

GIFT GUIDE COMPACTS

OLYMPUS SP-510

£210



7.1
MEGA
PIXEL

420g

10^x
ZOOM

SUPPLIED
0 MB
xD
xD-Picture Card

50-4000
ISO

2.5in
SCREEN

One lens does it all in the new generation of super-zoom compacts like this latest Olympus offering

Big zoom no longer means that you need a multiple collection of lenses and a small suitcase to carry them - the new generation of super-zoom compacts like the SP-510 UZ from Olympus offer a one-camera solution. The zoom range on this camera is the 35mm equivalent of 38-380mm, which is huge. The camera is, however, very compact.

Controlling the camera at such massive magnifications can be a rather interesting challenge. To help reduce camera shake, the SP-510 UZ has a system that changes the ISO sensitivity, which in turn enables the shutter speed to be stepped up, thus reducing potential movement. One downside on the ISO front is that the 2500 and 4000 settings are available only by reducing the image quality down to

three-megapixels. It is unusual to get high resolution on a compact with this zoom range, so this makes the 7.1-megapixel resolution impressive.

This camera offers a great mix of shooting modes which are selected from a simple command wheel. These include user-interactive options such as aperture and shutter priority, in addition to the automatic point-and-shoot options. The camera also offers a RAW file option, which will appeal to the more discerning user.

A 2.5in screen is complemented by an optical viewfinder for framing images. Olympus has installed internal memory in the SP-510 UZ but there is an expansion slot for the use of xD media cards to save more images. Image quality is very good, with great colours and sharp detail very evident. Noise levels at the higher ISO settings are poor, and not helped by the fact that these pictures are captured at a lower resolution.

SPECIFICATIONS

Resolution	7.1-megapixel
Sensor	1/2.5in CCD
Max image size	3072x2304pixels
Lens	38-380mm f/2.8-3.7
Exposure modes	Auto, PASM and scene modes
Metering	ESP metering; Spot, partial and evaluative
Focus	143-point multi AF
Video mode	Yes/with sound
LCD screen size	2.5in 115,000pixels
Battery	4x AA
Storage media	21MB internal, xD
File formats	JPEG, RAW
Dimensions (wxhxd)	105.5x74.5x70mm
Weight	420g

FIRST IMPRESSIONS

FEATURES	20/25
HANDLING	22/25
PERFORMANCE	23/25
VALUE	22/25

TOTAL 87/100

An excellent camera that is let down by its ISO performance, but the zoom is great.



Contact: www.olympus.co.uk; 020 7253 2772