

TINTAGEL CASTLE: BRIDGE DESIGN COMPETITION ATTRACTS ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SEVEN SUBMISSIONS



TOP UK AND INTERNATIONAL TALENT DRAWN TO ENGLISH HERITAGE'S SPECTACULAR PROJECT IN CORNWALL

The international architectural and engineering community has responded with great enthusiasm to the Tintagel Castle: Bridge Design Competition's call for Expressions of Interest.

One hundred and thirty-seven submissions were received by the competition organisers, Malcolm Reading Consultants. While UK practices predominated, almost forty per cent of submissions were international. Design teams from 26 other countries, including the United States, Russia, India, Japan, South Africa and Chile, applied. Competitors include top-tier engineering and architectural bridge specialists.

The response exceeds that for other recent high-profile UK bridge projects with significantly larger budgets.

Kate Mavor, chief executive of English Heritage, said:

“

We're delighted that the design community has responded so enthusiastically to this project. Tintagel Castle is undeniably one of the most spectacular sites in our care, a thrilling combination of the man-made and natural world. We're really looking forward to seeing the shortlist.

”

Malcolm Reading, architect and competition organiser, said:

“

Bridge design is a kinship of specialised engineers and highly creative architects, typically working in collaboration, and the Tintagel competition has intrigued designers worldwide. The evocative setting and compelling brief give this project an exceptional profile, and while it has attracted some brilliant specialists, we're also pleased that newer studios are in the mix too.

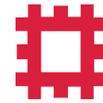
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According to English Heritage's brief, the winning design must be “elegant, structurally daring and beautiful in its own right, while being sensitively balanced with the landscape and exceptional surroundings.

The competition jury, chaired by Graham Morrison, founding partner of Allies and Morrison, will meet in August to draw up a shortlist of six teams.

One of the most spectacular historic sites within English Heritage's care and inextricably linked to the legend of King Arthur, Tintagel Castle in north Cornwall has been prized throughout history for its elemental beauty and spirit of place. Today the remains of the 13th century settlement can be seen on both the mainland and jagged headland projecting into the sea, but Tintagel's divided landscapes were once united by a narrow strip of land.





The new bridge aims to follow the path of this original crossing, transforming the visitor experience and improving visitors' understanding of the site. Twenty-eight metres higher than the current crossing and 72 metres in span, the new £4m project will open up exhilarating views of Tintagel, the surrounding coastline and the Atlantic seascape.

The shortlist will be announced in late August, an exhibition of shortlisted concepts will be held later in the process, and the winner announced in early 2016.

Notes to Editors

- **Tintagel Castle: Bridge Design Competition**

The competition has been advertised in the Official Journal of the European Union. For full details of the process and biographies of the jury please visit the microsite: <https://competitions.malcolmreading.co.uk/tintagel>

- **Tintagel Castle**

Dramatically situated on a windswept Cornish headland, Tintagel Castle is one of the most spectacular historic sites in Britain. It is also one of the most legendary, linked with the tales of King Arthur since the Middle Ages. The remains of the 13th-century castle, built in the 1230s and 1240s by Richard, earl of Cornwall, brother of Henry III, stand among the remains of a much earlier and more extensive settlement dating from the fifth to seventh centuries.

<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/tintagel-castle/>

- **English Heritage**

English Heritage cares for over 400 historic monuments, buildings and sites – from world famous prehistoric sites to grand medieval castles, from Roman forts on the edges of empire to Cold War bunkers. Through these, it brings the story of England to life for over 10 million visitors each year.

With English Heritage's new freedom as a charity, its ability to engage with millions of people is now greatly strengthened. A major programme of investment in its properties is under way and a priority is to deliver inspirational projects of the highest quality that capture the public's imagination.

English Heritage is a charity (no. 1140351) and a company (no. 07447221), registered in England.

<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk>

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- **Malcolm Reading Consultants**

Malcolm Reading Consultants (MRC) is a strategic architectural consultancy which specialises in the selection of contemporary designers. MRC believes in the power of design to create new perceptions and act as an inspiration – either at the local level, or internationally.

The consultancy offers a service to find the very best designers for clients with new building projects, whether through open-international, or private-invited competitions. Recent work in this area includes competitions for the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park's Culture & Education Quarter, the Mumbai City Museum, the Natural History Museum, the UK Pavilion at Milan Expo 2015, New College, Oxford, the Cadogan Estate, Marlborough College, Aberdeen City Garden project, the Victoria & Albert Museum's Exhibition Road project, the UK Pavilion for the Shanghai Expo and the Glasgow School of Art.

<https://malcolmreading.co.uk>