

<https://www.news.com.au/lifestyle/real-life/wtf/you-are-now-at-more-risk-of-dying-while-taking-a-selfie-than-being-killed-by-a-shark/news-story/b1aefd98649cf82c3c962c6ff20913d0>

## You are now at more risk of dying while taking a selfie than being killed by a shark

**THERE have been more selfie-related deaths this year than fatal shark attacks. We've gathered a list of the casualties so you know what to avoid. Hint: trains are bad news.**

Network Writers. September 23, 2015

THINK before you snap. The simple selfie is more dangerous than those pouty duckfaces would have you believe — death-by-selfie is now more common than a fatal shark attack.

Just last week a 66-year-old Japanese tourist reportedly suffered a heart attack while posing with a selfie stick at the Taj Mahal according to [Science Alert](#).

Others have tumbled down stairs, fallen off bridges and cliffs, crashed their cars, were hit by trains or were electrocuted in the quest to take the perfect selfie.

There have actually been more selfie-related fatalities in 2015 than deaths from shark attacks, reported [the Metro](#).

At least 12 people have been killed taking selfies while only eight have died in shark attacks. The tragic epidemic has reached such proportions that governments around the world have been forced to take action.

In NSW authorities had to [cordon off Wedding Cake Rock](#) in the Royal National Park after tourists continued to pose for photos and selfies despite being warned that the rock could collapse at any time.

In Russia, the government released a poster warning the public of the dangers of taking selfies, including while holding a gun. The warning was warranted after a 21-year-old Russian woman shot herself in the head when she tried to take a selfie with a pellet gun pointed at her temple in

May. And earlier this month, a 19-year-old from Texas, USA, died when he shot himself in the head with a firearm while posing for a selfie.

In Russia, two other men were killed while taking a selfie and holding a hand grenade with the pin pulled out. Photo evidence proved what had happened. And another Russian teenager died while climbing onto a railway bridge to take a photograph.

In Romania, 18-year-old Anna Ursu was fatally electrocuted by live wire after she climbed on top of a train to take a selfie in May.

In January, three young Indian men died trying to take the ultimate ‘daredevil’ selfie in front of an oncoming train.

While Australia has been spared any known selfie-related deaths, of the eight shark attack deaths so far in 2015, two occurred on our shores. Off Tasmania’s east coast in July, 46-year-old -Damian Johnson was ambushed by a great white shark as he went diving for scallops with his daughter. And earlier this year in February, surfer Tadashi Nakahara, 41, from Ballina, NSW, died after he was brutally attacked by a monster 4m shark at Shelly Beach.

Looking overseas, 13-year-old boy Elio Canestri was fatally wounded when surfing off the Reunion Island in the Indian Ocean in April. That same month, Margaret Cruse, 65, was killed in Hawaii where she was snorkelling.

Father-of-one Yves Berthelot, 50, was killed by a bull shark in New Caledonia when he was out snorkelling in May.

Other deaths around the world include that of 22-year-old woman Talon Bishop at Reunion Island and Italian diver Eugenio Masala.

And despite the brutality of these deaths, they are outnumbered by tragic selfie mishaps. Think twice before trying to get that perfect photo.