Orcatorch D710 Review

Note: This flashlight was provided to me free of charge by the Orcatorch Amazon seller. I was asked to give honest feedback. The seller had no influence on this review and did not ask me to present the flashlight in a favorable way or to "talk it up" in any manner.
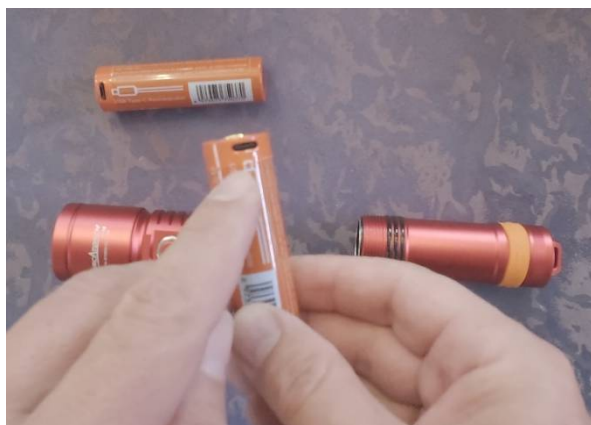
Package Contents

The D710 is available in five color variants. I chose the red version because it matches the red Isotta housing of my camera very well. The flashlight comes in a practical and very robust zippered case, which can also be used directly as a transport case. Inside the box, in addition to the flashlight itself, are two (!) 21700 batteries with integrated charging ports, a wrist lanyard, pre-lubricated spare O-rings, and two USB charging cables. And of course, the user manual.

First Impression

The flashlight is very well made and constructed from beautifully anodized aluminum. The only point where the flashlight can be opened is sealed with three (!) O-rings. It fits comfortably in the hand and is easy to operate.
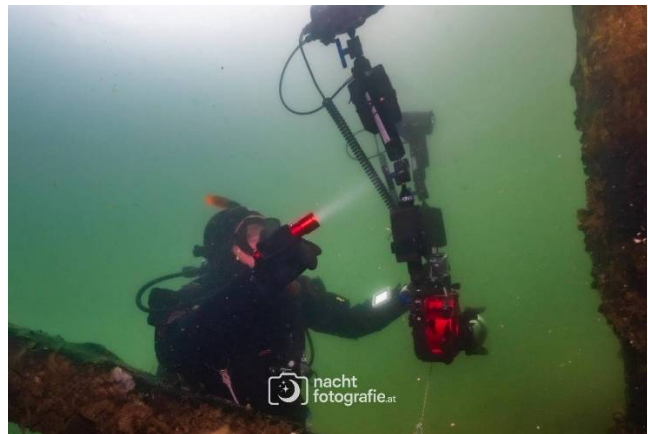
Use / Operation

To mount the light on my camera housing, I purchased a suitable clamp with a ball mount from a third-party manufacturer. However, I much prefer using this light on my hand with a neoprene Goodman handle. Here as well, you can put together a suitable solution from third-party manufacturers.

The light can be set to three different brightness levels. Using the single button, you cycle through the modes by repeatedly pressing it: OFF – High – Medium – Low – OFF. By pressing and holding the button, you can access Turbo mode from any brightness level; the light becomes noticeably brighter. When you release the button, the light returns to the previously selected brightness level. I really like this feature!

The battery charge level is indicated by LEDs integrated directly into the switch:

- Green: >30%
- Red: 10–30%
- Flashing red: <10%

Accidental activation during transport can be prevented by pressing and holding the button. The light then indicates the lockout with two flashes. Unlocking is done by double-clicking the button, and successful unlocking is also confirmed by a double flash. Please refer to the manual for the burn time; I assume the specified values are accurate. After two dives of 45 minutes each, during which I used the light on the highest setting, the LED indicator is still green.

Conclusion

While a few years ago you still had to carry around huge lights to have sufficient illumination underwater—even during the day—today very small, handy LED lights that fit into any BCD pocket are perfectly sufficient. The Orcatorch D710 is a very good example of such a light. It will replace my previous flashlight from now on, as it has a significantly stronger spot beam and much longer reach. It is somewhat more expensive than many cheap products, but I am completely convinced by its quality, and the saying "you get what you pay for" definitely applies here. Especially for dive travel, I find it very practical that the light is small and lightweight and can be recharged using a standard mobile phone charger. I am sure that the Orcatorch D710 will be a loyal companion for many years to come.

Important Notes

- The D710 does not have a threaded mount on the bottom for attaching ball mounts to underwater camera rigs. If you need this feature, the DC710 (note the additional "C" in the name) is the better choice.

- Because the light is powered by 21700 batteries with an integrated charging port, standard 21700 batteries only fit to a limited extent. When shaken more vigorously, shorter batteries without a charging port may briefly lose contact. This is not a drawback, but worth mentioning.

- This light is not designed for video recording. It does not have a flood function; instead, it offers a very good spot beam with an appropriate spill around it, exactly what is needed for normal dives.

- When the light is locked and you press the button, nothing happens. This may give some users the impression that the light is defective. A double flash—similar to when activating the lock—would be desirable here as an indication that the light is locked, not broken.