

Ikelite Vega Light review

by Peter Rowlands



If you are in the market for a video light you've got plenty of choice and if you are an LED light manufacturer you have got a lot of competition. This is because what used to be a quite specialised item is now run of the mill as digital cameras have been adopted by the huge majority of divers and LED technology is delivering high output from lower voltage batteries and giving increased burn times.

The Ikelite Vega Light is a compact and stylish unit which incorporates 7 LEDs giving a 2000 lumen output at full power with half and quarter options. With a full charge and at full power it gives a 45 minute burn time which increases to 180 minutes at quarter power. The circular

beam angle is 65° giving an effective angle of 52° which is ideal for macro. If you wanted to light a wider angle scene I understand there is an optional 100° diffuser which the manufacturer claims has "virtually no output loss thanks to a special, patented material." This diffuser was not available at the time of the review.

It took me a little while to get my head round the operation of the single charging and output rotary switch because it rotates more than once. To lock the VEGA for travel you rotate the switch anti clockwise until it comes to a stop with the small lock switch at 6 o'clock. To charge it rotate the main switch 180° clockwise



and plug the charger into the two gold plated charging holes. A full charge of a flat battery takes about 3 hours.

The Vega is a factory sealed unit for foolproof operation and is 1.9 x 5.6 in (50 x 142 mm).

It weighs only 11.2 oz (318 g). A wrist lanyard is supplied as standard and there is a ¼ " BSW tapped hole for adding shoes and mounting arms.

The rear of the Vega has 3 LEDs on either side. The left side has three red LEDs showing battery charge while the right hand blue LEDs

indicate the power output. Graphically very simple and effective.

Visually I've always liked black, red and silver livery so I like the look of the VEGA. The MSRP is \$550 which is very competitive so if you're in the market for a new or a higher output light, the Vega should be on your research list.

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