

## **RIVER TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE**

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River transport (inland water transport) - transport, carrying cargo and passenger vessels on inland waterways, both natural (rivers, lakes), and artificial (canals, reservoirs). The main advantage of river transport is the low cost of transportation; thanks to her, he continues to occupy an important place in the transport system, despite the low rate and seasonality.

River transport infrastructure - set of technical, means to carry freight or passenger transport by river lines.

River transport infrastructure include:

- River transport ( ships, barges )
- Structures (locks, canals , etc.)

Since the speed of cargo riverboats is 10-20 km / h, on inland waterways transport mainly goods that do not require fast delivery - building materials. For freight use either self-propelled vessels or pushed tug barge (tug - barge haulers are almost not used). Barges are used mainly for bulk cargoes. Traditional river passenger ships, even of modern construction, are low by modern standards, speed (rarely more than 25 km / h), so they cannot compete with road and rail. Therefore, large passenger ships these days are almost always used to transport tourists (river cruises), as well as for passenger transport in remote areas, with whom there is no road and rail links.

The most common of river structures, navigation lock - hydraulic engineering construction on navigable waterways and to ensure the transition of ships from one body of water (pond) to another with different levels of water in them. On both sides of the gates is limited, which is located between the adjacent chamber, which allows to vary the level of water within it. Just constructed boat lifts - a complex mechanism for the ascent and descent of ships from one level to another waterway, such as the passage of ships through hydroelectric dams.

Infrastructure of rivers is constantly updated, for example now sciences introduce special hydraulic lifts and types of vessels on fossil fuel.