

NEW BUT UNTESTED

The latest kit to hit the dive shops



Sea & Sea MDX-850 Camera Housing

The new Nikon D850 full-frame 45.7 megapixel stills and 8k UHD video camera could well suit the serious underwater-photography enthusiast or jobbing diving photo-journalist and video reporter. It even features built-in time lapse for those *Blue Planet II* moments – if you're willing to leave it lying around on the seabed! Sea and Sea has brought out a 100m-rated aluminium MDX-850 housing for the camera, which it says is 11% lighter than the previous MDX-810, making it travel-friendlier. Handling has, it says, been improved over that model by relocating both the main and sub command dials. For ease of use in low light, controls have luminous indicators. Owner-specified options include four viewfinders, a vacuum tester and TTL strobe connectors, and the MDX-850 starts from £3995.

▶▶ sea-sea.com



Scubapro Mk11/C370 Regulator

Scubapro says that this new model combines light weight and high performance at a low price. The balanced-diaphragm first stage is sealed from the water to protect its main components from contaminants and to reduce the risk of freezing in cold water. Hose routing is said to be made easier by including two high-pressure ports and four medium-pressure outlets. The chrome-plated brass body is intended to provide longevity. The C370 second stage is pneumatically balanced to minimise inhalation effort and is said to have an improved exhaust design to make exhalation easier. Both venturi assist and cracking effort can be adjusted by the user.

Scubapro expects the model to appeal to travelling divers – price is £229.

▶▶ scubapro.com

Christopher Ward C60 Trident Bronze Pro 200 Watch

Christopher Ward's latest diver timepiece is its first to feature a bronze case. Corrosion-resistant and a popular choice for maritime engineering, as any wreckie knows, bronze ages over time to give each individual watch its own distinctive look. Incorporating a Swiss self-winding movement, with 38-hour power reserve, the C60 Trident Bronze Pro 200 has a one-way bezel and a day calendar. It is 200m-rated. Rubber, leather and webbing straps are offered. The price is £795.

▶▶ christopherward.co.uk



Jet Candy

Long-haul destinations offer great diving, but reaching them, for some divers, seriously messes with their body-clock. That can set them up for making simple mistakes, from forgetting to install a camera housing's O-rings to potentially dangerous lapses of judgment under water. Jet Candy claims to use a carefully balanced homeopathic formula to help long-haul travellers avoid the pitfalls of jetlag. Ingredients are arnica, bellis perennis, cocculus, gelsenium and petroleum! Each £13 bottle contains 100 tablets, said to be enough to cover eight long-haul flights.

▶▶ jet-candy.com



Typhoon Storm Wetsuit

Typhoon's new one-piece Storm wetsuit is a general watersports model that the manufacturer expects to appeal to divers. Comfort features include Typhoon's body mapping design for a close fit, flexible panels for freedom of movement and a SealSkin collar to avoid chafing around the neck. The Storm-keeper zip design is said to minimise water flow and help to retain heat. The 5mm back-entry suit is available for both men and women at £115, and also comes in junior sizes at £90.

▶▶ typhoon-int.co.uk



Sea & Sea Optical Dome-Ports

Sea and Sea has launched five new fisheye and wide-angle dome-ports for its SLR housing line-up. Each is manufactured from crystal glass and features Sea & Sea's bayonet mount with security lock. The manufacturer's internal correction lenses can be combined with some lenses. The Optical Dome Port 11 230 is a 230mm-diameter model said to be suited to shooting ambitious half-and-half shots, and costs £3330. The 11 165 is a mid-size dome priced at £1910, while the 11 100 is a compact model that comes in three versions for specific fisheye lenses, and is said to be good for travelling and wide-angle macro photography – this one costs £1366.

▶▶ sea-sea.com



Inon Z-330 Strobe

This top-of-the-line strobe has a guide number of 33 and wide-angle coverage of 110°. Oversized controls are claimed to make it easy to use with gloves, while phosphorescent scales assist in reading settings in poor light. There's a built-in 220-lumen LED modelling light and protection against overheating. S-TTL and manual exposure is provided. Hard-wired or optical cables can be used. A shade reduces backscatter and flare on the side of the Z-330 closest to the camera lens. The strobe costs £700.

▶▶ inonuk.com



LenzO iPhone Housing

iPhone 7 and 8 mobiles offer underwater imaging capabilities and these are claimed to be enhanced by the LenzO polycarbonate housing. This features a dome-port to retain the wide-angle coverage of the built-in lens and includes two UR Pro flip-in colour-correction filters. The case is said to stay safe to 100m. Access to all smartphone stills and video controls is provided and an optional tray is said to make it easy to add a lighting array. The housing retails for £369.

▶▶ mikesdivecameras.com



FLY-DIVE IN JORDAN

There's a big new plane wreck in the Gulf of Aqaba – we dive it, and much else besides

USA COLLINS

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Big shout

Michael AW gets among the southern right whales

Private islands

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