

Rialto Bridge

The Rialto Bridge was the first permanent bridge constructed to pass over the Grand Canal in Venice, Italy. The name comes from "Rivo Alto", meaning the "high channel" but has gradually become condensed to Rialto (Freeman). The bridge connects San Marco to San Polo. When migrants first reached this area, they saw it as an ideal area to cross the water, that became the Grand Canal, because the gap to the other side was narrower and there was firm enough ground to hold a structure (Freeman). But before the bridge was professionally constructed of wood in 1275, a line of boats stayed in the area to allow people and goods to cross the water to the food market. Next, a wooden bridge rose above the canal, but it collapsed a total of three times before the city decided to design the bridge in an alternative way in 1524 (2014). Antonio da Ponte was the architect of the marble bridge that stands today.

