# Famous bridges around the world

* Read and look at the following pictures and information about famous bridges.
* Can you spot and similarities and differences?
* Can you find them on google maps?





1. London Tower Bridge

London Tower Bridge is one of the most iconic structures of this old city. Set on the river Thames and built with a combinations of suspension (static) and bascule (moveable) elements, the defining feature of this bridge are two enormous towers connected by two parallel walkways. During early years of its history, this bridge was famously known as “***Tower of London***,” named by the **royal prison** that was located in the towers.



 5.

## 5. [Golden Gate Bridge](http://www.historyofbridges.com/famous-bridges/golden-gate-bridge-facts/)

The modern history of bridge building is defined by several magnificent structures, out of which Golden Gate bridge in San Francisco is hailed as being one of the most recognisable ones. Designed by the architect mastermind **Joseph B. Strauss**, this **bright red bridge** dominates strait of Golden Gate between the city of San Francisco and Marin County to the north. This 894,500-ton marvel of modern engineering remained the **longest**[**suspension bridge**](http://www.historyofbridges.com/facts-about-bridges/suspension-bridges/)**in the world until 1964** and the construction of Japan's Akashi-Kaikyo Bridge.



 2.

## Millau Bridge

Millau Bridge located on the uneven grounds of southern France represents one of the crowning achievements of **European bridge building**. Its impressive characteristics, such as the total distance of almost 2.5 kilometers,**343 meters elevation from the ground**, and the inclusion of **eight large spans**, made this bridge instantly took the breath away when it was constructed in 2004 with the price tag of incredible 394 million Euro.



 3.

## [Rialto Bridge](http://www.historyofbridges.com/famous-bridges/rialto-bridge/)

Venice is a **city of thousand bridges**, but one managed to distinguished itself from the rest and became an **architectural icon of the city**. Single-arched Rialto Bridge was built in 1591 under the oversight of the architect Antonio da Ponte whose controversial non-Romanesque proposal outperformed even those of famous Michelangelo. Rialto Bridge spans the Grand Canal of Venice, connecting the centre of the city and the famous Rialto Markets on the same place where old and unreliable wooden pontoon bridges served the Venice for centuries.



 4.

## Si-o-se Pol

Si-o-se Pol is one of the most famous bridges created in the entire Middle East, featuring an incredible design of 33 arches over **river Zayanderud** that together span distance of almost 300 meters. Hailed as the most impressive of the eleven bridges in Isfahan, Iran, Si-o-se Pol is regarded today as the shining example of the Safavid bridge school of art.



 6.

## 6.Stari Most

Stari Most (Old Bridge) is the most famous bridge design of **Ottoman Turks**. Dating from 1566, it stood over the river Neretva in the city of Mostar (Bosnia and Herzegovina) in almost perfect untouched state until for centuries it got damaged during the War in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the 1990s. The newly restored bridge still showcases all the beauty of this striking looking single-arched bridge.



 7.

## 7.Sydney Harbour Bridge

Sydney Harbour Bridge is one of the best known and most photographed bridges in the world. Since its opening in 1932 it managed to capture the imagination of millions of tourists who visit Sidney, and together with Sydney Opera house, it instantly became one of the most recognisable **architectural symbols of the entire continent of Australia**, and its colourful decorations are frequently showcased during New Year’s Eve celebrations.



 8.

## 8. Akashi Kaikyo

This 3.9-kilometer suspension bridge connects the Japanese mainland of Honshu to the Awaji Island, passing over the **dangerous Akashi Strait** that claimed several passenger ferries in the 1950s. Designed by the Satoshi Kashima who oversaw the construction of the bridge that started in 1988 with a budget of around $3.6 billion, Akashi Kaikyo bridge and it record-setting central span that is almost 2 km long became opened for public use on April 5, 1998. This massive and very expensive project of Japanese government paid off, connecting Awaji Island with the rest of the Japan road network and becoming a new part of the Honshu–Shikoku Highway.



 9.

9. No bridge in the world has managed to become such a synonym for a renaissance period as a **Ponte dei Sospiri**, a small prison bridge that **connected government offices with a nearby prison** in the center of the iconic Italian city of Venice. Built in early years of 17th century, this bridge immediately captured the imagination of the public, spawning several myths and serving as an inspiration to several similar bridges that were built across the world.

Originally believed to be the last point from which Venetian prisoners would be able to see the beauty of the city before they were executed, in modern times this bridge became connected with the tourist-friendly myth of ever-lasting love.



 10.

## 10. Brooklyn Bridge

Built between 1869 and 1883, this large hybrid cable-stayed/suspension bridge is hailed today as one of the oldest surviving roadway bridges in the United States. Designed by John Augustus Roebling, his son Washington Roebling, and his wife Emily Warren Roebling, Brooklyn Bridge features two colossal towers and an intricate network of cables that keep the 5.9 kilometers of decking above the East River, **connecting the boroughs of Manhattan and Brooklyn**.

Immediately after it was opened to the public on May 24, 1883, Brooklyn Bridge (then called New York and Brooklyn Bridge or **East River Bridge**) became one of the most impressive **landmarks in New York City**. It’s almost half a kilometer central span was 50% longer than any other at that time. Today, the renovated Brooklyn Bridge features additional decking that is intended only for pedestrian and bicycle use.



 11.

## 11. [Charles Bridge](http://www.historyofbridges.com/famous-bridges/charles-bridge/)

The center of the **city of Prague** would not be the same without the presence of one of the most impressive **Gothic structures** ever to be made. Charles Bridge was the centerpiece of the medieval Prague road network, and as such, it was protected by large gothic towers to be not only one of the most important military defense points of the city but also as a showcase of rich Czech history and art. After centuries of use as a road bridge, today this 515m bridge serves as a reminder of more than 600 years of European history.



12.

## 12.Forth Bridge

Forth Bridge is a large 2.467-meter-long [cantilever bridge](http://www.historyofbridges.com/facts-about-bridges/cantilever-bridge/), located 14 kilometers west of the Edinburgh City Centre where it spans the Firth of Forth, wide estuary of several Scottish rivers. Located between villages of South Queensferry and North Queensferry, this bridge became an integral part of the railway network that spans the England, Scotland, and Wales. Originally designed by Sir John Fowler and Sir Benjamin Baker and released for the rail traffic on March 4, 1890, this bridge today holds significant importance to the Scottish nation where it was voted as **Scotland's greatest man-made wonder** in 2016.



13.

## 13. [Iron Bridge](http://www.historyofbridges.com/famous-bridges/the-iron-bridge/)

The history of bridge design would not be the same without the presence of the Iron Bridge, a first bridge made out of cast iron. Located in the Shropshire, heart of England’s Industrial Revolution, and spanning the deep Severn Gorge, this bridge managed to **revitalize private and commercial travel in the region** and **popularize the use of cast iron as the construction material**. Built with the oversight of the designer Thomas Farnolls Pritchard between 1777 and 1779, this bridge immediately popularized the region as the viable tourist destination. Today, the bridge and the surrounding Severn Gorge area are protected as cultural and heritage sites of highest importance.