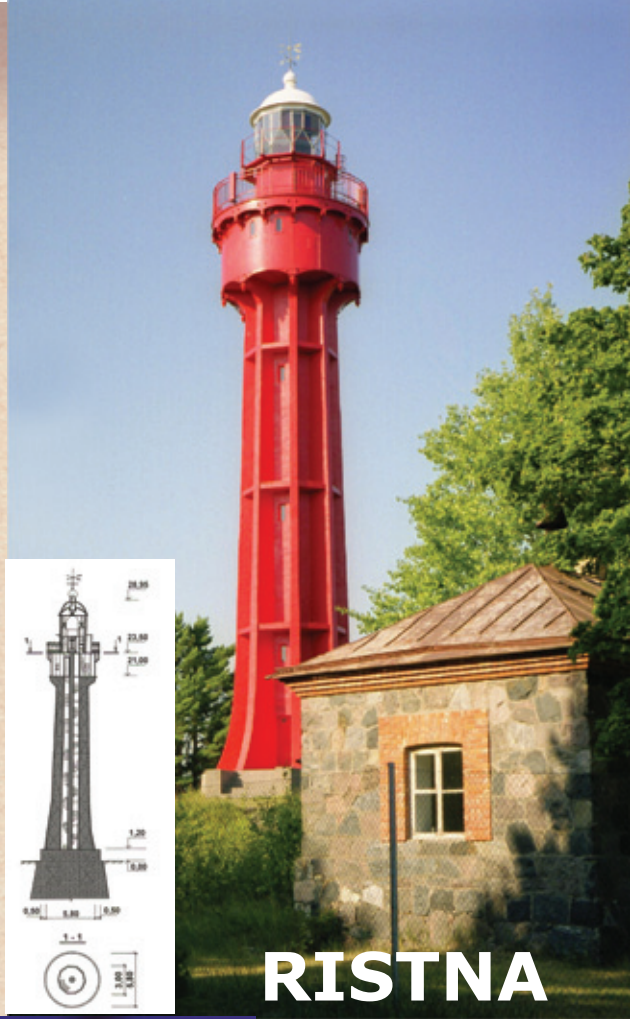
The lighthouses of Ristna and Tahkuna were ordered and produced at the same time, but allegedly the lighthouses were mixed up by mistake. The Tahkuna and also the Ristna lighthouse were designed in Eiffel's factory.

All three lighthouses are used by the commune administration of Kõrgessaare according to a contract for fulfilling its functions for promoting culture and tourism.

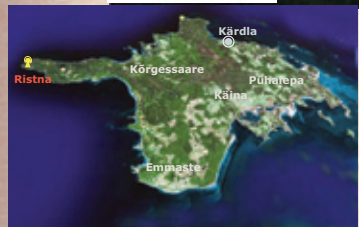


www.korgessaare.ee



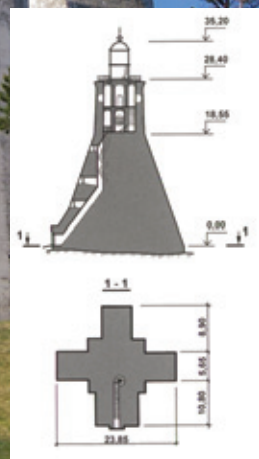
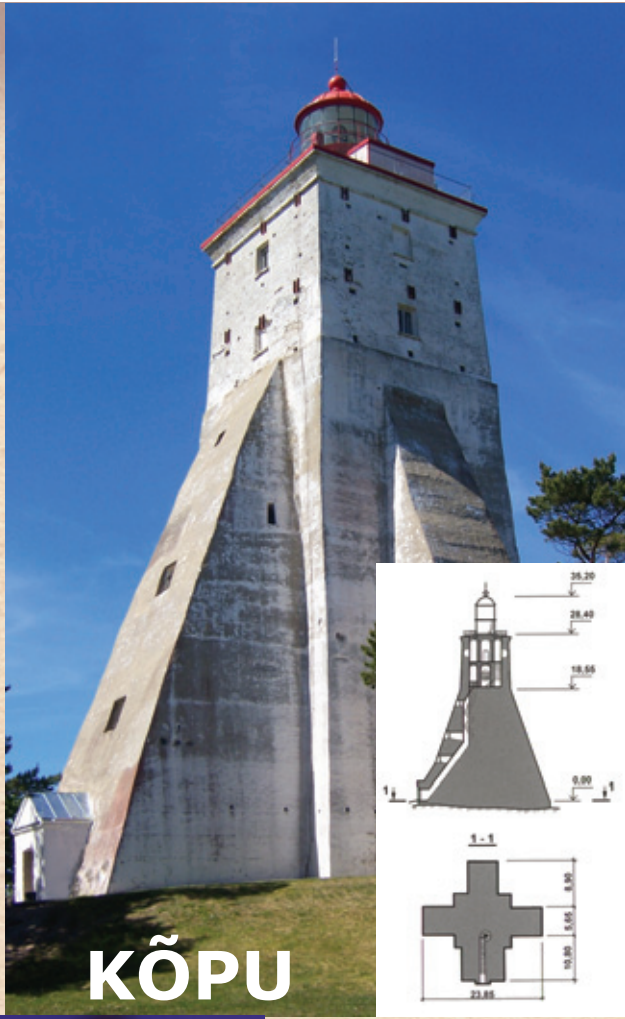


RISTNA

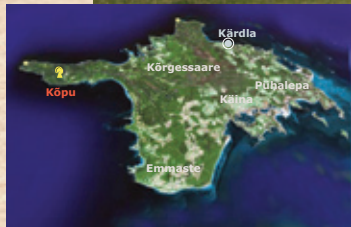


Height above ground 30 m
Height above sea level 37 m

Lat 58°56,40' N
Lon 22° 03,31' E

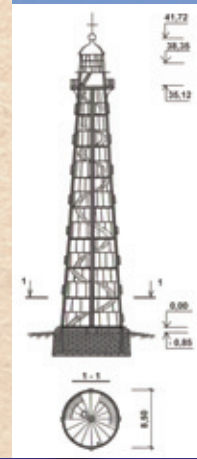


KÕPU

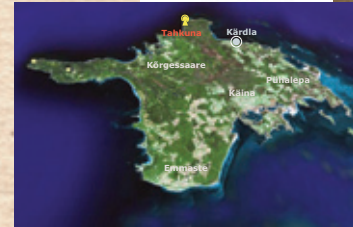


Height above ground 36 m
Height above sea level 102 m

Lat 58° 49,96' N
Lon 22° 11,98' E



TAHKUNA



Height above ground 39,6 m
Height above sea level 42,7 m

Lat 59° 05,48' N
Lon 22° 35,17' E

