



Quick Survey of Liberty Bridge Wreckage

November, 2018
Budapest

Data collection

Liberty Bridge: Quick Facts

Built for the Millennium World Exhibition, Liberty Bridge is the third and shortest bridge of Budapest.

Location: Budapest, Hungary

Name in Hungarian: Szabadság híd

Original name: Franz Joseph Bridge (Ferenc József híd).

Crosses: River Danube

Architect: János Feketeházy

Style: Art Nouveau

Opening date: 4 October 1896

Total length: 333.6 m (1,094 ft)

Width: 20.1 m (66 ft)



Image credit: Budapest Business Journal, May 23, 2018.

On January 16th, 1945 together with all other Budapest bridges, Francis Joseph Bridge was blown up by retreating German troops. The center section was completely destroyed.

After the WWII ended, it was reconstructed and reopened for traffic on August 20th, 1946. The Bridge also got a new name – Liberty Bridge.



Liberty Bridge after destruction in 1945, showing the center section destroyed. Image credit: Wikimedia Commons.

(Left) Liberty Bridge before the WWII (1928). Image credit: Fortepan — ID 32578, <https://www.fortepan.hu/>

In November 2018, NORBIT team did a bathymetric survey of the wreckage, left after Liberty Bridge's destruction in 1946.

- System used: NORBIT iWBMSH STX.
- Platform: flex-hull boat (belonging to customer).
- Mounting: quick holding bracket made of Bosch profiles.
- Immersion depth 40cm due to very low level of Danube. Sonar did not clear the hull completely on port side.
- Sonar powered from DC inverter from car batteries.
- RTK used during the survey via cell phone.













