

The Kessock Bridge, Inverness



The Kessock Bridge carries the A9 trunk road over the Beauly Firth between Inverness and the Black Isle replacing the former ferry. When built from 1978–82 it was the largest cable-stayed bridge in Europe and the only one of its type in Britain. Its design is said to have been modelled on the Rees Bridge over the Rhine near Dusseldorf.

The navigation span is 240m and is supported by groups of eight spiral-strand steel cables in a harp arrangement. The steel superstructure is fully continuous over the supports.

An unusual feature of the design is the need to accommodate possible movement on the Great Glen fault at the north abutment. This is achieved by means of two 394 ton hydraulic buffers.

The bridge was designed for the Scottish Development Department by Dr Helmut Homberg in association with Cleveland Bridge & Engineering who were also the steel contractors. The consulting engineers were Crouch & Hogg and Ove Arup.

Since 2007, the 25th anniversary of its opening, the Kessock Bridge has featured on the obverse of the [£100 note](#) issued by the [Bank of Scotland](#).

Sometimes we all need that protection from the storms and shakings in our lives. Thank you Jesus that you alone give us that peace and protection