

Nauticam WWL-1 Buoyancy Collar and Lens Cap

by Peter Rowlands

In my review of the Nauticam WWL-1 wet lens in UwP87 the only gripe I had was with the neoprene lens cover “I think a lens of this quality deserves better protection which a solid lens cover would provide.” In addition I pointed out that the lens was quite nose heavy and a buoyancy collar should really be an optional extra.

True to their reputation as a listening manufacturer I was sent both recently and I have to say that they really complete this great lens package and make it much easier to handle underwater.

To be honest there isn't really much that can be said about a quality, solid lens cap which clicks into place very positively and is easy to remove and fit. You will need a chunky pocket to keep it in during the dive as I would suggest that it's safer to take it with you and remove and refit it on the dive as the time most likely to suffer damage is when it is being handled prior to a dive.

The WWL-1 lenscap is slightly positive in seawater and there are two trains of thought about this. If it floats you should always be able to find it - conversely if it sinks and you are on the seabed, it won't go far. Either is personal preference and with a very, very small amount of weight you could achieve neutral buoyancy, which will be my choice.

A point to bear in mind is that if you were an early adopter of the WWL-1 lens you may need to return your lens shade to your Nauticam dealer to have retaining grooves machined in it and re-



anodized.

The WWL-Buoyancy Collar does what it says on the tin. The Nauticam WWL-1 wide wet lens has an equivalent weight underwater of 620g / 22 ounce but with the buoyancy collar mounted, the equivalent weight is reduced to 160g / 5.6 ounce. This makes handling over a long dive much easier on the wrists and being slightly negative means you can remove the lens and it will stay on the seabed while you shoot with the 14-42 lens.

You will need to fit an extension to the port removal lever as the collar would impede the standard lever. This is supplied with the collar.

The WWL-1 Lenscap is £74 in the UK and the Buoyancy collar is £47. They provide



solid solutions for a quality piece of glass and, when fitted, provide reassurance and handling performance which I would say is well worth the money.

www.nauticam.co.uk

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