

Bersub Variled x2 Neutral Wide 90

by Peter Rowlands

Bersub is a well established light manufacturer based in France and they now have a new distributor in the UK - Sea & Sea - and they sent me a Variled x 2 Neutral Wide 90 to evaluate. The Bersub range is very extensive and there are models to suit all diving requirements but the Neutral Wide 90 with its 90° coverage will appeal to underwater photographers the most.

To be honest LED lights are getting harder to review: "It has a switch and, if you turn it, the bright light comes on....." Fortunately for me the Variled x2 has some novel features which are aimed to give the purchaser a choice of power sources and outputs and these set it apart from the increasing big pack of manufacturers.

The Variled is extremely well made with an aluminium body and large controls suitable for the thickest gloved hands. In addition its rating to 300 metres will appeal to those who will insist on going down that far.

Double O ring seals provide reliable waterproofing and the large 2 power On/Off switch has

a very effective and positive Lock mechanism and is well shrouded.

So far nothing much new but it is when you unscrew the main body from the rear section that nice features are revealed..

The Variled x2 is powered by 6 x removable AA batteries so you have a flexible choice of power sources from standard alkaline batteries, to NiMh and Eneloop rechargeables. NiMhs have the greatest capacity available - the highest I found was 2850 ma and these should give up to 2 hours output at full power from the 6 x 2.5w LEDs which give 1200 lumens.

The ability to use AA batteries gives a very economical advantage and a back up set will be far cheaper

than a dedicated battery pack. The only downside is that there are far fewer 6 cell chargers than there are 4 cell.

Interchangeable heads mean you can swap to a spot beam for a more conventional dive light.

You are spoilt for choice when it comes to dive/video lights but if you are in the market for one you really should take a look at the Variled x2.

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