

MINOLTA VECTIS WEATHERMATIC ZOOM

1998



Serial Nr.C4903071
Minolta Code 2208

Characteristics and functions

The Minolta Vectis Weathermatic Zoom was introduced in 1998. This is the first APS (Advanced Photo System) underwater zoom camera for Minolta. The Vectis Weathermatic Zoom is suitably suited to withstand dives up to 10m. depth. The 35-50mm zoom lens. f.1/4-6.4 is the equivalent of a 38-63 in the 35mm format. It is made up of 7 lenses placed in 7 groups. Focusing is ensured by an external passive AF system with a working range of 40cm. endlessly out of the water and from 53cm. The lens is located inside a protective glass, in the large front protuberance. The body of the Vectis Weathermatic is yellow with gray rubber parts. On the upper side we find, on the far left, the display window where you can see the indications of the date window, the state of charge of the batteries, the activated self-timer signal, the inserted film and the frame counter which is of the subtractive type, i.e. which highlights the number of missing shots at the end of the film. Proceeding to the right

you will first encounter the identification "Vectis Weathermatic Zoom" silkscreened in black on two lines, then, the circular selector for settings: (OFF), [AUTO], (Anti-Red-Eye flash system), (intentional insertion (Flash Off), and [Night Portraits with Flash and Balanced Background]. At the right end of the upper side, in the rubberized gray part, we find: the silver colored shutter button, with double function: if pressed partially, it locks the focus (AF) and exposure (AE) if pressed fully releases the shutter and advances the motor preparing the film and shutter for the next shot. The shutter button is placed in an advanced position while, in the rear position, the selector (silver) for setting the focal length is positioned, which must be used by pushing it with the index finger of the right hand. If pushed to the right the selector rotates to the left in the TELE position, vice versa when it rotates to the right it goes to the WIDE position. On the right side there is the housing for the zipper of the carrying strap. On the rear side there is the eyepiece window, placed under a protective glass, in the upper left corner. Immediately to its right is the black selector for setting the C, H and P formats which return 10x15, 10x18 and 10x24cm. prints, respectively. Rotating this selector you can see how the image in the viewfinder is masked differently in order to present the actual area that will be recorded on the print. This system is certainly more comfortable than the one that simultaneously shows the three bright frames of the frame limits. With reference to the choice of the frame, it is good to remember that the negative is always impressed in the maximum format (H) and that the settings C, H, P determine only the choice of the first print. In the upper part of the viewfinder there are references for close-up shooting while in the upper left corner there is the LED that flashes when the flash capacitor is fully charged. Below the viewfinder window are the two black rubber buttons that are used to set and activate the date window and to activate the self-timer (to activate the self-timer, press the two black buttons at the same time). The Self Timer function can be canceled by turning the camera off. On the back there are also the connection for the mini tripod and the battery compartment door. The large central yellow and gray protuberance covered by a protective glass contains the lens. Above it are placed the illuminator of the Anti-Red-Eye system / self-timer signal, the window of the AF system / of the exposure meter and the window of the viewfinder. Proceeding towards the left side you will find the flash which is positioned in the gray rubber part on the left. Under the zip there is the wording IX-DATE. Further below, almost at the lower limit, there is the symbol of the APS system, while the wording MINOLTA with the Rising Sun in the "O" is placed vertically on the rubberized cheek of the handle, along the far right. On the bottom there are the threads for using the stand, the film compartment door with the red plastic opening system (lift the left side and rotate the release mechanism towards the OPEN position). The engraved serial number and the words Minolta Camera Co. - Made in China, on two lines, are positioned on the far right of the caseback. Available as optional accessories are 4 types of carrying straps, a camera attachment system on the backpack and an adjustable strap for positioning the camera on the waist/arm.

Powered by a 3v lithium battery. type CR2.

Weight 340g. batteries and strap excluded.

Length 128mm. Height 74.5mm. Depth 66mm.