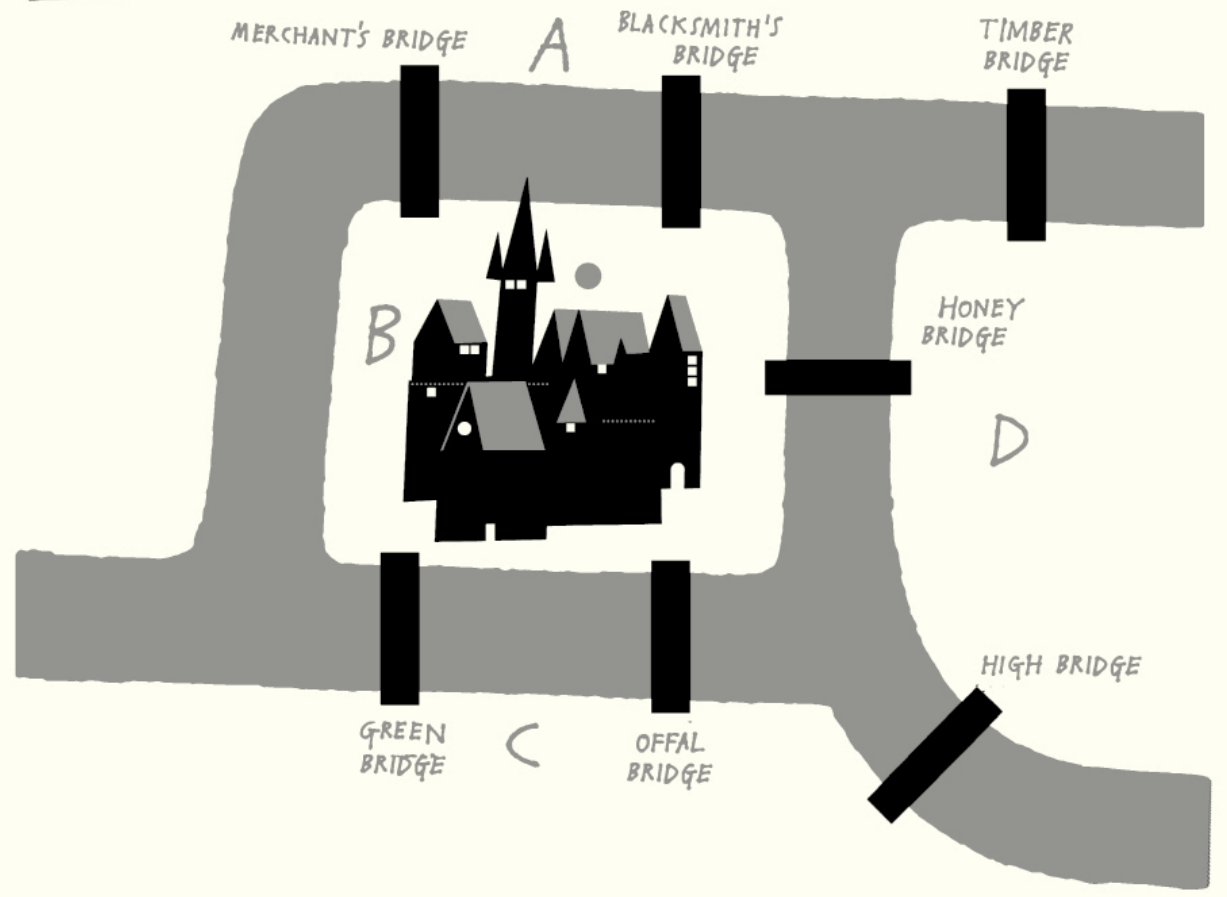


18th CENTURY KÖNIGSBERG



MARCUS DU SAUTOY



Can you cross all seven bridges once and once only? The eighteenth-century puzzle 'The Seven Bridges of Königsberg' introduced a new sort of map in mathematics. Rather than the physical geometry of the city, it was the way the city was connected together that was important. Topology was born. Topological maps are essential in navigating the plethora of networks that map the modern world: from the London Underground to the Internet, from neural networks to social networks. Although the eighteenth-century version proved an impossible puzzle to solve, it turns out that in modern-day Königsberg, or Kaliningrad as it is called today, you can cross the seven bridges that currently span the Pregel River once and once only.

21st CENTURY KALININGRAD

