Mary Elmes Bridge, Cork

by WilkinsonEyre

WilkinsonEyre won the competition for a new pedestrian and cycle bridge in central Cork following an international design competition.

The design is an elliptical arch steel box structure that crosses the River Lee in a single span. Simply shaped steel plates are welded together to form cantilevers that support the deck plate, then extend upwards above the deck to provide V-shaped parapet posts that support a handrail and cycle rail. The inclination of these posts reduces the number of posts needed, resulting in an open edge condition that provides good visual connectivity to the water.

As the arch rises up above the deck, it creates a graceful sinuous curve that supports benches in the middle of the span where people can sit and enjoy the views of the surrounding area.

Details
Location: Cork, Ireland
Client: Cork City Council
Architect: WilkinsonEyre
Structural Engineer: Arup
Value: Confidential
Date: Completed September 2019