

WORLDS LONGEST COVERED BRIDGE

During our travels in the US in the past years, we had seen the longest covered bridge in the States. After leaving Prince Edward Island, Canada, we saw a sign stating that the longest covered bridge in the world was indeed in the town of Hartland, New Brunswick, Canada.

Taking the side trip to the town, we saw this bridge and it is 1282 ft long. We have to believe that they are right and truthful. The bridge was built in the year 1901 and it was a toll bridge at first, charging 3 cents a person to cross it! The covered pedestrian walkway on the side was added at a later date. For the modern day traffic that still uses it, the bridge is a one way crossing. The oncoming cars must wait until it is clear.

There are many styles of structure used to build and support bridges, but the covering is simply used to protect and extend the life of the wooden timbers by shielding them from the elements.



We crossed into Quebec Province and noticed a few differences. All signs and directions were strictly in French. If you do not speak or understand French, tough! In the other close Provinces, the signs had English and French on them. Of course we can't complain as our signs are only in English at home.

The roads are some of the worst we have encountered so far. After several years of the French Canadians trying to secede from Canada, the money from the government has almost been cut off. They don't have enough Provincial dollars to spend on their roads, so they deteriorate. They still want to separate even though it will split Canada into two isolated sections.

We followed the St. Lawrence River all the way to Quebec, and then we were following along the shores of Lake Ontario. We are a few weeks early for the fall colors. A few of the trees are just showing a tinge of yellow, but no reds are evident yet.

The traffic in Montreal and Toronto is terrible. We think it is bad in LA and the locals here who have been there, say it's not bad at all.

We reached Hamilton, Ontario on Saturday of Labor Day weekend and the RV section of Confederation Park has plenty of space. We are right on the shore of Lake Ontario. We are going to visit our cousins for a day or two.

Dave & Bonnie
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