

## 1: Casa Picasso Makes Fodor's Choice Winter List - Ambergris Caye Belize Message Board

Jan 20th, , AM #2. Bob Brown Guest. Posts: n/a I think the most interesting towns in Switzerland are Bern, Luzern, and Geneva. I would get a copy of the Fodors guide book to.

Contributors control their own work and posted freely to our site. If you need to flag this entry as abusive, send us an email. For thousands of years, bridges have been constructed to make transportation easier, thereby allowing cities and empires to flourish. But some bridges do more than just get you from point A to point B; instead, they marry form and function in unforgettable ways. Among the most iconic structures in the world, the best bridges rise to the level of art and become a permanent part of the landscape, seemingly encapsulating the local character. Each with a unique design and backstory, here are the 20 most beautiful bridges in the world. The original designer, John Augustus Roebling, passed away during construction, leaving his son, Washington, to take over and finish the grueling project. The bridge runs across the Golden Gate Strait, giving the structure its name, and makes it possible for travelers to get from San Francisco and Marin to the northern areas of California. On its opening day, more than , people crossed the bridge to celebrate. London, England A combination bascule and suspension bridge, this Gothic-style landmark gives visitors passage across the Thames. This footbridge, designed by Santiago Calatrava, opened in and features a glass deck that lights up at night. Although the glass path can get slippery on a rainy day, many use the bridge to reach the nearby Guggenheim Museum. Hong Kong, China Known as the longest suspension bridge to hold rail and road traffic, the Tsing Ma runs just over 1. The structure was named after the islands on each end, Tsing Yi and Ma Wan. Lisbon, Portugal Sprawling approximately 11 miles, the Vasco da Gama is a true architectural feat. Named after the Portuguese explorer, persistent traffic problems inspired the creation of the Vasco da Gama over the Tagus River, and it was finished in time to ease transportation at the Lisbon World Exposition. The cobblestone structure, rumored to have egg yolks, wine, and milk mixed into the mortar to ensure its strength, draws crowds each day. Those eager to enjoy the striking views of the Vltava River and the city should plan to arrive early. If you enter on the Old Town side of the bridge, you can climb to the top of Old Town Bridge Tower to gain an even better vantage point of the 1,foot bridge and the 30 statues lining the sides. Sometimes referred to as the JK Bridge, this masterpiece has received several awards for architectural design since it opened in , including the Gustav Lindenthal Medal at the International Bridge Conference. Putrajaya, Malaysia Taking visitors across the Putrajaya Lake, the Seri Wawasan Bridge design mimics a sail ship and features both a pedestrian walkway and six lanes for cars. The foot long, cable-stayed bridge, which first opened in , connects Precinct 2 on the Core Island with Precinct 8. Stone lions sit on each side of the entrance, along with the Hungarian coat of arms, to greet visitors. During World War II, the Chain Bridge was completely destroyed by German bombs, leaving only the pillars behind, making it one of two surviving bridges designed by William Clark. The structure was rebuilt starting in and provides stunning views of Parliament, especially when the building is lit up in the evening. Antonio da Ponte won a design contest to create the stone bridge, beating out Michelangelo and Palladio in the process. The Rialto features three walkways, with two leading visitors along the outside to enjoy the water views and one central path taking them along the shops inside, which feature jewelry, linens, and other items for sale. Creissels, France Standing larger than the Eiffel Tower, the Norman Foster-designed Millau Viaduct is the tallest bridge in the world, reaching 1, feet at its highest point. On a foggy day, cars can be seen driving above the clouds across the Tarn Valley because the road itself sits feet above the ground. The viaduct draws crowds from across the globe, and visitors can view the stunning display by canoeing beneath, hang gliding above, or stopping at one of the many viewing locations in the area. Isfahan, Iran Located on the Zayandeh River, the Khaju Bridge works as both a bridge and dam with its 23 arches and system of gates below. Shah Abbas II commissioned the structure in to connect the Khaju quarter on the north side of the bank and the Zoroastrian quarter. The spiral tubes that create the double helix design are lit up in the evenings to create an even prettier display over the Marina Bay, and you can catch stunning views of the Singapore skyline as well. Artwork by local members of the community is displayed in an outdoor gallery on the bridge during designated times of the year. Visitors

can drive across the structure, which takes them across the Charles River to or from Boston. The Y-shaped elements of the cable-stayed bridge, designed by Christian Menn, were created to match the Bunker Hill Monument in Charlestown. Klosters, Switzerland A recipient of the Outstanding Structure Award, the Sunninberg Bridge spans more than 1, feet across the Landquart River valley as part of the Klosters bypass. The bridge, designed by Christian Menn who also crafted the Zakim Bridge , was created to fit in with the Swiss Alps atmosphere and officially opened in after being in operation for a number of years in a ceremony performed by Prince Charles. Created by Santiago Calatrava, the bridge is designed to look like two people dancing the tango. The bridge was originally built in Victoria, but parts were shipped to Buenos Aires over five months as a gift to the city. Now known as the biggest cable-stayed bridge in the area, it took incredible skill to construct the platform without interrupting 42 railroad lines in the area. The bridge has car, pedestrian, and bike lines and was created in the hopes of reinvigorating and providing easy access between the two major business areas. After its launch in , the bridge, which crosses Johnstons Bay, served as a connection between Sydney City and the nearby western suburbs. Iwakuni, Japan A long history of high waters, typhoons, and flooding has historically made it difficult to build a lasting bridge across the Nishiki River; the current Kintai Bridge marks the fourth construction there since The structure, which sits at the bottom of Mt. Yokotama and the Iwakuni Castle, was most recently rebuilt in The entire area was categorized as a National Treasure in and tourists flock to the area to take in the view, especially during the annual Cherry Blossom festival.

## 2: Results for Nancy Coons

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Net - Among the defining architectural and historic features that greet visitors to Armenia are its numerous religious sites. Armenia was the first country to recognize Christianity as the state religion, after which a variety of monasteries were constructed, many on sites once holy to earlier religions. Today, the country is an almost entirely Armenian Orthodox nation, and the major icons of the religion, like mountaintop monasteries and other religious complexes, are among the most striking part of any tourist visit. Temple of Garni This stunning and almost completely intact Greco-Roman temple has an Ionic colonnade that dates from the first century C. Once part of the fortress of Garni, it is the best-preserved temple of its type in Armenia, and indeed among the best preserved in all of Central Asia. Much of what makes a visit to the temple, originally built to honor the sun god Mihr, so striking is its setting overlooking the Azat River and the Gegham mountains. Etchmiadzin Cathedral Want to put a visit to the oldest cathedral in the world on your bucket list? The earliest version of the cathedral dates from the beginning of the 4th century and was constructed under the reign of King Tiridates III when Christianity became the official state religion of Armenia. The cathedral, much altered over the years, is part of the complex of the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin. Geghard Monastery The architecture is as stunning as the setting within the Geghard Monastery, a walled complex of buildings springing from the side of a rocky mountain outcropping. Even before Christianity, the site had long had religious significance largely due to the sacred springs emanating from the mountainside. The early religious leader Gregory the Illuminator, the patron saint of Armenia, lived within the complex and in the mountain caves surrounding it. Sevanavank Monastery Sevanavank Monastery is one of the most photographed monasteries in all of Armenia, and one of the main reasons to visit this beautiful country. Set on the crystalline blue Lake Sevan, Sevanavank Monastery is in the Gegharkunik region and dates to the late s. There are two churches here making up the complex, both of a similar Armenian medieval style, formed of black tuff stone and cross-shaped: This mountainous lake region is also home to several nearby resorts. Noravank Monastery One of the most dramatic settings of the monastery complexes in Armenia is the Noravank Monastery. Whether viewed during the snowy winter or in the summer when the verdant valley spreads under the surrounding red cliffs, the site is simply breathtaking upon approach. The architect monk Momik, whose gravestone is also here, added embellishments throughout the church. Among the once important relics here was a piece of the True Cross. Tatev Monastery Modernity and ancient history combine here at Tatev Monastery, a complex originally dating from the very earliest Christian period. One of its most interesting modern additions is the Wings of Tatev, a suspended tramway which has helped to increase tourism to the region, the profits of which go to helping restore the once neglected complex. Located in Syunik province, one of the defining features of the complex is its oil mill, which produces the holy oil called muron, used in the Armenian church for religious rituals. Goshavank Monastery Set on a wildflower strewed stretch of land overlooking mountain ranges, Goshavank Monastery represents a mix of Romanian and Armenian architecture. The complex dates from the 12th century with the construction of the Church of the Virgin. Unlike many other monasteries, the complex is unwalled, adding to its simple appearance against its surroundings. The monastery is also noted for its book depository ornamented with a bell tower. Zvartnots Cathedral Ruins Zvartnots Cathedral Ruins is close to the capital of Yerevan and is one of the most important of the Christian religious complexes in all of Armenia. Its largely ruined structures date from the 7th century and are a striking mix of Armenian, Byzantine, and Romanian architecture. While in ruins, the complex is particularly striking when viewed with Mount Ararat in the distance in Turkey, connecting geography and history together.

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