

READING The Bridge Climb

If you like to combine sightseeing and sports on your travels, the Sydney Bridge Climb might be the right challenge.

5 Sydney Harbour Bridge is probably one of the best-known Australian landmarks. It was opened in 1932.

Until 1998 only workers maintaining Sydney Harbour Bridge were allowed to climb the steel arch of the bridge, but in October 1998 it was opened to the public. The "Bridge Climb" is now one of the most popular Sydney attractions. Over two million people have climbed the bridge since it was opened, although it is quite an expensive adventure.



You can only climb it in a group. Guided tours are offered every day except 30 and 31 December. They are run in almost all weather conditions. Only thunderstorms and very strong winds make climbs impossible.

The climb takes tourists along the upper part of the arch all the way to the top, 134 metres above Sydney Harbour and offers fantastic views of the harbour and the city. On a bright day you can see the Pacific Ocean in the east and the Blue Mountains in the west.

20 Climbers can choose from four different climbing times: "Dawn" (offered on the first Saturday of the month), "Day", "Twilight" and "Night" – all these are offered every day except 30 and 31 December. "Bridge Climb" tickets are for a specific date and time and must be booked in advance. Bookings can be made online or on the telephone.

The climb takes three and a half hours from checking-in to returning to the starting point.

Climbers must arrive 15 minutes before their climb time to check in.

25 Climbers must be over 10 years of age, and children up to the age of 15 must be accompanied by an adult at all times. Anybody taking part in the climb must be taller than 1.20 m.

30 Climbers have to wear a special "Bridge Suit" over their own clothing. Lockers are provided, as small, loose objects such as cameras or video recorders cannot be taken onto the bridge.

Climbers must wear rubber-soled shoes such as running, sports or hiking shoes.

All climbers receive a group photograph.



Read the text and complete the table.

The Bridge Climb	
1 First public bridge climb	
2 Reasons for stopping the climbs. (Name two.)	1 _____ 2 _____
3 Reasons for doing the climb (Name two.)	1 _____ 2 _____
4 Offered dates	
5 Ways of booking (Name two.)	1 _____ 2 _____
6 Duration of the climb	
7 Climbers must be ...	1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____
8 Rules for clothes (Name two.)	1 _____ 2 _____