

Adam Long

Rock Climber – Photographer – Rope Access Trainer

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Age: 33

Personal Attributes

- Fast learner, original thinker, problem solver
- Clear communicator and experienced teacher
- Expertise in both theory and practice - and the disparities between them
- Relaxed, confidence-building manner

Current Roles

Rope Access - Director at Access Techniques Ltd (ongoing since April 2010)

Website: www.access-techniques.com

We provide Rope Access training accredited by IRATA, the world's leading rope access trade organisation. As co-owner I lead the training and am responsible for writing manuals and quality management.

I'm also currently working on a freelance basis for IRATA themselves, leading a worldwide review and update of their training scheme syllabus, due to be completed in 2011.

I have been qualified as an IRATA Level 3 (supervisor) since 2005, and a Level 3T (trainer) since 2006. Previous to starting Access Techniques Ltd, I worked on a freelance basis as both a site supervisor and trainer. Site roles included NDT, installing fall arrest systems and netting, curtain walling and geotechnical stabilisation. Teaching roles included both standard rope access and work at height training as well as specialised bespoke courses such as cable car rescue and military container ship searches.

Photography and Writing - Freelance (ongoing since 2000)

Portfolio Website and Image library: www.adamlong.co.uk

I provide high quality digital images to a range of clients, either undertaking commissioned shoots, or by selection from my extensive image library. Drawing on my varied climbing experiences, I also regularly write and illustrate articles for the UK climbing magazines, and my images illustrate many UK climbing guidebooks. My client base is currently split between conservation organisations and climbing equipment firms.

Recent clients include: The National Trust, The Eastern Moors Partnership, The BMC, The Peak District National Park Authority, John Muir Trust, Evolv (rockshoes), DMM (climbing hardware), Beyond Hope (clothing distributors), Climb Magazine, Vertebrate Publishing

Conservation – BMC Peak Area Access Officer (voluntary since 2008)

I work closely with the BMC, local landowners and NGOs to resolve conflicts between climbers and other parties. Throughout the year I sit on various stakeholder forums to represent the climbing community.

During the spring my role involves much time in the field, identifying Ring Ouzel *Turdus torquatus* nest-sites, and assessing them for disturbance issues. Other field roles include tree clearance assisting local raptor groups with ringing, usually Peregrine *Falco peregrinus*.

Outside my BMC role I have also been involved with surveying Adder *Viper berus* populations, and have decent working ID skills for most British Birds, Butterflies, Dragonflies, and Herptiles. Flora are a bigger challenge, but I'm at least up to speed on Orchids.

Climbing

My parents took me hillwalking from a young age, and I was climbing multi-pitch routes by the age of nine. Since then climbing has been the major focus of my life, and has taken me all over the world. My hardest climbs have been at home on the Pennine Gritstone, but some of the most memorable have been on the winter mountains of Scotland, and exploring the sea-cliffs of the wilder parts of the British Isles.

Expeditions as Climber:

Aguja Poincenot, Patagonia – alpine climbing in a wild region of fickle and often violent weather.

Lotus Flower Tower, Canada – alpine rock climbing in a remote cirque accessed by floatplane and helicopter.

Expeditions as Climbing Photographer:

Monte Brento, Italy, with Leo Houlding and Tim Emmett. Multi-day big-wall and BASE jumping trip, including two nights in portaledges.

Grand Capucin, Mont Blanc, with Ben Bransby and James MacHaffie, climbing perhaps Europe's hardest alpine rock route. Both trips resulted in magazine cover features.

TV/ Film

I have appeared in several climbing films (Committed, Onsight, Winter Sessions, Stick It) and featured on the BBC's Countryfile in March 2010, taking presenter Matt Baker climbing on Stanage and discussing the successful compromise reached between climbing and conservation.

Research

At the start of my rope access career in I was employed researching and writing a 30,000 word report for the Health and Safety Executive into personal protective equipment (PPE). This report remains the most comprehensive investigation into rope access equipment to date and continues to influence development of the industry. It can be downloaded at: www.hse.gov.uk ref: HSE CRR 364/ 2001 / ISBN 0-7176-2091-3

Other Qualifications/ skills

- Full clean driving licence
- First Aider - First Aid at Work (1 day, 2010), First Aid at Height (5 day, 2006)
- BWEA Wind Turbine Work at Height (2009)
- Use of Vacuum Lifting Devices (2005)
- Competent IT user on both PC and Mac, expert in Adobe Lightroom and Photoshop CS4. Advanced knowledge of photographic file handling and colour management. Basic skills in HTML and CSS coding for web, file transfer via FTP.

Education:

- BSc - Environmental Geosciences, 2:1 honours (University of Sheffield, 1996-9)
- A-levels – Biology, Geography, General Studies (all grade A), Chemistry (grade C)
- GCSEs – 11 total, 5 at grade A, 6 at grade B