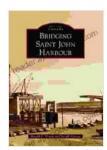
Bridging Saint John Harbour: A Historical Journey of Engineering Marvels



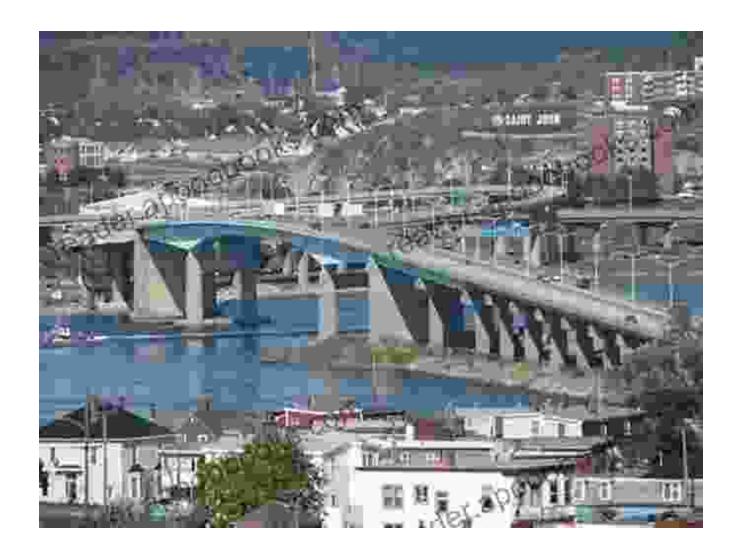
Bridging Saint John Harbour (Historic Canada)

by Ray Morton



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Saint John Harbour, a bustling gateway to the Atlantic Ocean, is renowned not only for its natural beauty but also for its remarkable collection of bridges that gracefully connect the city's shores. These bridges, each a testament to the ingenuity and determination of engineers past and present, have played a pivotal role in shaping the city's identity and fostering its economic growth.

The Birth of a Bridge-Building Era

The first bridge to span Saint John Harbour was the Carleton Bridge, built in 1859 to facilitate trade and transportation across the mighty Saint John River. This wooden covered bridge, considered an engineering marvel for

its time, set the stage for a series of bridge-building projects that would transform the city's skyline.

The Reversing Falls Suspension Bridge

In 1885, the iconic Reversing Falls Suspension Bridge was erected, connecting the city's east and west sides. This suspension bridge, with its graceful curves and soaring towers, quickly became a symbol of Saint John's industrial prowess and a popular tourist attraction.

The Harbour Bridge

As the city expanded, the need for a more efficient and modern crossing emerged. In 1914, the Harbour Bridge was constructed, boasting a state-of-the-art bascule design that allowed ships to pass through. This bridge, a marvel of engineering, remains a vital artery for the city's transportation system.

The Courtenay Bay Causeway

Stretching across Courtenay Bay, the Courtenay Bay Causeway was completed in 1960, linking the city to the industrial hub on the western side of the harbour. This massive causeway, supported by over 1,000 concrete piles, is a testament to the city's commitment to industrial development.

The Legacy of Engineering Excellence

The bridges of Saint John Harbour are not merely structures; they are symbols of human ingenuity and the city's indomitable spirit. These architectural landmarks have witnessed the rise and fall of industries, connected communities, and facilitated the flow of goods and people. Their

enduring legacy serves as a reminder of the transformative power of engineering and the enduring spirit of Saint John.

Bridging Saint John Harbour is an invitation to explore the fascinating history and enduring legacy of the city's iconic bridges. From the Carleton Bridge to the Harbour Bridge and beyond, these structures stand as testaments to the ingenuity, determination, and vision of those who shaped Saint John's past and continue to shape its future. As you traverse these bridges, marvel at their architectural beauty, appreciate their engineering marvels, and delve into the captivating stories they have to tell.



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★ ★ ★ ★ 5 out of 5

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