



As of 1 December 2022, there are 1628 navigation aids in Estonia, of which 55 are lighthouses, 235 are beacons, 33 are day beacons and 1305 are navigation buoys.

MEHIKOORMA LIGHTHOUSE

Geographical coordinates: 58° 14.00733'N; 27° 28.59673'E.

The lighthouse guides Lämmijärve fairway.

Mehikoorma Lighthouse is the highest inland waters lighthouse in Estonia.



Extract from the Navigational map of inland waters map of Estonia from the year 2022

LIGHTHOUSE HISTORY AND INFORMATION

- There is little data from the **First World War** regarding the beacons at Mehikoorma, which showed the ship route to the north towards Piirisaare and to the south towards Salusaare.
- In **1926** leading lights were created to pass through the Mehikoorma isthmus and to pass the Mehikoorma bottleneck. Both leading lights were serviced by wooden beacons with white flashing lights.
- In **1929** the Mehikoorma wooden beacon was built, utilizing a flashing sector lantern.
- In **1938** the wooden beacon was replaced with a ferrocement lighthouse, still in use today. The 15-metre-high and 3-metre-wide building used an acetylene energy based sector lantern. The centre of the light was red, outer sectors, which marked the edges of the fairway, were white.
- In **2002** the lighthouse was connected to a remote sensing system. An incandescent lamp lantern Tideland ML155 (USA) was used.
- In **2013** the tower was reconstructed and switched over to LED technology: the first LED lantern – Sabik LED-350-7W (Finland) was installed.
- In **2018** the Sabik ekta™ E8254.W (Estonia) omnidirectional LED lantern was installed, with a maximum total light intensity of 3040 cd, (one candela is equal to the light intensity of one lit candle), with total power consumption of 18 W and a maximum visibility range of **10 nautical miles (~18 km)** in the darkness.

With good weather conditions, the lighthouse is visible even from **30 km** away, but visibility from farther is limited by the curvature of the Earth.

Sources:

Peeter Peetsalu "Merekultuurilugu" (Cultural History of the Sea),
Jaan Vali "Eesti tuletornide ajalugu" (History of Estonian Lighthouses).



A map of the Lämmi and Pihkva lakes from the year 1923

NAVIGATION AID FACTS

Navigation aid number: P30

Surface elevation above sea level: 2.5 m

Aid elevation above surface elevation: 13.0 m

Light elevation from the surface of Lake Peipsi: 14.3 m

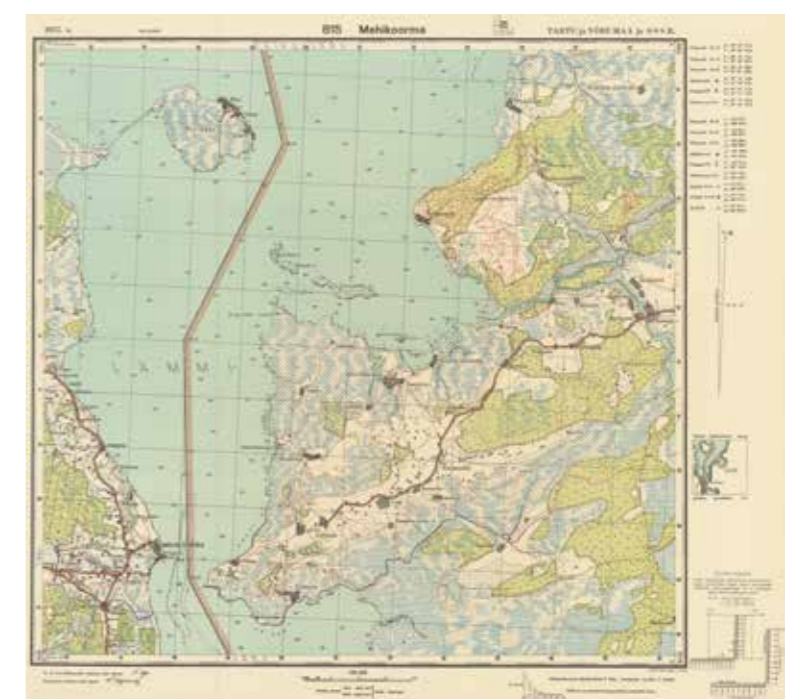
Light characteristics: Fl W 4 s Flashing light

Flashing period description: 0.8+3.2=4

Fl  Plinktuli - Flashing light



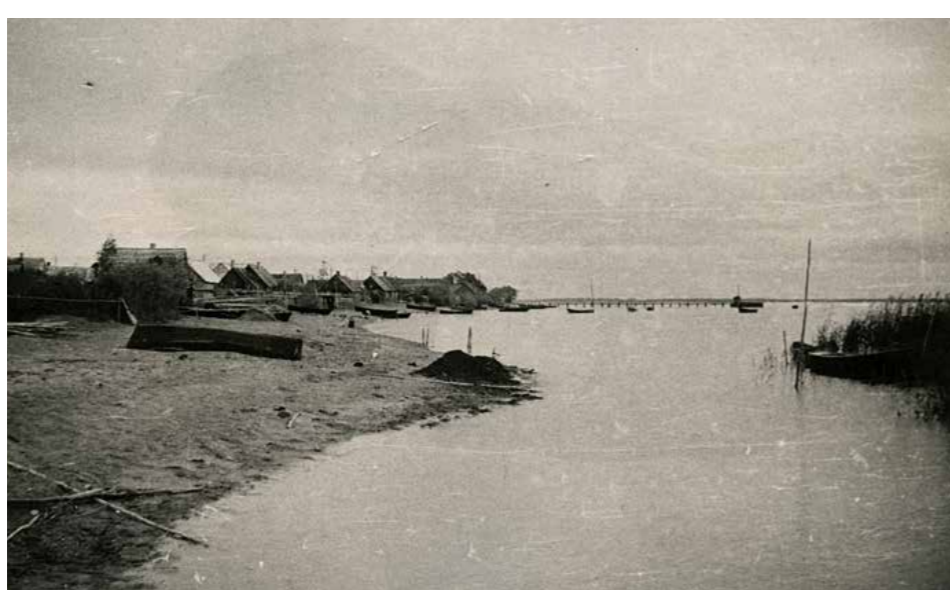
A stamp issued in 2008, design by Roman Matkiewicz



Extract from the Estonian map: "Mehikoorma Tartu ja Võrumaa ja SSSR" (Mehikoorma Tartu and Võrumaa and USSR) from the year 1937



New Mehikoorma Lighthouse and the old Mehikoorma beacon in the year 1939



Mehikoorma port in 1920s



The first lighthouse's first LED light: Sabik LED-350-7W omnidirectional lantern in the Mehikoorma lighthouse, photo T. Vilu



The Sabik ekta™ E8254.W omnidirectional lantern is a device, where both the main and emergency light source are combined in a single lantern and cooled with heat sink, photo O. Ivanov