

# Improvement of accessibility to St. Bernadette's bridge

#### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

In 1981 the original bridge between the Arcades and Saint Bernadette's Church was doubled in width with the addition of a similar structure, giving a 12-meter-wide crossing of the Gave de Pau river, to ease the flow of pilgrims around the Sanctuary.

The bridge was partially destroyed in the floods of 2013, however the steel and wood super structure of the original part of the construction survived.

In spite of the fact that the bridge was widened to facilitate the access of flow of pilgrims in general and particularly those in wheelchairs and the Sanctuary's blue carriages for the sick, in fact the slope was too steep.

The objective of this project is to remove the existing super structure and replace it with a wide bridge with a lower gradient, creating easier accessibility for all.

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Improved accessibility for wheelchairs users

Improved flow of wheelchairs users and sick pilgrims in blue carriages

Reduced difficulties for hospitallers and others providing assistance



### > BUDGET

Feasibility study by structural engineer consultants	€ 3 300
Project study by structural engineer consultants (including calls for tender)	€ 17 000
Demolition	€ 100 000
Connection of access routes	€ 60 000
Asphalt deck covering	€ 84 000
Creation of new folding railings (necessary for flood prevention)	€ 95 000
Lighting	€ 50 000
TOTAL	€ 409 300

## > SCHEDULE

- Study phase and calls for tender: 5 months
- Works phase: 5 months imperatively outside the pilgrimage season

## > CONTACT

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For all studies and work to be carried out, the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes

commits to seeking a minimum of 3 competitive quotes where possible (and at least 2)

and to rigorously monitor the budgets. Proof of all expenses will be provided to donors.