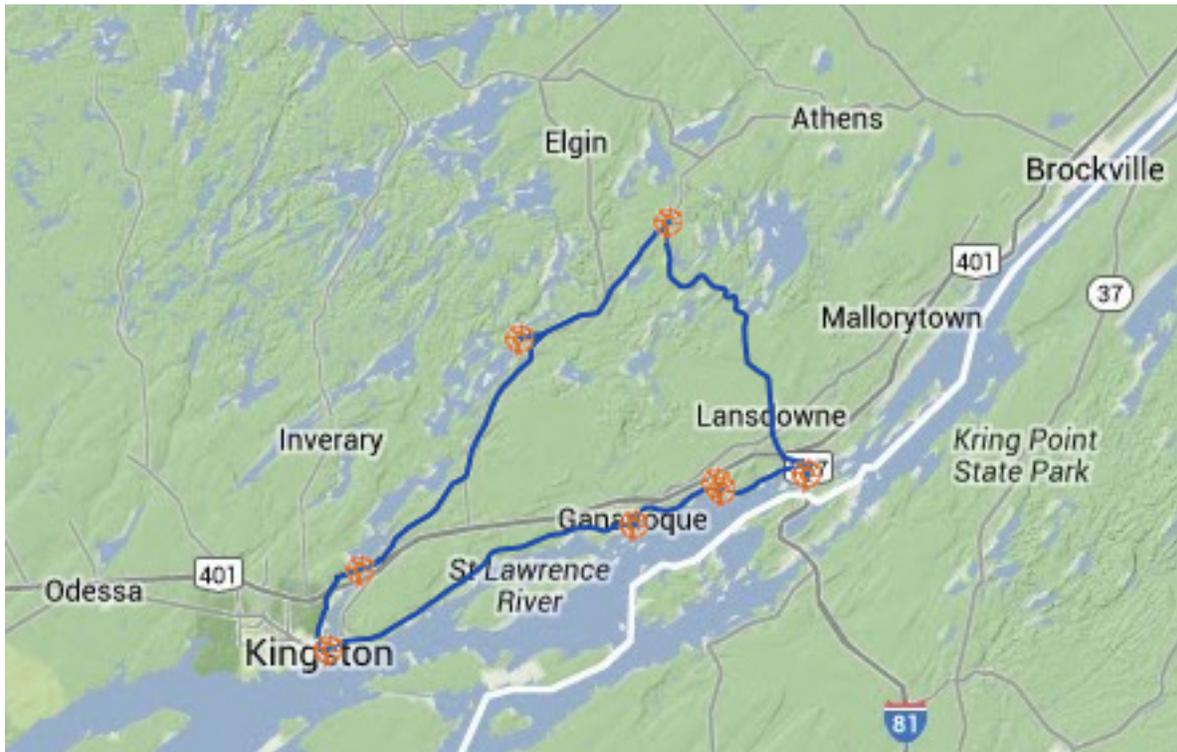




# FAB EXPERIENCES

Eastern Ontario, Canada

## Bridges of the Biosphere



### Tour Description

With so many rivers and streams on the Frontenac Arch, there are many, many bridges. And with a history that reaches so far back in time, many of the bridges have a unique story and architecture. This tour will let you cross those very fascinating bridges when you come to them! Along the way there are of course lots of heritage features, great places for food and refreshment, viewpoints and galleries to explore. Those close to or on the route are shown on your route map.

### 1. Kingston Mills Locks

Lat: 44.292900  
Long: -76.442000

Kingston Mills is the first flight of locks above Lake Ontario, on the Rideau Canal. Here, a falls powered the “King’s Mills” for grain and lumber. There are two bridges, a swing bridge for vehicles and a trestle for trains. The swing bridge was first built in wood in 1909, and preplaced with the present steel version in 1988. The railway bridge for the Grand Trunk was also first built in wood, in 1853, and replaced by the steel span in 1929.

*Driving directions: From Green Woods Inn, drive north on Hwy. 15 for approx. 3 km, turn left at Kingston Mills Rd. Drive 2 km to Kingston Mills Lockstation.*

**Notes:**

### 2. La Salle Causeway

Lat: 44.23425  
Long: -76.47623

The La Salle Causeway on Highway 2 crosses the Catarqui River (the southern entrance of the Rideau Canal). Construction of the causeway was completed on April 15, 1917.

The causeway has three forms of bridges with the center one being a Strauss trunnion bascule lift bridge designed by Joseph Strauss, designer of the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco.

The La Salle Causeway was named after Rene-Robert Cavalier, Sieur de La Salle who saw to the construction of Fort Frontenac in 1673, the remains of which are at the western end of the causeway.

*Driving Directions: Continue west on Kingston Mills Road for about 2 km, to Battersea Rd., turn left. Travel south for about 7 km, along Battersea Rd., which turns into Montreal St., into downtown Kingston. Turn left onto Queen St., after 500m, turn left on Ontario Street. To explore on foot for a close-up understanding, park at the Wolfe Island Ferry terminal parking, and walk on sidewalks, about 400m east. Merge right onto Highway 2 over the La Salle Causeway.*

**Notes:**

Explore more at: [frontenacarchbiosphere.ca](http://frontenacarchbiosphere.ca)

### 3. Gananoque Swing Bridge

Lat: 44.3254  
Long: -76.1594

The swing bridge in Gananoque was built in 1894, as a spur line from the waterfront terminal of the Thousand Islands Railway, across the Gananoque River to the carriage works that is now the Gananoque Inn. Still a one-lane bridge today, it only seldom opened, operating with a hand crank.

*Driving directions: From the La Salle Causeway, drive east from Kingston on Cnty. Rd. 2 to Gananoque, approx. 30 km. Turn right on Main St., to Water St.; bridge is 200 metres ahead.*

Notes:

### 4. Kay's Bridge

Lat: 44.3577  
Long: -76.0744

Kay's Bridge is a dry stone bridge, built by volunteers in 2010 to cross this creek along a hiking trail here on the Landon Bay Centre property. The bridge is constructed entirely without mortar, from stone recovered from the historic homestead of Barbara Heck, founder of the Methodist Church in Canada. The bridge was named in memory of one of the Landon Bay Centre's founders, Kay Donevan.

*Driving directions: Drive east from Gananoque on King St., to Thousand Islands Parkway, exit on right; approx. 6 km to Cross Cemetery Rd.; turn right, approx. 0.5 km. Park at roadside, bridge is on right.*

Notes:

### 5. Parkway Twins

Lat: 44.351800  
Long: -76.069900

The twin bridges on the Thousand Islands Parkway at Landon Bay seem odd, in that there is just a two lane highway. When the Parkway was built in the mid-1930s, this was planned as a four-lane highway – but the depression-era economics downsized the plans. A second four-lane span crosses further east, at Jones Creek.

*Driving directions: At Thousand Islands Parkway, turn left; approx. 600 meters to bridges; park on north lane.*

Notes:

## 6. Thousand Islands Bridge

Lat: 44.362250  
Long: -75.982640

The Thousand Islands International Bridge was begun in May 1937, and opened under budget and on time in August, 1938. This Canadian section spans 3,300 ft/1,006 metres, with three bridge forms – suspension, arch and truss. Best experienced on foot, park at the toll booth lot, and walk (no charge) on the walkway on the west side. The view is superb. Built at the narrowest part of the river, the St. Lawrence begins where Lake Ontario ends, literally right under your feet. Note the river is current-stressed as it plunges down an underwater chute one and a half times the height of Niagara Falls to begin the race to the Atlantic.

*Driving directions: Drive approx. 7.5 km. east on Parkway; exit left on ramp to Thousand Islands Bridge/Hill Island, .5 km.; toll booth parking on right.*

Notes:

## 7. Lyndhurst Bridge

Lat: 44.549770  
Long: -76.125400

Built in 1856-57, the Lyndhurst Bridge is the oldest bridge in existence in Ontario. Designed by John Roddick, and erected by contractors Miles Fulford and Simon Ransom it is a fine example of masonry arch construction. The picturesque, three-span bridge was built of local field stone, laid in random courses, and is unadorned except for the sandstone wall caps and arch surrounds, with curved flared end walls. In 1986 the Lyndhurst Bridge was strengthened with a reinforced concrete interior frame and completely restored to its original exterior appearance. It remains in regular use today.

*Driving directions: From Thousand Islands Bridge, in 200 metres take 2nd exit to Thousand Islands Parkway west; in 600 metres turn right on Cnty. Rd. 3; north on Cnty. Rd. 3 for 28 km.; turn right at intersection, bridge 40 metres ahead; park on east side of bridge.*

Notes:

### 8. Brass Point Bridge

Lat: 44.463940  
Long: -76.278400

Brass Point Bridge: a long and narrow steel bridge with wooden decking which incorporates a wooden swing bridge (an unequal arm, center bearing timber swing bridge, one of only four remaining on the Rideau) at the west end. The swing bridge is operated by Parks Canada. This long (148 m / 485 ft) bridge was originally built in 1887. The wooden spans were replaced with steel spans in 1903 and new cribbing was installed in 1978.

*Driving directions: From Lyndhurst, follow Cnty. Rd. 33 west approx. 8 km. to Hwy. 15; turn right, to Burnt Hills Rd. approx. 6.4 km.; turn right. Brass Point Bridge approx. 2 km. ahead.*

Notes:

### Return to Green Woods Inn

Lat: 44.275788  
Long: -76.443902

*Drive back down Burnt Hills Rd., to Highway 15, approx. 2 km. Turn right and head south on Highway 15 for approx. 27 km, back to Green Woods Inn.*

Your Trip Notes:

Explore more at: [frontenacarchbiosphere.ca](http://frontenacarchbiosphere.ca)