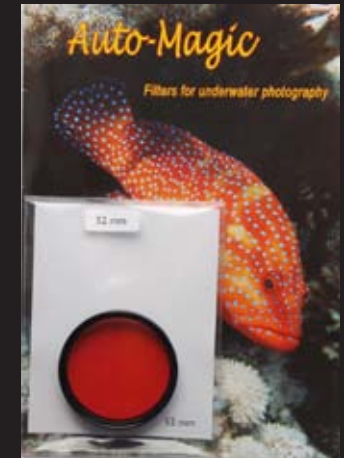


We've got you covered!



Magic filters are now available in 3 options.
Original Magic for use in blue water with DSLR and compact cameras with Manual White Balance,
Auto-Magic for compact cameras in automatic point and shoot mode.
GreenWater Magic for use in green water with DSLR and compact cameras with Manual White Balance.
Prices start at just £19.

The Auto-Magic formula is now available in a Plexiglass filter that can be added or removed underwater.

www.magic-filters.com

Panasonic GX1 & Nauticam NA-GX1

by Peter Rowlands

The micro 4/3rds format has created a whole new genre of camera and, for once, it seems like it had underwater photography in mind when it was conceived. The larger sensor size offers improved high ISO performance compared to standard compact cameras for shooting in low light conditions whilst the image processing performance produces images that compete favourably with much bulkier and heavier SLRs. Add lens interchangeability and you have a combination for underwater photographers which is very convincing.

Normally when reviewing cameras and housings I have always left the price til last, feeling that that piece of information is the final piece you need to complete the jigsaw of decision but in the case of the Nauticam NA-GX1 I think you should know that this housing retails for just under £900 (body only) and at that price you should really be thinking of reasons why not to buy this housing!

In terms of the camera performance the GX1 has got it all and, quite honestly, I can't think of what the manufacturers can improve to tempt us to upgrade. 16 megapixels, full HD, fast autofocus, manual and auto exposure control and impressive high ISO performance and all, depending on the lens you use, in a size which won't make your pocket bulge. Top that. If you need more specific details I recommend the excellent www.dpreview.com.



The NA-GX1 housing is really quite remarkable and, for the price, it is quite extraordinary. How the team at Nauticam have managed to get all of the precision mechanical controls into such a small size package is incredibly impressive. As someone who dabbles in design I am embarrassed to admit that this review has taken me much longer to complete as I found myself breaking off from typing just to handle the housing again, to push a control and see how its placement has been achieved and how that contributes to the ergonomics; turning the focus/zoom knob and feeling there is virtually no slack in the gearing and just looking at the proportions which make what is effectively just a box into an elegant combination.

