



Simone Moro

Born on 27 October 1967 in Bergamo, Italy. He undertook his first climbing tours at the age of 13. From 1985–1992 he was an athlete in the Italian sports climbing team, and thereafter became their trainer. In 2003 he completed his studies in Sport at the University of Bergamo with a dissertation on the topic of “Mountaineering at extreme altitudes” with top marks. He is married to Barbara Zwerger, herself a very successful climber and athlete, and has a daughter. Presently training to become a helicopter pilot.

Mountaineering highlights

- **1992** First Himalayan Expedition (7740 m reached on Everest).
- **1993** Cerro Mirador (6089 m, Südamerika), winter ascent over a new route through the North Wall. Winter ascent of the Acocagua in only 13 hours. In October climbed the Makalu alone as far as 8300 m via the Kukuczka-Route.
- **1994** Shisha Pangma as far as 7400 m, Lhotse to within a few metres of the summit, climbs of up to 8b. In **1995**: Kangchendzönga to 7600 m. **1996**: Fitz Roy in Alpine style and over the Super-Canaleta in only 25 hrs, Shisha-Pangma-South summit (8008 m) in 27 hrs, Ice climbing to M8.
- **1997** Lhotse summit with Anatoli Boukreev. Attempted winter ascent of Annapurna South Wall; both Anatoli Boukreev and Dimitri Sobolev get caught in avalanche and die.
- **1998** Everest to 8200 m (via the North Ridge).
- **1999** Four 7000 metre-high mountains (Pik Lenin, Korschenevskaja, Kommunismus und Khan Tengri) in Pamir in only 33 days; in which Simone meets Denis Urubko and a very successful union is created. Simone supports Denis with material, contacts and knowledge etc during the first few years.
- **2000** Summit of Mount Everest, five days at an altitude of over 8000 m without oxygen in an attempt to combine the ascent with the Lhotse.
- **2001** Marble Wall (6400 m, Tien Shan); Attempt at an Everest-Lhotse-Traverse, in which Simone rescues a British mountaineer on the Lhotse by night at over 8000 m without additional oxygen.
- **2002** Cho Oyu in 10hrs and 30 min, Everest summit for the second time and attempts on Broad Peak und K2, success on Mount Vinson (Antarctic).
- **2003** New route on Nanga Parbat, Simone is forced to give up at 7400 m while his companions Jean-Christophe Lafaille and Ed Viesturs continue to the summit. Broad Peak in 29 hrs.
- **2004** Winter ascent of South Wall with Piotr Morawski. Spectacular first ascent along the „Ciao Patrick“ route with Denis Urubko und Simone’s best friend Bruno Tassi on Baruntse (7129 m, Nepal) via the North Wall, that is dedicated to the deceased Patrick Berhault. Attempt at the Annapurna.
- **2005** Batokshi Peak.
- **2006** First South-North-Traverse of Everest alone, third personal ascent.
- **2006/07 und 2007/2008** Two attempts at a winter ascent of Broad Peak.
- **2008** Beka Brakai Chhok South summit (ca. 6940 m, Karakorum), First ascent in Alpine style with Hervé Barmasse in only 43 hours.
- **2009** 9th February: First winter climbing of the Makalu with Denis Urubko.



Denis Urubko

Born on 29 July 1973 in the north of the Caucasus Mountains in Russia. From 1986–1990 he lives with his family in Sachalin in the north-eastern part of Russia. Then he moves to the Kazakh capital of Alma Ata. Qualified as an actor, today he is a Corporal and professional athlete in the Kazakh Military Sports Unit. Several times he was awarded the title of best mountaineer and climber in Kazakhstan. Married with two children. Denis Urubko is the 15th mountaineer to succeed in climbing all 14 mountains of over 8000 metres; in the meantime (as of the end of May 2009) he has been on the summit of a mountain of 8000 metres seventeen times.

Mountaineering highlights

- **1990–1999** A great number of summits in Tien Shan und in Pamir; In 1999 Denis meets Simone Moro during the „Snow Leopard“ Project and climbs 4 mountains of over 7000 metres with him in Pamir and also the Pik Pobeda within a total of 42 days.
- **2000** Everest, without oxygen. 2001: Lhotse, Gasherbrum I and II. 2002: Kangchendzönga, Shisha Pangma.
- **2003** From this year on Denis climbs mountains of 8000 metres mainly on new, or rarely used routes, for example the Nanga Parbat on an alternative Kinshofer route.
- **2005** Annapurna, Broad Peak (for the second time, this time taking a new route).
- **2006** Manaslu (on 25 April on a normal route, on 8 May on a new route). 2007: Dhaulagiri, K2 (over a rarely used North Ridge). 2008: Makalu.
- **2009** 9 February: First winter ascent of the Makalu with Simone Moro. Cho Oyu via a new route.