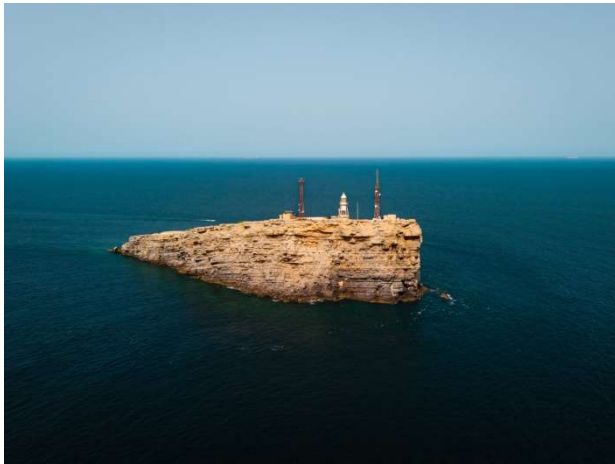


Didamar Lighthouse, Oman, Strait of Hormuz
Facebook Post October 15 2026



Didamar Island, Oman
Credit: iala.net



Didamar Lighthouse
Credit: AMNAS-Oman

In January 1997 the Canadian Coast Guard announced that marine navigational technology was changing. Lighthouses as aids to navigation were being discontinued and could hopefully be transferred to provincial, municipal or other authorities for their heritage value.

Almost thirty years later in 2026, a captain using his knowledge of old school navigation got his ship out of the Strait of Hormuz one night. He had turned off the ship's lights plus its location transponder and ran with only radar. The captain steered the ship to safer waters by using the coast and the guiding lights from lighthouses as reference points. How incredible was that!

One lighthouse that the captain most likely passed was the Didamar [Island] Lighthouse built in 1914. Painted all white, its steel hexagonal frame supports what looks like the top half of an iron-plated lighthouse complete with lantern room that once housed a 2nd order Fresnel lens and kerosene light. Now its modern solar-powered rotating beacon shines for 23 nautical miles (42 ki) for ships that carry about 25% of the world's oil in peacetime.

Unlike Nova Scotia with its history of 300 plus lighthouses whose construction started in 1730 and are now regarded as relics of a bygone age, lighthouses along the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman were erected throughout the 20th Century and most are still in use as valued aids to navigation today.



Location Of Didamar Lighthouse
Credit: Chance Heritage Trust