



## South Quay Footbridge

by WilkinsonEyre

The competition brief for this 180m-long bridge, one of a series of new pedestrian crossings commissioned for London's Docklands, was unusual: it called for a bridge with temporary and permanent elements – and the ability to open for shipping. Our design achieved this through two identical spans, one fixed and the other openable, which in its original configuration created an S-shaped crossing between South Quay and Heron Quays. As planned, the northern span has now been removed and the southern half swung into a new orientation spanning the partly infilled dock.

The simple elements of the bridge – the curved lines of the oak-clad deck, two raking masts and the shifting arrays of cable stays – create a visual dynamic, accentuating the kinetics of the design and contrasting sharply with the uniform urban grid beyond.

### Details

Location: London, UK  
Client: London Docklands Development Corporation  
Architect: WilkinsonEyre  
Structural Engineer: Jan Bobrowski & Partners  
Span: 180m  
Value: £2.5m  
Completed: May 1997

### Awards

IStructE Special Award 1998  
Design Council Millennium 'Product' 1998  
Structural Steel Design Award Commendation 1998  
Civic Trust Award Commendation 1998  
British Construction Industry Award for 'Outstanding Fusion of Architecture & Engineering' 1997  
American Institute of Architects Excellence in Design Award 1997