

The Nikonos V is more than an improved version of the preceding Calypso and Nikonos models, it is a whole new way of thinking. Most divers used the previous cameras only underwater, even though they were amphibious. But the Nikonos V, with its through the lens (TTL) metering system, works as well on land as it does underwater.

One look at the Nikonos V and you'll find beauty and ruggedness in one small package. The bright orange panels give it a sleek look and are functional as well. The photographer can see the shutter release

and a shutter that is very quiet.

The Nikonos V viewfinder is enlarged so the entire field of view can be seen by someone wearing a facemask. The bright LED at the base tells the photographer if there is power, which shutter speed is correct for available light and when the flash is ready to fire.

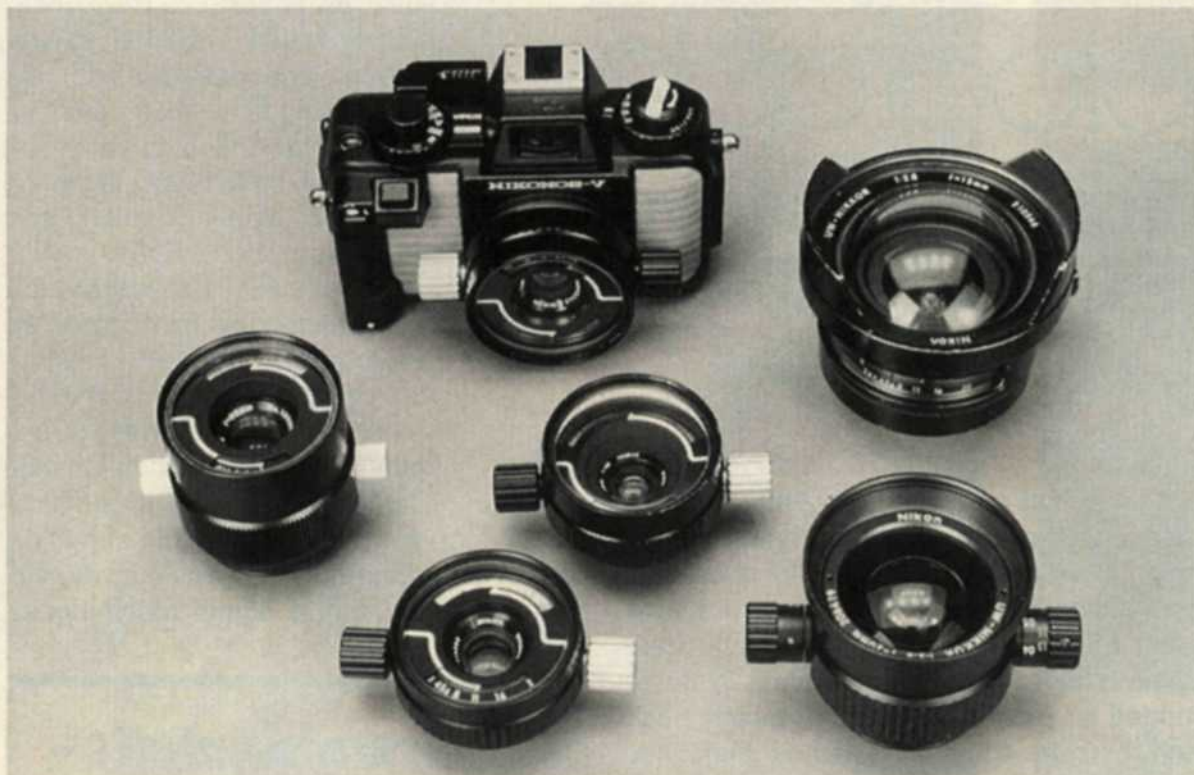
Loading the Nikonos V is now as simple as loading any land camera. Simply press the safety button on one side, turn the release latch and the back of the camera pops open. To rewind, simply set the dial to R, lift the rewind lever and turn.

viewfinder is approximately 1/90 second.

Because of its compact size, the Nikonos V makes underwater photography a pleasure, rather than a hindrance. With all the equipment divers need today, adding a bulky camera system would only complicate matters. Instead, the Nikonos V system is durable enough to withstand the ocean swells and surge, yet compact enough to get into those nook and crannies where the critters hide.

NIKONOS V—THE LAND CAMERA

The Nikonos has been an amphibious



Today Nikon offers six, fine quality, interchangeable lenses for use with the Nikonos.

and focus control knobs better because they stand out against the bright orange background. The revised anatomical grip and shutter release conform to the diver's hand, even when wearing gloves.

The Nikonos V is a complete camera system offering a wide variety of interchangeable lenses. They are of the same professional quality as all Nikon lenses. The Nikonos camera system offers ease and simplicity for amateurs yet provides sophistication and versatility for professionals. The Nikonos is an add-on system: You can purchase the camera and normal 35mm lens and get great photos or expand your capabilities by adding any of the other lenses and accessories. Focusing with the Nikonos V is different than with most cameras, but is just as easy. There is no mirror or ground glass, therefore no standard focusing. Instead, the focus is set by looking down at the lens and presetting the distance, taking into account the proper depth of field. Big advantages to the lack of mirror and ground glass are the extremely bright viewfinder, no mirror slap

With the addition of the Nikon's TTL strobes, the SB 102 and 103, underwater flash photography is simple. Just set the ISO dial with your film speed, put the Nikonos V on "A" and the strobe on TTL. The through the lens metering lets the photographer devote precious time to composing pictures without the hassle of calculating exposures.

The difficulty of underwater photography is proportional to the depth of the dive. Near the surface, there is plenty of sunlight, making the ratio between flash and sunlight easy to work with. As you go deeper, the sunlight decreases, making the flash more important. The balance between flash exposure and sunlight at the deeper depths becomes more difficult.

With previous Nikonos models, the existing light had to be metered, resulting in a given f/stop, then a flash to subject distance had to be determined that would result in the same f/stop. With the Nikonos V, balancing both sunlight and flash is a simple matter of turning the f/stop dial until the shutter speed indicator inside the

the Nikonos Today

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHY
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camera since its conception in 1959. But, most people bought the Nikonos cameras strictly for underwater use. It was a one of a kind camera, offering dependability and interchangeable lenses. It enabled underwater photographers to produce high quality, professional photos.

As automatic sophistication grew in the photo world, so did the Nikonos. With the arrival of the Nikonos V, accurate exposures were now possible on land or underwater, with strobe or with available light. TTL metering measures the light coming through the lens and automatically calculates the correct exposure. Divers taking trips to distant locations need not take along two camera systems. One full underwater Nikonos system is all that is needed. It is easy to take a Nikonos out on a boat, use it on several dives, take pictures on the boat and a few hours later use the same camera to take scenic island photos. Although it has been discontinued, the 28mm land lens (still available in a few stores) added versatility to the standard amphibious 35mm. How many photogra-



THE ULTIMATE UNDERWATER CAMERA



Above: No other camera can take the abuse a Nikonos can. This one was buried in mud. After being dug up and rinsed off under running water, it functioned perfectly! Although this is not a recommended procedure, it shows just how rugged the camera is. The Nikonos V is an amphibious instrument that works just as well on land as it does underwater. It has TTL metering and a large, bright viewfinder. This is a rangefinder camera, that is, distance must be estimated. Of its six Nikon lenses, two are amphibious, one is for topside use only and three are for underwater use only. Accessories such as extension tubes/framers and a close-up kit make the camera even more versatile.



Top: The Nikonos V with extension tubes and framers can produce great macro shots, such as this photo of the eye of a kelpfish. Macro is one of the easiest types of underwater photography to learn. Even beginners can get wonderful pictures. Nikon's very special 15mm lens is considered the U/W photojournalist's most valuable tool. It was used to capture the colorful coral head on film (left) as well as the divers silhouetted in a crevice (above).

phers would feel totally comfortable taking their camera systems out into the middle of a stream or waterfall to get a great shot? With the Nikonos V photo buffs only have to worry about getting their feet wet, not their cameras. The heavy-duty Nikonos V allows total freedom to the outdoor photographer who enjoys hiking, camping, boating, cross-country skiing or biking. Mud, rain and severe camera vibrations seem to be common in all these sports, yet the Nikonos can withstand it all. This amphibious camera offers fully automatic exposure control and TTL metering that works rain or shine.

Land close-ups are also possible with the availability of land framers (not from Nikon but other accessory companies).

"Why take two different cameras on your next dive sporting vacation when one Nikonos V can do it all?"



These are used with the same extension tubes and strobes that capture underwater macro photos. Using land framers for close-ups allows the photographer to view and photograph subjects from any angle—even when the camera is held at arm's length. Not only does the Nikonos V have the advantage of being dust and splash proof, but with the close-up framers there is no need to focus. Just place the subject inside the wire framer and it is ready to be captured on film.

In contrast, a standard close-up system must be framed, focused and photographed with the photographer's eye at the camera's viewfinder. Once you've tried to photograph a mushroom under a log or a bee gathering pollen, you'll quickly see the advantage of land framers.

The Nikonos V and its companion strobe units open the door to outdoor photographic adventure. The Nikonos V goes where no others would dare and the results are predictably excellent. Underwater photographers can relax knowing they have the most reliable and versatile underwater camera made. It seems obvious that no matter where your interests lie, on land or sea, the Nikonos V is your answer. Why take two different cameras on your next sporting vacation when one Nikonos V system will do it all? 📷



The Nikonos camera system offers ease and simplicity for amateurs yet sophistication and versatility for professionals. The photograph of a green moray eel on a Caribbean wreck (top) was taken with the Nikonos V, 15mm lens and available light. The eel's dark body is silhouetted against the pale water and the bright, sandy bottom. Above: Without the use of a strobe, this photo wouldn't be nearly as dramatic. Sunlight from above filters through the translucent jellyfish while below it a strobe lights textures and details in the creature's body. With a cooperative eel, the top photograph would be fairly easy to duplicate; duplicating the bottom one would require more advanced techniques.