

## BRIDGE FACTS



- Length of the arch span: 503 metres.
- Height of the top arch: 134 metres above mean sea level
- Height to the top of the aircraft beacon: 141 metres about mean sea level.
- Width of the deck: 49 metres.
- Clearance for shipping: 53 metres.
- Height of the pylons: 89 metres above mean sea level.
- Base of each abutment tower: 58 metres across and 49 metres long.
- Total length of bridge: 1149 metres including approach spans.
- Bearing pins: each of the four pins measure 4.2 metres long and 368 millimetres in diameter.
- Thrust on bearings: under maximum loads approx 20,000 tonnes on each bearing.
- Number of rivets in the bridge: approximately 6,000,000.
- Largest rivet: 3.5kg and 395mm long.
- Longest hanger: 58.8 metres.
- Shortest hanger: 7.3 metres.
- Total weight of the steelwork: 52,800 tonnes including arch and steel approach spans.
- Weight of the arch: 39,000 tonnes.
- Amount of rock excavated for the bridge foundations: 122,000 cubic metres.
- Amount of concrete used to make the bridge: 950,000 cubic metres
- Paint initially required: 272,000 litres of paint to give the bridge its initial three coats.
- Construction of the bridge started with "The turning of the first sod" on 28 July 1923.
- Approximately 1400 people were employed on the bridge project during the eight years of construction (not including subcontractors).
- The arch was joined at 10pm on 19 August 1930.
- The last stone was set in the north west pylon on 15 January 1932.
- The last rivet that was driven in the field was on 21 January 1932.
- The Harbour Bridge was officially opened in March 1932.