Sundial Bridge
Turtle Bay Exploration Park, Redding, California, USA

Introduction
Where is a bridge that is also a work of art even built?

Sundial Bridge in Turtle Bay Exploration Park is a 910 foot long pedestrian bridge that offers fantastic views of the Sacramento River.

The Sundial Bridge is a beautiful steel suspension bridge with a central sundial structure. It was designed by Santiago Calatrava and built by Kiewit. The bridge opened in 2002 and has become a popular tourist attraction.

The beginning

The story behind the Sundial Bridge starts further back with a land swap between the City of Redding and the Turtle Bay Exploration Park.

In 1989, Turtle Bay Exploration Park was founded with the intent of creating a new educational center and natural history museum. The park was looking for a location and found an ideal spot on the north side of the Sacramento River.

The city of Redding, on the other hand, was looking to build a new cultural center to replace the old City Hall. The city and Turtle Bay Exploration Park came to an agreement to swap land.

The city traded 12 acres of land to Turtle Bay Exploration Park and the park traded the property to the city for the land behind the old City Hall. This land was ideal for the new cultural center.

The Sundial Bridge project

In 1999, Turtle Bay Exploration Park began searching for an architect to design a bridge over the Sacramento River. Santiago Calatrava was chosen to design the bridge.

The bridge was designed to be a pedestrian bridge with a central sundial structure. The bridge was to be built on the property that the city had traded to Turtle Bay Exploration Park.

The construction

Construction began in 2000 and the bridge was completed in 2002. The bridge was built using steel and concrete and it was painted white.

The bridge is 910 feet long and 214 feet wide. The bridge has a central sundial structure that is 91 feet tall.

The sundial is made of glass and granite and it has a 36 inch tall clock face.

The bridge has a number of unique features including a water feature that is used for the sundial.

The bridge was built for $5.5 million and it was opened to the public on August 5, 2002.

Today

The Sundial Bridge is a popular tourist attraction and it is often used as a venue for events.

The bridge has also become a symbol of Redding and it is often featured in advertising for the city.

The Facts

- Length: 910 feet
- Width: 214 feet
- Materials: Steel and concrete
- Sundial: Glass and granite
- Height of sundial: 91 feet

Here, at a glance, are the details, engineering facts and a little trivia about the Sundial Bridge.