

Fantasea FG16 for Canon G16

by Peter Rowlands



For a long time now the Canon G series of cameras has provided everything needed for photographers who want to be in full control of their image.

The chunkier than compact body is extremely sturdy while the built in 5x 28-140mm equivalent lens is f1.8-2.8 which is great for low light and there have been significant improvements in the video modes with up to 1080p60 frame rate. But rather than going into fine detail about the camera here I will point you to the excellent benchmark website for camera reviews. They concluded that "The Canon PowerShot G16 gives enthusiasts all the basic tools to shoot great photos in a fast and reliable package."

www.dpreview.com

Underwater housing manufacturer Fantasea has a long and successful history producing Canon G series and Nikon prosumer housings and their G16 carries on their tradition of robust construction, ergonomic ease of use with a competitive price tag.

From the moment you push the safety catch and rotate the opening dial there is a familiar feeling of precision and quality. The double O ring compression and piston seals should be foolproof but there is also an audible and optical leak alarm for an early warning of any trouble. The camera needs nothing attached to it and all you have to do is lift the Mode dial and push the camera into the housing. Everything lines up and the camera is held very precisely.





The external controls are chunky and well spaced even for gloved hands and the front and rear grip contours make holding the housing a breeze. As primarily a video user the stop/start button is well positioned for thumb control and should ensure wobble free activation. A nice design touch is the shroud around this button to save accidental activation.

For those who do want to trigger external strobes there are 2 fibre optic ports and there is a cold shoe for attaching aiming lights. If the internal flash is sufficient for you there is a large diffuser which can be attached to give even coverage.

The rubber shade for the LCD screen provides effective shading in shallow, brightly lit water.

The tripod base has 3 holes rather than just the usual 1 so attaching baseplates and handles will be very secure. Fantasea also produce a range of accessories including wide angle

lenses, strobes and filters so you can expand the system to suit your specific needs.

A neoprene hand grip and a padded neoprene lens port cover are included at no extra charge.

Once again Fantasea have produced a premium housing for a very capable camera.

www.fantasea.com

In the UK, Canon cameras and Fantasea housings are available from Bristol Cameras

www.bristolcameras.co.uk

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