



LAST LIGHT

WELCOME

WAC, organizing company of Architecture Ideas Contests, is pleased to welcome all architects and architecture students from around the world to the International Architecture Competition “**LAST LIGHT**”, to be held from february and until april 2026.

This document includes the information to register as well as the necessary procedures to participate in the contest. This will conclude in an exhibition of the best works presented, on the WAC website (www.worldarchitecturecompetitions.com), as well as a sample in various important architecture sites worldwide.

As main organizers of the contest, we are pleased to ask you to direct any questions or queries regarding the contest, via email to questions@worldarchitecturecompetitions.com, regarding registration or payment to registration@worldarchitecturecompetitions.com. On behalf of WAC “we welcome you and wish you good luck to all the participating architects.”

WAC
World Architecture Competitions



REDEFINING THE LIGHTHOUSE FOR 21ST CENTURY

The lighthouse has historically been an artifact of orientation, warning, and hope. In the 21st century, when navigation is digital and the coastline is mapped, the lighthouse loses its technical function but gains an architectural, cultural, and poetic opportunity.

For centuries, the lighthouse has served as one of humanity's most powerful architectural artifacts. Rising at the edge of land, it has functioned as a signal of orientation, protection and hope, guiding travelers through darkness, danger and uncertainty. Traditionally, the lighthouse was a purely technical device: a tower designed to emit light, warn ships and mark territory. Its presence was distant, almost unreachable, a solitary object meant to be seen rather than inhabited. In the 21st century, however, the role of the lighthouse has fundamentally changed. Navigation is now digital, territories are fully mapped, and the act of orientation no longer depends on physical signals. Yet, the symbolic power of the lighthouse remains stronger than ever.

LAST LIGHT proposes to reinterpret the lighthouse not as a machine, but as an inhabitable architectural experience: a place to arrive, to pause, to observe and to reflect. At the western edge of Europe, where land dissolves into the Atlantic Ocean, the lighthouse is no longer required to guide ships, but to offer meaning, presence and awareness. The project challenges participants to imagine a new lighthouse for our time — not as an instrument of navigation, but as a spatial device that connects humanity with landscape, light with silence, and architecture with the horizon itself.



The lighthouse as an architectural monument.



Cape of Saint Vincent, Sagres Point, Portugal

THE SITE

Cabo de São Vicente has long been considered one of the most symbolic geographical points in Europe. Historically known as the *Finis Terrae* — the end of the known world — this promontory marked, for centuries, the western limit of the continent and the threshold between land and the unknown Atlantic Ocean. From this territory departed explorers, navigators and expeditions that would redefine global geography. Today, Cabo de São Vicente remains a powerful territorial landmark, characterized by its dramatic cliffs, open horizon and extreme exposure to natural forces.

LAST LIGHT is located southeast of the existing historic lighthouse, facing the current public parking area, within an approximate surface of 2,430 square meters. Positioned at an elevation of approximately 60 meters above sea level, the site is directly exposed to dominant Atlantic winds, intense solar radiation and rapidly changing atmospheric conditions. The landscape is defined by rocky terrain, low coastal vegetation and uninterrupted visual connections with the ocean. The area receives a constant flow of visitors throughout the year, functioning as a place of arrival, pause and contemplation.

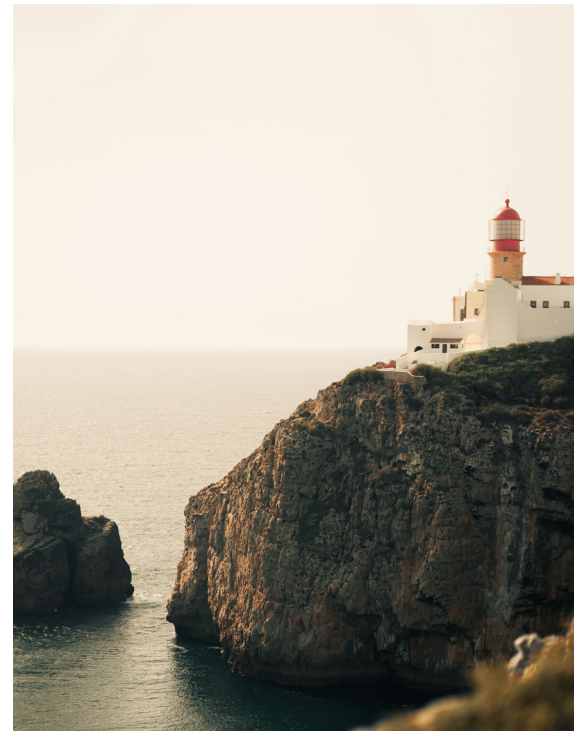
LAST LIGHT

GENERAL PURPOSE

LAST LIGHT invites participants to propose a habitable lighthouse that redefines the traditional concept of the lighthouse through contemporary architectural language. The project is expected to function not as a purely symbolic object, but as a spatial experience capable of being inhabited, explored and perceived through movement, light and time.

The lighthouse must integrate an observation space or viewpoint oriented toward the Atlantic horizon, a luminous element that acts as a reinterpretation of the traditional beacon, and a series of designed spaces including a gallery, a temporary refuge and an area of contemplation. These spaces should not be conceived as isolated rooms, but as interconnected moments within a continuous architectural sequence. The proposal must establish a direct and conscious relationship with the landscape and the sea, using topography, climate and visual connections as fundamental design tools.

The competition does not seek to replace or compete with the existing historic lighthouse, but rather to complement it through a new contemporary interpretation. Access to the site is already resolved through the existing public parking area, which may be used as the main point of arrival, allowing the architectural experience to begin on foot.



The Cape St. Vincent Lighthouse

ARCHITECTONIC PROGRAM

"LAST LIGHT"

Redefining the Lighthouse for the 21st Century

Habitable Lighthouse	Habitable architecture, either vertically or horizontally. No actual nautical functionality is required.
Observation Area / Lookout	A prime vantage point for observing the Atlantic Ocean. The viewpoint is the project's crowning achievement.
Luminous Element	A free reinterpretation of the lighthouse as a beacon. The light must be conceptually visible.

DESIGN SPACES

Galería	Exhibition space. A controlled visual relationship with the landscape will be valued.
Refugio Temporal	Minimum living space, intended for weather protection and shelter. This is not considered tourist accommodation.
Espacio de Contemplación	Espacio de introspección, diseñado como una experiencia sensorial.

CONDITIONS

All spaces should face the ocean.

The maximum land occupancy will be 40%.

Special free organization. The surface areas of the spaces are at the discretion of the participant.

The maximum height of any physical element will be 18 meters above the foundation level.

PARTICIPANTS

The contest is aimed at all qualified architects and architecture students of the world, as long as **English** is maintained as the official language.

In the case of constituting professional or student teams, a member of the latter must be designated as the only representative and valid interlocutor before the organizers of the contest in the event that a prize is obtained.

Said representative will be the one who receives the corresponding prize, and it will not be the responsibility of the organizers how it is distributed within each team.

The designation of the representative of the work team must be accredited by simple power, and may be an architect or architecture student. At no time should be more than 5 members per team.

PRIZES

1^o PRIZE US \$ 5,000

- + Exhibition and diffusion in the main architecture sites worldwide.
- + Virtual booklet of the best proposals.

3 HONORABLE MENTIONS

- + Exhibition and diffusion in the main architecture sites worldwide.
- + Virtual booklet of the best proposals.

RATES

Pre - Registration:

- From January 26 until February 01 : **US \$ 47.00**

Special Register:

- From February 02 until February 27: **US \$ 66.00**

Early Registration:

- From February 28 until March 21: **US \$ 79.00**

Late Registration:

- From March 22 until April 05: **US \$ 97.00**

REGISTRY

1. ON LINE PAYMENT METHOD

Those interested can pay for their registration and registration fee by credit or debit card (VISA, MASTERCARD and AMERICAN EXPRESS) using the security platform of our Web (Paypal - Stripe).

The process will end when the success of your transaction has been confirmed, and immediately afterwards you will receive in an email the copy of the transaction made.

Second, registrants must complete the registration form added to the end of these RULES.

The members of the team will be filled correctly, as well as the owner thereof, in any case, the teams may not be greater than 5 members. It is recommended that in each team there is at least one certified architect among the participants. The registration form will be sent to the mail registration@worldarchitecturecompetitions.com

2. CASH PAYMENT METHOD

If you require cash payments, you must request your payment order from registration@worldarchitecturecompetitions.com and you can make payments at convenience stores or Wester Union.

In both cases they will receive after their payment the final registration number that will be their KEY OF PARTICIPATION.

SCHEDULE

26 january | Call to announcement
26 january - 01 february | Pre registry
02 february | Start of inscriptions
27 february | End of the first stage of registration
16 march | Ad members of the Evaluation Committee
20 march | End of consultation period
21 march | Second stage of registration ends
05 april | End of registration period
20 april | Deadline for submission of proposals
27 april | Judgment of the Evaluation Committee
29 april | Dissemination of results
30 april | Awards

DELIVERY REQUIREMENTS

The delivery will consist of **2 digital images**: (A and B) in **horizontal** format, only identifying with the **Registration KEY**.

The presentation technique will be absolutely free, at the discretion of the designer. However, it is recommended to include the following information:

IMAGE A

CONCEPT: Sketches, diagrams or graphics explaining the concept of the project.

FLOOR OR FLOORS: Showing the entire project and its location as a whole.

SECTION: Section of the architectural element.

IMAGE B

PERSPECTIVES: Exterior and interior views of the design.

CONSTRUCTION: Explanatory development of the construction system.

SUSTAINABILITY: Sustainable proposal of the project.

The digital images must comply with the following characteristics:

Format of the digital image: JPG.

Name: The name of the file must match the Registration Number for example: 01234.jpg

Weight: 8 Megabytes maximum per image.

Dimensions: rectangular format horizontal position (488mm x 336mm)

*Participants must send us the IMAGES via Internet in a ZIP or RAR file whose name must coincide with the Registration Number (for example: 01234.zip) to the email architecturecompetitions@hotmail.com no later than **april 15, 2026**.*



NOTES:

The official language of the contest is in English.

Competitors may submit as many projects as they make payments, if they wish, since each proposal will carry a different REGISTRATION NUMBER.

EVALUATION COMMITTEE

The Evaluation Committee will be announced on March 16 directly on the official page of the contest (www.worldarchitecturecompetitions.com):

The criteria for the evaluation of the proposals will be given by:

- *Conceptual Strength and Interpretation of the Lighthouse.*
- *Relationship with the Site and Landscape.*
- *Spatial Experience and Architectural Quality.*

AWARD

The teams that occupy the first places of the contest will be communicated via email or telephone, in such a way that they are informed as quickly and as effectively as possible.

Each member of the teams that receive awards or honorable mentions will receive a certificate of participation from WAC.

Participants who have not been winners and want a participation certificate could request it via email.

WAC will make an exhibition of the best works presented, on the official website (www.worldarchitecturecompetitions.com).

CONSULTATIONS

Queries related to the project must be formulated in writing via email: questions@worldarchitecturecompetitions.com

The deadline for making inquiries is that indicated in the Contest schedule.

The answers will be published on the website in the special section. The queries and their answers will become part of the Bases, as complementary information for the review and qualification of the projects that the Evaluation Committee of the Contest will make.



ORGANIZATION

For all legal purposes (civil or criminal) WAC works only as Organizer of the Contest "LAST LIGHT", and is therefore exempt from any possible demand in case any participant or team of participants does not agree with the final decision of the Evaluation Committee.

WAC reserves the right to make any improvement in the bases (dates, deadlines or requirements); provided they benefit the majority of participants and the best development of the present contest.

The Evaluation Committee, by majority vote, is the only one authorized and responsible for the election of winners of this contest.

Those who have worked in the preparation of these bases or advised the executive team on the technical aspects from the same. At the same time, natural persons are excluded who have a direct relationship, or relationship, with the representatives of the Committee competition evaluation.

WAC
World Architecture Competitions



Registration Form

Team Coordinator Name	
Dirección	
City	
Country	
Correo Electrónico	
Telephone (country and city code)	

Names Members:	
1.-	
2.-	
3.-	
4.-	

Send registration form and queries to email
registration@worldarchitecturecompetitions.com