

SeaSpecs Reviewed

By STEVE ACKERMAN

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Have you ever forgotten to toss your high-priced spectacles into your bag before rushing for the water, only to loose them to King Neptune himself? I know I have far to often. Whether I simply forgot that I had them on before heading out into the surf or I was trying to sneak into the water just long enough to rinse my board off. Then from out of nowhere... WHAM! And before I realized what had happened, my shades were sleeping with the fishes. Some new... some old, I must have lost a dozen or more in a similar fashion over the last few of years.

Well, now there is a ventilated, self-draining eyewear called SeaSpecs. They are specifically designed for outdoor water sports from surf to snow, but are light weight and comfortable enough for everyday use. Some of the outdoor sports requiring this kind of extreme eye protection would be waveriding, water and snow skiing, snowboarding, jet ski, kayaking, boating, fishing and lets not forget surfing.

It is important to remember that the same harmful rays that damage skin will also increase your risk of developing eye problems. You see... when sunlight reflects off of water, snow or sand, the exposure and intensity of the ultraviolet (UV) radiation is increased. It is these invisible high-energy rays that lie just beyond the violet end of the visible light spectrum that do the most damage. People who spend long hours in the sun without adequate eye protection can develop painful eye conditions like photokeratitis, a reversible sunburn of the cornea or pterygium, a fleshy growth on the white part of your eye that often requires surgery to correct. It is as simple as wearing the proper eye protection that can reduce the risk and possibly prevent eye damage or vision loss entirely while outdooring.

SeaSpecs have combined all of the important protections and quality into a very stylish design, including polarized lenses with 100% UVA & UVB protection [polarized prescription lenses are available] to protect your eyes from the sun's harmful rays, impact-resistant frames to keep them in one piece, and an easily adjustable strap to keep them on your face should you get hit hard enough to knock them off. Plus, they float too.

While testing these shades out, I was most impressed by the clarity of the lenses even after being completely submersed over-and-over again. The lenses continued to provide good visibility throughout the entire day, both in and out of the water. And the shades always remained securely attached, even after a few nasty wipeouts.

SeaSpecs come in black, blue, metallic red and metallic orange with gray lenses or black with brown lenses. A pair of these shades will run you about \$59 bones (\$195 to \$295 for prescription lenses) which is a pretty fair price for effective eye protection. Whether you are landing a little too hard after catching air off the side of a mountain, hanging your head in misery over the stern rail of your boat or dropping into that wave just a little too late, you'll be glad you are wearing SeaSpecs. I recommend this extreme eyewear to any sport enthusiast looking for affordable eye protection without sacrificing on quality.

I thoroughly enjoyed testing these shades out. My only wish... that they had sent me a slicker color to try out. The black or blue pair would have looked much cooler wrapped around my head than the fiery orange pair I have been running around with.

Keeping the Sun at Bay and the Water Away

By STEFANI JACKENTHAL
Published: August 10, 2006

SUN rays reflecting off the ocean can be blinding, not to mention harmful to one's eyes. Still, surfers have long resisted wearing protective sunglasses or goggles because they were too easy to lose, too likely to become foggy or waterlogged.

But now there is ventilated, draining eyewear made to be worn while surfing, windsurfing, kayaking and jet skiing. Adjustable straps keep them secure during spills.

Some of these impact-resistant frames for watersports have long been available. Just as it took a long while for surfers to start wearing zinc-based sunblock, said Chris Coté, the editor of Transworld Surf magazine, they are only now starting to wear sunglasses to protect against cataracts and pterygium, a fleshy growth on the white part of your eye caused by prolonged sun exposure.

To see if watersport glasses made a difference, Katie Coryell, a professional surfer and instructor at Surf Diva, a school for women and girls in La Jolla, Calif., wore them on the water for a week. She was eager to try them, she said, because "some of my contemporaries already have eye problems, and I have a lot of years of surfing ahead of me."

Just a note to let you know how well your seaspecs worked for me.

I just purchased a set of your sunglasses prior to teaching boating/PWC water safety course for Law enforcement at the Colorado River. I wore the seaspecs throughout the course and was very surprised by the comfort, clarity, and wind block while operating the PWC's at high speeds.

I have been working the River for about 15 years and have tried many high end and expensive sunglasses over the years. The seaspecs out performed the others in this environment.

*Sergeant Steve Hinojos
Rancho Cucamonga Courts*

05 November 2007

Sea Specs gear review

In brief:

Excellent design features: snug fit, side protection

Floats on water

Available in a range of frame colours and lenses, including prescription lenses

Very competitive price.

We bought three pairs of Sea Specs at the start of the year and have used them on our last three trips. I'm pleased to report that they're working out great and they make a huge difference when you're on the Jet Ski. There are two key benefits to using a product like this:

Reduction of glare: you will avoid being blinded from sun reflection off the water, and your eyes will be protected from harmful UV light

Protection against waves and spray: your eyes will be protected from the inevitable splashing and spray that you encounter out on the water.

The big drawcard for me in using a product like Sea Specs is that you need to be able to see at all times while you're out on the water. My greatest concern is the possibility of collisions with other craft - a real issue at busy jet ski beaches - and the risk of running over someone in the water, e.g. divers. A little bit of diving does go on around the cliffs to the north of Safety Beach.

The fact that Sea Specs are available in prescription lenses is a HUGE bonus in this regard.

Sea Specs provide enhanced protection from both sun glare and water, thanks to their snug fit. The frames wrap right around the side of your face, blocking out sunlight and keeping water from getting in behind the lenses.

The secure fit is further enhanced with a generous rubberised nosepiece and an adjustable strap which runs around the back of your head, to prevent the Sea Specs from coming off if you collide with a wave. Having the strap also means you can loosen it and hang your Sea Specs around your neck when you're not jet skiing - definitely a better option than perching them on your head, where they can be accidentally knocked off into the sand.

Sea Specs suitability for water sports is further enhanced by the fact that they float on water, so if you accidentally drop them in the water you won't lose them!

We are very happy with our Sea Specs - they are very favourably priced compared to competing products from Oakley and other manufacturers - and now that we have them we definitely wouldn't jetski without them.

Sea Specs Extreme Eyewear

From Jay DiMartino

Your Guide to Surfing / Bodyboarding

Guide Rating - ★★★★★

After a lifetime of surfing, I now find myself suffering from pterygiums, strange skin-like growths that cover the inner corner of the eyeball and can eventually grow to cover the pupil and impair vision permanently if not surgically removed. These nasty little devils not only look horrifyingly bloody when irritated but they are caused and exacerbated by sun and wind exposure. And I am not alone. Several friends I have grown up with have the same condition as well as countless fishermen, divers, and other outdoors lovers I have encountered over the years.

So what is a surfer to do? Will you be able to surf with your kids when they come of age? Will you have to quit going to the beach and shun the sun like some mole rat? Maybe not.

Luckily, the surf industry has noticed this trend of sun-related eye problems, and ...SeaSpecs has made eyewear specifically for surfing, skiing, kite boarding, or any outdoor sport that requires that glasses be not only light weight and secure, but they must also provide total protection from the sun's harmful rays.

Therefore, in my quest to find the best protection for my eyes and future waveriding pursuits, I have personally tried...SeaSpecs surfing eyewear and based on my trials I recommend SeaSpecs based on price, style, and security.

The first day I used my Sea Specs, the surf was small, so I put them through the "kids at the beach" test which involves pushing my daughter into waves on her body board, throwing my son up in the air, falling backwards into the water, rolling around in the mud and building castles in the sand. ...My Sea Specs provided complete protection that I could leave on as I ran back and forth from the water the beach....

The following day saw the arrival of a good swell, and I was able to put my SeaSpecs through a real test. Under normal surfing conditions which included paddling, duckdiving, and riding small to medium sized waves, Sea Spec worked extremely well. The lenses stayed clear, and the frame remained securely on my head even after some minor wipeouts.

They were most clear under full sun....and SeaSpecs makes glasses with different tint levels....Overall, my surfing experience with Sea Specs was extremely positive.

In contrast to the other brands I tried, I found Sea Specs to be both more advanced in terms of function and more stylish in terms of fashion. Therefore, in terms of fashion, function and price, I find SeaSpecs to be the most effective "extreme surf sunglass" on the market.

SeaSpecs utilizes polarized lenses..., they float in the ocean and are specially designed with an adjustable strap which prevents them from falling off....

Costing about \$59 (which I found to be the...least expensive of the different glasses I tried), Sea Specs are a great form of protection for any water sports enthusiast. Based on their stylish design, I have basically made my SeaSpecs my water glasses as well as my land glasses. They are just as effective when mowing the lawn and watching the kids at the playground as they are for riding waves and going fishing.

Sea Specs Extreme Eyewear

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