

ABSEIL INFORMATION PACK



Abseil Events

Our abseil events continue to provide exhilaration and excitement to thousands of supporters year on year and have the potential to raise huge amounts of money for charities and raise awareness. We pride ourselves on delivering an exceptional level of service on our abseil events and are second to none. Our absolute attention to detail and approachable, experienced instructors ensure that your participants need only worry about enjoying their challenge. We offer an excellent package to charities across the UK at competitive rates, with the very highest standards of safety and we always use top quality specialist equipment. We will make your event run smoother than ever before and give you absolute confidence in its success.

The Company

Dave Talbot – Adventure Events (a trading name of Dave Talbot Ltd) was set-up by Dave Talbot 16 years ago. Dave has been working in the outdoor industry for 22 years and holds the highest level of qualification in the UK for working with people when rock climbing and abseiling through the [AMI Association of Mountaineering Instructors](#). He also holds industrial rope access qualifications to go along side of this. Dave works as a technical adviser to large organisations and for example has been featured on programs such as 'Coast' (BBC 2), Channel 4, TV and Film adverts, 'The One Show' (BBC 1) demonstrating safe climbing and abseiling skills and looking after large teams and their safety.

All of the instructors that work for Dave Talbot on the abseil events are qualified under the Mountain Training standards and hold First Aid Certificates ensuring the highest level of service is provided. All of our instructors are passionate about what they do and are people focused on helping participants to enjoy themselves with friendly coaching and smiles, all helping to create an unforgettable experience and perhaps getting over a lifetime fear.



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Dave Talbot Ltd - <https://davetalbot.net/> - does more than just provide abseil events. We provide adventure events and courses for businesses, charities and individuals that can be used for fund raising or as stand alone challenges and events. Our events have helped raise over £6 million pounds for charity so far.

Brief Overview

Generally the way the abseil works is you have around 45 - 60 participants (or as many as you can get) per day, per rope. You charge them a registration fee of around £40 to £50 per person which covers the event costs. You then set a minimum amount per person to raise for the charity and that all goes to you.

An article I wrote on how to fund a charity event here – [Article Link Here](#)

Most people don't mind paying a little bit of money themselves to have a go at something, especially when it's for a good cause and an abseil works well. As a charity this means you don't have to pay anything for the event. The event cost is covered by the registration fee paid by the participant.

I wrote an article about different charity / fundraising event options here - [Article Link Here](#)

Step by Step Guide

Watch a video guide on how to set-up a charity abseil here - [Video Link Here](#)

What follows is a step-by-step guide to the process that we go through for running an abseil event. Each event that we run is tailored to your needs and we are happy to discuss your ideas:



- Initial enquiry received from you
- We send out our Abseil Information Pack and discuss your ideas and needs
- The venue for the event is selected
- Depending on the venue chosen, a site visit is conducted by us in order to prepare risk assessments and to work out logistics for the abseil event. This can be in the form of photos / videos or an in-person visit. If an in-person visit is needed, this is usually charged at between £200 to £400 and is agreed prior to the site visit.
- A comprehensive quote is prepared and submitted to you for acceptance
- Medical and Risk Declaration Forms, Risk Assessments, Participant Information Forms, Insurance Certificates, Qualification Certificates and First Aid Certificates are forwarded to yourselves
- A 30% deposit is required to secure the date

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- Promotion of the event to recruit participants (we can assist with this)
- Two weeks prior to the event date the remaining balance must be paid in full.
- It is important at this stage that you have sent all participants the 'Participant Information Pack' that we give to you, that gives participants more details for their day.
- Dave Talbot Ltd will be in contact during the week leading up to the event to finalise any last minute plans
- The event happens!!
- Dave Talbot Ltd will be in touch for your feedback, will provide event photos and social media support.

Pricing

Prices are tailored to each specific event and we will provide you with a bespoke quote to ensure that you get a competitive price which gives you exactly what you want. On some occasions we can provide an immediate quote. However normally we will need to conduct the site visit and Risk Assessment to gain a clear idea of how much your event will cost.

Overleaf is a guide to our prices. Should your event be more complex/unique (and therefore require more pre-event planning/complex setup requirements) or require additional staff (due to extreme height for example) the price may be slightly higher. With many other providers costing up to £80 to £150 per participant we are proud to keep our costs as low as £25 per person for some abseil events. This cost can be recovered by charging your participants a registration fee.

Site visit & Risk Assessment / Method Statement: £200 to £400 - plus expenses.

Photos and videos of the venue are a much more efficient way of conducting a site visit with no cost incurred. If a site visit is needed, the cost will be agreed with you prior to the visit. If we have recently used the venue and no further site visit is required then this report may be provided free of charge.

Breakdown of costs:

- Event costs - £500 - £800 per day, depending on abseil height and complexity. To include all equipment, photos, social media, insurance, event equipment and paperwork. This cost is only for abseil event days only.
- Instructor cost - £250 per day, per instructor.
- Fuel 0.50 pence per mile.
- Accommodation costs (if applicable) – varies but usually £200 per night
- Congestion charge (if applicable)

Generally, if your event has 20 or less participants than the event can be run with one staff member. 21 – 40 participants, you will need two staff members. Above 41 participants and we usually need three staff members to cover the event.

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We also offer a price plan that is a per person cost. This will work better if you don't know how many people might participate in your event. Depending on location - this price is usually around £50 pp.

Example:

A London abseil, with event set-up and rigging day, overnight accommodation with 60 places to abseil and three instructors working – works out as follows:

- Three instructors for two days = £1500
- Event cost = £800
- Fuel = £100
- Accommodation = £200
- Congestion charge = £28
- Total cost = £2628



A smaller / local event with 30 people abseiling would work out as follows:

- Two instructors for one day = £500
- Event cost = £500
- Fuel = £50
- Total cost = £1050

Dave Talbot provides an excellent service across the UK at competitive rates. Our price includes qualified and experienced staff, specialist equipment, our administration and planning, risk assessments, method statements and reports, safety measures, expensive insurance and event photos free of charge. We aim to keep our prices as low as we can to allow you to benefit as much as possible. We are able to do this by utilising any staff/volunteers that you are able to offer on the day to escort your participants around.

We do not aim to be the cheapest, however we do offer a specialist and high quality approach that supports your aims. Our equipment, staff, professionalism, media package, safety and comfort standards are second to none.



Event Schedule and Participant Numbers

You will be given a maximum number of participants for your venue/event and we will suggest how many participants to group within each time slot and provide an easy form to help your scheduling for the day. It will also recommend the time that your participants should arrive – generally one hour before their time slot. Although we do our best to ensure that everything runs on time, we would recommend that you advise your participants that their time slot is given as a guide rather than a guarantee.

Dave Talbot can accommodate hundreds of people. However, the number of abseilers that can descend per hour will depend on the height of the descent and the venue itself. It may take longer for individuals with disabilities and incredibly nervous participants can take some time to make their descent - it is not uncommon for some people to take half an hour.

As a rough guide for one rope (for a full day) we can usually accommodate 55 people on a 100ft abseil, 50 people on a 150ft and 45 people on a 200ft. It is advisable not to cram in as many people as possible into one day so as to allow for people who may take longer.

We would recommend that a short lunch break is built into the day to allow time to catch up if needed and allow our instructors to rest briefly before the afternoon session. The session can usually run over at the end of the day if needed. Normally we have six, one hour time slots throughout the day, starting



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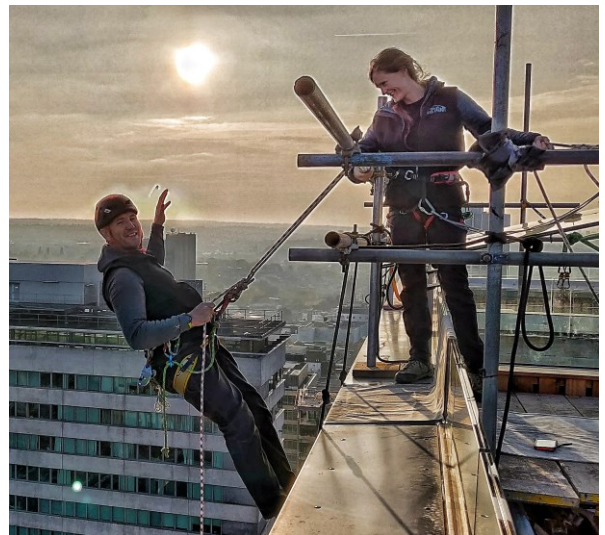
at 10am and the last one starting at 4pm. A lunch break is built in at 1pm so therefore having three slots in the morning and three in the afternoon.

If you find that you are able to recruit enough people for one rope quite easily we can usually add more ropes if the venue is appropriate and if you're inundated with recruits we can always provide an additional day!!

Photos / Media Package

All of our events come with photos free of charge, we will send you a link to the photos after the event. We can not guarantee a photo of everybody due to the safety roles of the instructors but we will try our best. You also have the option to add an instructor whose sole job it is to take photos – they will always be able to get great photos due to being able to go over the edge with the participants.

Here is a link to an example of some of the photos that we can get - [Photo Link Here](#)



Safety

Dave Talbot insists upon the very highest standards in safety for all of our clients and staff taking part in our outdoor activities. Our abseil events involve an element of risk which makes them challenging, exciting and facilitates personal development. However, the safety of everyone involved is an absolute priority and Dave Talbot ensures the level of risk is acceptable and appropriate safety standards are maintained at all times.

We produce rigorous risk assessments for all our activities and ensure that these are monitored and updated regularly. We dynamically risk assess venues and activities whilst we are setting up, running and taking down to ensure that measures in place are as effective and relevant as they can be.



Dave Talbot reserves the right to prevent any person(s) from participating in the event if they are found to be behaving inappropriately or in a manner that is detrimental to the safe provision of the event. This includes those individuals that are suspected of being under the influence of drink or drugs. Staff are in continuous communication via two-way radios to ensure the safety and control of all participants.

As recommended by the British Mountaineering Council, we always consider possible safety issues that may arise for members of the public/onlookers not involved in the event as well as participants who are waiting. We ensure that the landing area is cordoned off/controlled and all staff within the area wear helmets to protect against injury from any falling debris. All participants and instructors will be secured before any approach to a drop/edge.

Lastly with all of our abseil events you will get a chance to practise abseiling under the guidance and coaching of our instructors to ensure you have abseiled a few times to get the technique and feel confident before your time slot.

Age and Weight Restrictions

All participants under the age of 18 need a parent or legal guardian to sign the consent forms – a teacher or youth leader acting in loco parentis is not adequate. Generally 14 years old and above seems to be a good age to abseil but exceptions can be made.

We do not recommend an upper age limit for participation although we would recommend that older individuals consult their doctor if they have any concerns about their health or ability.

We can accommodate people up to 18 stone in weight, but no more due to the restrictions on equipment and loads exerted, although they may need to be fitted with extra equipment for their comfort. If you have anyone wishing to take part who is heavier than 18 stone you can contact us as soon as possible to discuss the possibility of their participation.

Dave Talbot reserves the right to decline an individual's participation should their build be deemed unsuitable for the activity.

Weather

Dave Talbot will endeavour to go ahead with your event in poor conditions but the event will not be able to run in extreme conditions such as snow, lightning or gales as this may compromise safety.

See our terms and conditions - <https://daveitalbot.net/terms-and-conditions/>

Venue

If you have identified a potential venue yourself then you should send us photos first to save yourself the cost of a site visit which may result in a decision that the site is not suitable for your event.

Photos should include:

- The waiting area at the top of the abseil
- Possible attachments on the roof - a few shots looking from the line of the abseil back across the building would be fine.
- The abseil take off point
- The access to the top of the abseil
- The line of the abseil
- The area at the bottom of the abseil

Please ensure you stay safe and you should always be accompanied (preferably by a representative of the venue).

A video of the roof area is also very useful. This is a good example of a site visit video - [click here](#)



Damage to a building can be a major worry to owners, although this is highly unlikely with the precautions that are taken. Our extremely thorough Risk Assessment usually irons out any worries they may have! Our insurance also stands at £10 Million and that covers the building as well. Dave Talbot Ltd may consult with structural engineers to examine the suitability of a building for an abseil event.

If we decide that a site visit is needed, we will come to the site, investigate the site accordingly and write up a report, including a risk assessment. This will be charged between £200 to £400 plus expenses.

I wrote an article about finding a venue and useful tips here – [Venue Hints and Tips](#)

Tips if you're looking for a venue...

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More and more abseil events are unusual or extremely high to set their event apart from others. Don't be afraid to think about different ideas other than a building or cliff face – consider a dam, viaduct or bridge into free space, indoor abseils inside tall buildings, disused lift shafts or even down waterfalls!



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Initial indicators of a good abseil venue:

- Be appropriately high for your target audience – around 100ft (30 metres) is usual, 200ft or over is a bigger challenge. As a guide, one storey of a building is usually 15ft.
- If it is a building it needs a flat roof space. The line of the abseil should ideally be free of obstructions such as windows, balconies and lights. Newer buildings may be more appropriate to reduce the risk of older, deteriorating brickwork being further damaged.
- The edge of the roof/cliff etc needs to be fairly solid (we always protect these edges and may use scaffolding to make it easier to get over the edge/parapets of buildings).

- Easy access to the top of the abseil and a safe waiting area near the top. If possible it should be accessible for disabled abseilers. There should be a landing area that can be controlled/ cordoned off.
- A higher abseil may attract fewer participants as it might be more daunting, but it may set your event apart from others.
- A venue in a public place will encourage onlookers on the day.
- It should ideally have good access to public transport and/or parking.
- An unusual venue or well-known landmark would attract media coverage.
- It may help if you can find a company building where you can promote your event to employees – these are very popular if run during the working week and open only to their staff.

Insurance

All of our events are insured with Public Liability Insurance, Products Liability, Building Insurance and Employers Liability of ten million pounds. This is double the industry standard.

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Testimonials

If you would like to read some of our client reviews then please see our Google review page by clicking the following link:

[CLICK HERE FOR OUR GOOGLE REVIEWS](#)

Finally

Dave Talbot – Adventure Events, does more than simply provide you with the technical expertise to run an event – we go beyond your expectations. Often the extra and unique lengths we go to may not be readily noticeable but add up to an excellent level of service that, we believe, you simply won't find anywhere else. If you're looking for other events that can be used for fundraising then we also run:

- London to Paris Bike Rides
- 3 Peaks Challenge events
- Welsh 3000's
- High Mountain Expeditions such as Kilimanjaro, Toubkal and Mont Blanc
- Adventure Races
- Walking Challenges

And more to suit your needs. Please get in touch if you require any further information.

