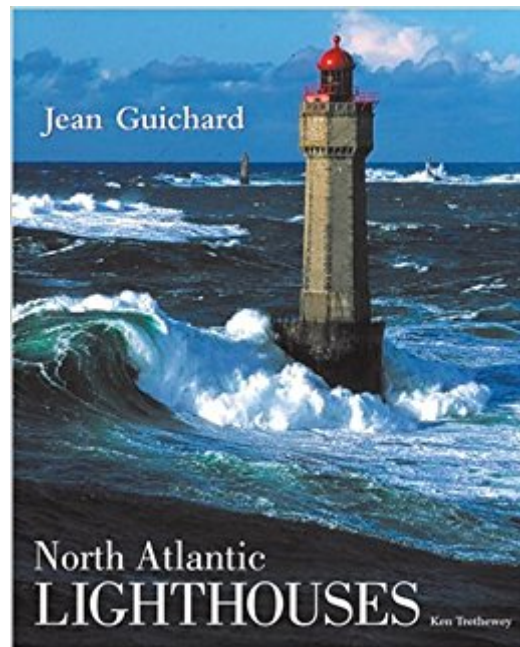


The book was found

North Atlantic Lighthouses



Synopsis

"The rapid development of ocean navigation and deep-sea fishing in the nineteenth century led to a dramatic rise in shipwrecks. Tens of thousands of sailors disappeared over the course of the century. The great nations that border the North Atlantic found a technological answer to this human disaster: they developed a spectacular network of lighthouses along their coastlines. These constructions pay homage to those lost at sea and celebrate the genius of modern civilization. Whether on immense cliffs or on reefs submerged at every high tide, man has strived to erect constructions of such resistance that we can only marvel at them today. Built on snow-covered slopes of lava, overlooking spectacular rocks that seem to have sprung only recently from the earth, isolated on small outcrops out to sea, stretched to their limits under the shock of the waves; often festive, dressed in bright colors or pastel shades, magnified by the rays of light between stormy showers, they are always a delight for the eyes. I have covered tens of thousands of kilometers in the land of lighthouses and the magical landscapes they inhabit. I hope the reader will share the pleasures of this journey to the frontiers of the immense aquatic garden that is the North Atlantic, and the emotions that I have felt before its rocks, waves, and changing light: sometimes joyful, sometimes austere, sometimes peaceful or violent, but always full of surprises."--Jean Guichard

Lighthouses have served humanity for thousands of years. Today's lighthouses, whether old or new, man-powered or electronically operated, are monuments to man's will to challenge the elements. Steeped in history and tales of heroism, these intriguing edifices have an extraordinary capacity to capture the public imagination. For North Atlantic Lighthouses, acclaimed maritime photographer Jean Guichard has undertaken a series of helicopter flights to take new images of nearly one hundred of the finest lighthouses all over the North Atlantic, from the United States and Canada to Iceland, the British Isles, and France. Guichard perfectly captures the symbolic strength of his subject matter, producing captivating images in all seasons, from the calm summer months when the lighthouses can have a lick of paint, to the wild winter storms that batter them and test their resilience to the utmost. Author Ken Trethewey relates the history of lighthouses along the Atlantic coast, highlighting both their common past but also the characteristics specific to each country or region. The book is completed by a detailed guide giving technical descriptions of all the lighthouses photographed, maps locating the lighthouses, and a brief history of each light.

Book Information

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Photography & Video > History

Customer Reviews

Jean Guichard is probably the world's best-known lighthouse photographer, due to his popular lighthouse-keeper-about-to-get-whomped-by-a-wave poster. This book solidifies his crown. The photos in this book are about the most beautiful lighthouse photos you will see. And they are not the result of digital manipulation - you see what he saw. I was fortunate enough to spend some time with Guichard when he was on Long Island working on this book. Being an amateur lighthouse history researcher, writer, and photographer, I picked Guichard's brain mercilessly about his experiences, and photographic techniques and philosophy. I also got to see his camera equipment. He's a purist and, in fact, despises the new wave of Photoshop-enabled lighthouse photographers. The photography is so stunning that it overpowers the text. That's a shame, in some respects, as Trethewey knows lighthouses. In short, Guichard knows both his subject and his craft, and Trethewey's text is an appropriate accompaniment. This book is one that you will be eager to show your friends. It makes a great gift for your lighthouse buddies, too, which is why I am purchasing another copy. Enjoy it!

The photos of these lighthouses are simply breath-taking! The pictures capture both the haunting beauty and the isolation of lighthouses. It certainly made me want to become a lighthouse keeper after looking at the photos! An absolute must for any lighthouse enthusiast. And if anyone has need of a lighthouse keeper, let me know! :)

Amazing pictures and great information. Makes for a great coffee table book, people that come over enjoy looking at it.

It's a nice book with lots of pretty pictures.

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