

PRODUCT REVIEW

VIO-POV HD VIDEO SYSTEM • CAPTURE YOUR ADVENTURES IN HD

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There is no question that these days choosing a video camera to record your favorite rides can be a challenge. Where once options were few and far between the market now has a glut of cameras and most are very good at what they were designed to do.

We have been using one for a few months now that we think rises above the rest. Ruggedness counts in our books and as far as cameras go the VIO-POV is Military-Grade.

VIO-POV HD Video System utilizes a 6-glass elements, 142 degree camera (one of the widest available) that is finger-length in size that comes with a number of brackets allowing for a myriad of ways to mount, point and shoot the VIO-POV. The unit records at 1080p at 30 frames per second in this mode. The slow motion mode brings the view down to 95 degrees at 720p with 60 frames per second.

Unlike many other cameras, most that are one-piece units, the VIO-POV is a two-piece gadget that comes with the camera and a dust, shock and waterproof (up to 3 feet deep for 30 minutes) recording unit attached to the camera by a heavy duty A/V cable with very clear reading microphone.

This unit is not tiny as it measures 6.5 inches long, 2.25 wide and 1.5 deep and weighs 12 ounces.

Still, it is small enough that it can easily slip into a large pocket or, in our case, a tank bag.

The unit is fully functional with the ability to play back your recording or monitor them on the fly with its bright and sharp 2 inch LCD display, in the field editing capabilities and exposure controls; and all this exported as a MP4 format on a provided 4-gig SD card; which is expandable to a monstrous 32 gig. All this is easily downloaded to both Macs and PCs.

One of the many things we love about the VIO-POV is that you can set the unit to loop your video for various amounts of time. We have ours set for 30 seconds – so every 30 seconds it writes over the previous 30 seconds and begins again.

This might seem odd; but think of it along this line: You're riding along some wonderful and desolate backroad and, out of the blue, a UFO lands in front of you and Big Foot opens the door waves hello, closes the door, and quickly and flies off.

Normally with any other camera, unless you were filming at the time, you would miss this and the scientific accolades a video like this might bring – but not with the VIO-POV – once you see the UFO landing you simply had to click on the wireless remote and the VIO-POV begins recording... from 30 seconds before.

This way you never miss anything exciting or simply beautiful.

See? You are now an instant hero and celebrity - all because you had a VIO-POV on your bike.

This feature is incredibly cool and allows for all sorts of possibilities while riding, day-tripping or touring.

This video unit runs off four AA batteries but, rather than eat batteries all day long, we hard-wired the VIO-POV into my BMW R1200GS with their optional wiring harness.

Now this might be a problem if you have helmet mounted the camera and are carrying the recording unit in a pocket; but we took it another step forward and mounted the VIO-POV to the right side of the motorcycle



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smartly routed the A/V cable into an RKA tank bag that allows for cables to be run in and out.

With the VIO-POV more or less permanently mounted and fully powered by the bike itself we were ready to go.

We attached the wireless remote to a convenient spot that allowed easy and safe access to on the fly and, when I feel like I want to be Martin Scorsese, I simply power up the recording unit and go on a my ride; when I see something that catches my interest I just start recording on a permanent basis till I am done and switch it off. The VIO-POV immediately returns to that 30-second loop mode.

On the road the VIO-POV performed flawlessly and exactly as we have just said.

We had some riders visiting Backroads Central and we got to show them raw footage of the VIO-POV in action and all were amazed at the crispness, clarity and professional look this camera produced.

To see for yourself you can log onto our YouTube or FaceBook sites both easily accesses from our website – www.backroadsusa.com.

The VIO-POV lists for \$599, which may seem steep, but considering the military quality and wonderful performance and ease of use for motorcyclists this VIO-POV is the only way to go.

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