

IRONBRIDGE GORGE – BIRTHPLACE OF THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

The Ironbridge Gorge is a deep gorge formed by the river Severn in Shropshire, England. Originally called the Severn Gorge, the gorge now takes its name from its famous Ironbridge, the first iron bridge of its kind in the world, and a monument to the industry that began there. Ironbridge is known throughout the world as the symbol of the Industrial Revolution. It contains all the elements of progress that contributed to the rapid development of this industrial region in the 18th century, from the mines themselves to the railway lines. Nearby, the blast furnace of Coalbrookdale, built in 1708, is a reminder of the discovery of coke. Ironbridge, the world's first iron bridge was constructed here between 1777 and 1781 and spans the river Severn – testament to his industry.

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