

The 10 Most Amazing Photos from Red Bull's Stratos Test

Source: *complex.com*

All images courtesy of Red Bull.



Red Bull may not literally allow you to grow appendages that aid in flight, but the popular beverage company does empower people to do things that shouldn't be humanly possible. Such as jumping out of a capsule near the edge of Earth's atmosphere. But that's exactly what Felix Baumgartner, Red Bull, and a team of experts are doing.

Dubbed Red Bull Stratos, the mission is a simple one: Send a human 120,000 feet into our planet's atmosphere in a stratospheric balloon and have said human freefall back to the earth. Only it's not simple at all. Helping with the mission is a team consisting of some of the world's leading minds in aeronautics, aerospace medicine, engineering, pressure suit development, capsule creation, and balloon fabrication. Oh, and a retired Air Force Colonel named Joseph Kittinger who happens to hold the world record for highest human freefall (a staggering 102,800 feet).

The team has been training and readying the equipment for over a year, and a few days ago on March 15, 2012 the team conducted its first test. Felix Baumgartner ascended in the Stratos capsule up to 71,581 feet and let gravity do its thing. It took him three minutes and 33 seconds meaning he was falling at speed of 364.4 miles per hour. Scary stuff. As you can guess, some incredible photographs were captured during the event. These are the most amazing 10.



Pre-jump testing



Pre-jump testing, Pt. 2



Interior view of the Stratos cockpit



Prepping for lift-off



Felix gets his mind right before boarding



Felix boards the Stratos capsule before take-off



The Stratos capsule begins its ascent



Felix prepares to exit the capsule



Felix stands on the edge before his 71,581-foot jump



Felix lands safely from his 71,581 jump

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