

Alain Robert

Free-climber, AKA Spiderman

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About

Alain Robert is famous in more than 100 countries for climbing 143 of the world's tallest buildings with his bare hands, and without ropes, safety gear or specialist equipment, except for a small bag of chalk and a pair of climbing shoes.

Known as "the French Spider-Man", the experienced rock climber and urban climber, from Digoin, Bourgogne, has climbed landmarks including the Eiffel Tower, the Sydney Opera House and the Montparnasse Tower as well as the world's tallest skyscrapers. In 1997 he climbed the Petronas Twin Towers in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia but was arrested at the 60th floor, 28 floors below the top. In 1999 he climbed the Sears Tower, the second man to do so after Dan Goodwin. In June 1999 Alain climbed the 170-metre (558 ft) Marriott Hotel in Warsaw, and in 2000 climbed the 23-metre (75 ft) high Luxor Obelisk in Paris.

As authorities rarely give permission for such dangerous exploits, Alain Robert usually appears at dawn on the site of whichever giant skyscraper he has chosen to climb. His exploits attract crowds of many hundred onlookers who stop to watch him climb. As a consequence, he has been arrested many times, in various countries, by law enforcement officials waiting for him at the end of his climb.

Alain Robert's rock-climbing physical training and technique allow him to climb using the small protrusions of building walls and windows (such as window ledges and frames). Over the course of his climbing career, he has become so used to cramming his fingers into the cracks of ledges and hanging from balconies that he is actually unable to completely straighten his fingers. Many of his climbs provide him no opportunity to rest and can last several hours.

In March 2011 Alain Robert climbed the tallest building in the world, the 828-meter Burj Khalifa tower in Dubai, taking just over six hours to complete the climb. And on April 12th 2012, he set a Guinness World Record for climbing the 300m Aspire Tower in Doha, Qatar in the fastest time (1 hour, 33 minutes and 47 seconds).

Alain has given motivational talks and keynote speeches worldwide and has delivered these for some of the world's biggest corporations – including Bristol, Myers, Squibb, Citywire, National Bank of Abu Dhabi, HSBC, Russell Investments and to individuals including Sheikh Nayan, Tony Blair, Anthony Robins, Donald Trump and Bill Gates.

Video



Books and DVD's



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