



Margaree Harbour Front Range or Low Lighthouse
Credit: Dept of Fisheries & Oceans



Margaree Harbour Rear Range or High Lighthouse
Credit: Dept of Fisheries & Oceans

In England there are “low” and “high” lighthouses and yet we don’t describe Nova Scotia lighthouses that way. I suppose the Margaree Harbour Range Lights north of Inverness in Cape Breton could be called a pair of “low” and “high” lighthouses. Built in 1900 these two lighthouses help mariners navigate the narrow, shallow entrance into the Margaree Harbour by lining up one red strip over the other in the daytime or one light over another at night. The shorter pepper-shaker style white wooden front lighthouse at the bottom of a hill is 22.3 m (73 ft) tall while the one in the rear stands 32m (105 ft) further up the steep slope. Each lighthouse had its own lightkeeper even though they are not that far apart. In 1963 the lighthouses were hooked up to electricity and their lights made flashing, making it near impossible to line up two blinking lights during rough seas at night! Four months later the lights became fixed again. In 2019 this pair of “low” and “high” lighthouses got federal heritage status under HLPAs.



Drone over Margaree Harbour Range Lights
Credit: Lighthouse Friends