



▲ SNAP SIGHTS WATERPROOF SS02

The SS02 is a cheap, reusable, and easy-to-use 35mm film camera with a case waterproof to 100 feet and sturdy enough to club frisky moray eels. Usually a last-second, before-the-boat-leaves buy, it won't give you control over lighting, focus, or much else, but at least you'll get a few nice shots to show off. [\$10; intovna.net]

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▲ OLYMPUS STYLUS 1030SW

Though submersible to only 33 feet, this new 10.1-megapixel point-and-shoot ups the ante for aquatic photogs. A wide-angle 28mm lens and four underwater modes give you a fighting chance of getting exposure and color right. Plus, it's the best option here for shooting on dry land. [\$400; olympusamerica.com]

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SUBMERSIBLES

You can claim you swam with sharks during your vacation, or you can use one of the underwater cameras we tested — and offer proof. by DAVID BECKER

UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY WOULD be easy if not for all that damn water. Aqua acts as a magnifying lens and absorbs red and yellow wavelengths, giving everything a blue-green cast. You can compensate for the distortion by getting as close as possible to your subject and always using a flash. But first, you need a camera that can get wet. From a budget shooter to a semi-professional rig, we've covered the spectrum — all you need to do is choose one and dive in.



◀ GOPRO DIGITAL HERO 3

Built for the extreme athlete, it's a minimalist three-megapixel fixed-focus, fixed-exposure digital camera with a protective case designed to take abuse and dive to 100 feet deep. The lack of an LCD screen makes composition hard, but with some trial and error you should be able to get quality shots. [\$140; goprocamera.com]

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▲ SEALIFE DC600 ELITE SET

The DC600 Elite Set combines a powerful external flash with a 6.1-megapixel camera inside housing that's waterproof to 200 feet. The snap-on wide-angle lens is nice, but the best part is that with the big flash, you're no longer at the mercy of the elements — you can *make* great pics. [\$1,000; sealife-cameras.com]

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