

# IKB: The Complete Works

Isambard Kingdom Brunel was an incredibly busy guy. He was only 53 when he died and it is hard to believe that he managed to fit so much into a relatively short life. The time line covering the these two pages shows some of the major projects that occupied his time. There are plenty of other projects we simply couldn't fit into the space though!



(1806 - 1859)

Bristol City Docks.  
Jessops Floating Harbour  
Jessops Floating Harbour  
was built between 1804

and 1810 and vastly improved Bristol's port facilities. By 1830 it was silting up and Brunel was asked to make some recommendations as to how to fix the problem. In 1833 he was given the go ahead to build four sluice gates, now known as the *Underfall Dam*. He also designed a drag-boat which pulled itself backwards and forwards across the harbour with winches and chains and scraped mud off of the harbour floor.

Location: 2°36.2'W; 51°26.9'N



The Thames Tunnel. Rotherhithe to Wapping under the River Thames  
This was the world's first major tunnel under a body of water. Isambard worked on this difficult and dangerous project with his father.

The tunnel was finally completed in March 1843 and was nearly half a kilometre long. It was a pedestrian tunnel at first but was bought by the East London Railway Company in 1865. Trains first used the tunnel in 1869 and it is still used by tube trains running on the east London line to this day!

Location: 0°0.26'W; 51°30.0'N

birth place



Isambard Kingdom Brunel is born in Britain Street, Portsmouth. He is the only child of French engineer, Marc Brunel and Sophia Kingdom.

Location: 1°06.1'W; 50°47.7'N

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## Wharncliffe Viaduct Hanwell, London

This 275 metre long viaduct was built to carry trains on the Paddington to Bristol line, Wharncliffe Viaduct is still in use today.

Location: 0°20.6'W; 51°30.6'N

## Box Tunnel Box, Wiltshire

At 2.9 kilometres long this was the longest railway tunnel in the world at the time of its completion. It is still used every day by trains running between Swindon and Bath.

Location: 2°13.8'W;

## Hungerford Suspension Bridge, London

This bridge was an elegant suspension footbridge, crossing the Thames where the modern day Hungerford Railway Bridge stands.

Location: 0°07.1'W; 51°30.3'N

## Temple Meads (Old) Station, Bristol

Brunel designed and built this original terminus for the Great Western Railway. The train shed is now home to a museum.

Location: 2°34.9'W; 51°26.9'N

## Starcross Pumping Station, Starcross, Devon

One of a chain of 11 such stations designed to service Brunel's ambitious Atmospheric Railway.

Location: 3°26.8'W; 50°37.5'N

## SS Great Eastern



## Launch of the SS Great Eastern

Burrell's Wharf Square, Millwall, London  
The largest ship ever built at the time of her launch. She was so big that it took 3 months just to get her off her blocks and into the water. She was designed to carry 4000 passengers from London to Australia.

Location (launch site): 0°01.3'W; 51°29.3'N

Isambard Kingdom Brunel suffers a seizure and dies whilst watching the SS Great Eastern undergoing sea trials.

He is buried in Kensall Green Cemetery, London.

February 1836  
September 1836

1835

1836

1837

1840

1841

July 1843

1845

1847

1850

1853

1854

1855

3rd November 1859

15th September 1859

Paddington Station, London



## Clifton Suspension Bridge

Brunel won a design competition at the age of just 25 for the design of this bridge.

Work began in 1836 but the money ran out just two years later. The bridge was finally completed by a group of Brunel's colleagues after his death as a lasting memorial.

It was the longest suspension bridge in Britain until 1961.

Location: 2°37.7'W; 50°27.3'N

Clifton Suspension Bridge



## Launch of the SS Great Western

### Maidenhead Railway Bridge



## Maidenhead Railway Bridge

This bridge carried the Great Western Railway across the Thames between Slough and Maidenhead. It is notable because of its incredibly flat arches.

Location: 0°42.0'W; 51°31.2'N

## Launch of the SS Great Britain

The first ship to have an iron hull and be propelled by a steam driven screw propeller. She was the largest ship in the world at the time of her launch.

Location: 2°36.4'W; 51°26.9'N



## Paddington Station, Praed Street, London

Still in use today, Brunel designed this magnificent station as the London terminus for the Great Western Railway.

Location: 0°10.6'W; 51°31.0'N

## The Royal Albert Bridge, Saltash, Cornwall

The foundations of this bridge rest on bedrock some 30 metres below the high water level and alone took 3 years to build. This bridge is the only semi-suspension bridge in daily use on a main railway.

Location: 4°12.2'W; 50°24.4'N

### Saltash, Cornwall



The Royal Albert Bridge



The Portsmouth Grammar School



# Be A Brunel Spotter

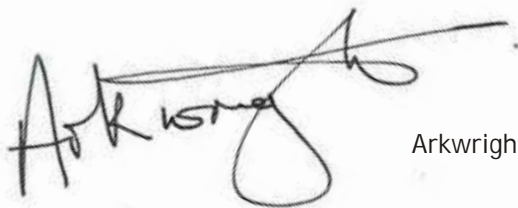
The name's Watt, Arkwright Watt. I'm an ace history detective and I've got a job for you. Word on the street says you're pretty cute at geography and that's just what I need.

Here's the deal. Some guy walks into my office a few days ago and says he wants me to trace the movements of some other guy. No problem with that I think. But then he hits me with it. Its some guy called Isambard Kingdom Brunel, you may have heard of him, but, get this - he's been dead for nearly 150 years.

Now that's where you come in. I've got a list of places and dates and an empty map. I need you to mark the places on the map and then join them up in order of the dates. Think you can handle it kiddo?

There's more though. A little bird tells me that this list isn't as complete as it should be. You might want to do a bit of research to see exactly what's missing.

Good luck.



Arkwright Watt, Ace History Detective



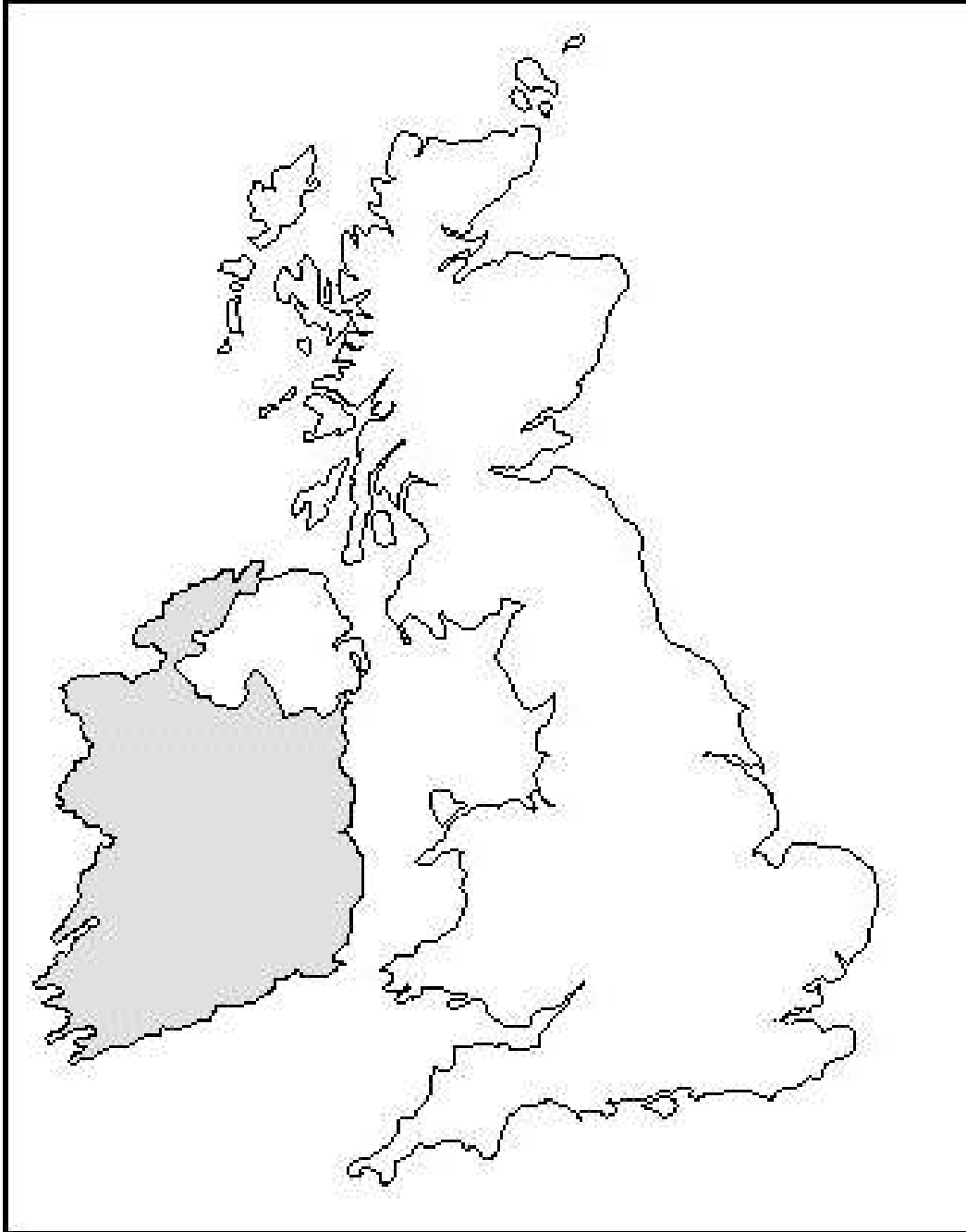
# Be A Brunel Spotter

9 <sup>th</sup> April 1806	Isambard Kingdom Brunel born in Portsmouth. The only child of French engineer Marc Brunel and Sophia Kingdom.
Feb 1825	The Thames Tunnel. Rotherhithe to Wapping under the River Thames. Location: 0°02.6'W; 51°30.0'N
1833	Bristol City Docks. Jessops Floating Harbour. Location: 2°36.2'W; 51°26.9'N
1836	Clifton Suspension Bridge. Location: 2°37.7'W; 50°27.3'N
Feb 1836	Wharncliffe Viaduct. Hanwell, London. Location: 0°20.6'W; 51°30.6'N
Sept 1836	Box Tunnel. Box, Wiltshire. Location: 2°13.8'W; 51°25.2'N
1837	Maidenhead Railway Bridge over the River Thames. West of Slough. Location: 0°42.0'W; 51°31.2'N
Launched 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 1837	<i>SS Great Western</i> Location (launch site): 2°36.2'W; 51°26.9'N
1841	Hungerford Suspension Bridge. London. Location: 0°07.1'W; 51°30.3'N
1841	Temple Meads (Old) Station. Bristol. Location: 2°34.9'W; 51°26.9'N
Launched 19 <sup>th</sup> July 1843	<i>SS Great Britain</i> . Location: 2°36.4'W; 51°26.9'N
1847	Starcross Pumping Station. Starcross, Devon. Location: 3°26.8'W; 50°37.5'N
1848	Halberton Aquaduct. Grand Western Canal, Halberton, Devon. Location: 3°25.6'W; 50°54.0'N
1849	Brunel Swing Bridge & South Entrance Lock. Cumberland Basin, Bristol Docks. Location: 2°37.3'W; 51°26.9'N
1849	River Thames Bridge. Nr South Meadow, Windsor, Berkshire. Location: 0°36.9'W; 51°29.2'N
1853	The Royal Albert Bridge. River Tamar, Saltash, Cornwall. Location: 4°12.2'W; 50°24.4'N
1854	Paddington Station. Praed Street, London. Location: 0°10.6'W; 51°31.0'N
1855	Brentford Dock. Brentford, London. Location: 0°18.0'W; 51°28.9'N
1857	Balmoral Bridge. Braemar, Aberdeenshire, Scotland. Location: 3°13.0'W; 57°02.4'N
Launched 3 <sup>rd</sup> Nov 1857 to 31 <sup>st</sup> Jan 1858	<i>SS Great Eastern</i> . Launch site, Burrell's Wharf Square, Millwall, London. Location: 0°01.3'W; 51°29.3'N
15 <sup>th</sup> Sept 1859	Isambard Kingdom Brunel suffered a seizure and dies whilst watching the Great Eastern undergoing trials before its first voyage to New York. He is buried in Kensall Green Cemetery, London.



# Be A Brunel Spotter

Mark the positions of Brunel's works with crosses and then join them up in date order.



You might find it useful to have a proper atlas handy to help with positioning your crosses.

