

Tower bridge



Tower Bridge, or Tower Bridge is a combined suspension (hanging) and drawbridge (opening) bridge in central London over the River Thames, near the Tower of London. Sometimes confused with London Bridge, located about 0.8 km upstream. Construction began in 1886; opened in 1894. It is also one of the symbols of London and Britain.



History

In the second half of the 19th century, due to the increased horse and pedestrian traffic in the port area in the East End, a new question arose about the construction of a new ferry east of London Bridge.

Construction work began on June 21, 1886 and lasted for 8 years. On June 30, 1894, the bridge was inaugurated by Prince Edward of Wales and his wife Princess Alexandra.

Soon the pedestrian galleries of the bridge acquired the "glory" of a gathering place for pickpockets. For this reason, the galleries were closed in 1910. They reopened only in 1982 and are used as a museum and observation deck.



TOWER BRIDGE WORKS OCT^R 18th 1892

Construction

It is a drawbridge with a length of 244 m with two towers with a height of 65 m placed on intermediate supports . The central span between the towers with a length of 61 m is divided into two lifting wings weighing more than a thousand tons, which can be raised at an angle of 83° to allow ships to pass.

To better protect the metal structure from corrosion, the towers were lined with stone, the architectural style of the structure is defined as Victorian Gothic. The total cost of the construction was 1,184,000 pounds



A dramatic photograph of the Tower Bridge in London at sunset. The sky is a mix of deep blue, purple, and orange, with clouds catching the low light. The bridge's two towers and suspension cables are silhouetted against the bright horizon. The River Thames flows in the foreground, reflecting the warm colors of the sky. A paved walkway runs along the left bank of the river.

Interesting facts

In 1912, British pilot Frank McLean managed to fly his biplane between the towers of the bridge in the space between the upper and lower tiers.

In 1952, a bus driver with passengers found himself on the bridge at the time of wiring and, accelerating, forced the bus to jump from one rising wing to another.

There are 2 elevators inside the towers – one for ascent, one for descent. Each of them is able to take up to 30 people at a time.



Thank you for
your attention!