



Thousand Islands Bridge Authority

43530 Interstate 81

Alexandria Bay, NY 13607

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Bridge festivities information

- Parking is at the Welcome Center parking lot. Take Seaway Avenue to Collins Landing Road.
- Staff will operate golf carts to transport guests unable to walk to the celebration site.
- Stage, audio system and high-definition display screens will be under a 120' by 40' tent with seating.
- Washroom facilities will be available on site.
- Vacation package drawings will be held at 3 p.m. Eligibility is limited to members of the public and vintage car show participants in attendance.
- Vacation packages include one night's accommodation, passes to a 1000 Islands boat tour and admission to Boldt Castle. Donations from Bonnie Castle Resort, Gananoque Inn & Spa, Uncle Sam Boat Tours, Gananoque Boat Line and Boldt Castle.

Bridge and construction information

- Foundation work began in May 1937 and construction was completed in August 1938.
- Robinson and Steinman of New York City served as the project consulting engineers along with Monsaurat and Pratley of Montreal. Robinson-Steinman is now Parsons Transportation, which still serves as the bridge's consulting engineer.
- The 16-month construction period was 10 weeks shorter than expected.
- A groundbreaking ceremony at Collins Landing on April 30, 1937 drew thousands of attendees.
- The total cost was \$3,050,000.
- The dedication ceremony on Aug. 18, 1938 was attended by U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt and Canadian Prime Minister William L. MacKenzie King. The audience swelled to more than 25,000.
- The bridge system extends from Collins Landing, NY, to Ivy Lea, ON, a distance of 8.5 miles or almost 14 kilometres.
- The crossing over the American channel of the St. Lawrence River is 4,500 feet long and 150 feet above the water.
- The international rift boundary between Wellesley and Hill islands is covered by two 90-foot concrete arched spans.
- The Canadian crossing includes the 600-foot Warren Truss span connecting Hill and Constance islands. A 348-foot steel arch connects Constance and Georgina islands. A 750-foot suspension bridge connects Georgina Island to the Canadian mainland.
- In the first years of operation, annual crossings were approximately 150,000. Today, annual crossings exceed 2 million vehicles.
- The Thousand Islands Bridge system is operated under an agreement between the Thousand Islands Bridge Authority and the Federal Bridge Corporation Limited of Canada.
- The Bridge Authority is defined as a public benefit corporation under New York State Public Authorities Law and is governed by a seven-member board appointed to five-year terms by the Chairman of the Jefferson County Board of Legislators. The board is comprised of four US citizens and three Canadian citizens who serve without compensation in the interest of public service.

Archival images are available for use from the Thousand Islands International Tourism Council at 800-847-5263.