

Vortex Recon 10x50 R/T

By Tony Gimmellie

When you think about a quality spotting scopes the first thing that usually pops into your head is the fact that in order for it to be able to see far and to pick up detail the unit has to be extremely large. I look back over the years and see the numerous spotting scopes that I have used and some of them look more like telescopes than a spotting scope. As with any military, law enforcement sniper, or competitive shooter the need for a quality spotting scope is a must. Anyone that has ever had to carry a pack with their mission essential gear knows how quickly your pack gets filled up, and that it gets heavy fast.

I recently received a Vortex Recon 10x50 R/T from Doug of Cameraland Inc. to test out and evaluate.

Vortex Optics has come on the scene pretty heavily in the last few years. Vortex has been in the optics business since 1986. They are a family owned business that operates in the US, and they have a staff of roughly forty employees. Their products are designed to their specifications and they are built, inspected, and serviced at their shop located in central Wisconsin.

Vortex has made extensive strides in the tactical arena of scopes over the last few years so I was confident this spotting scope would live up to that reputation. Immediately opening the box I was surprised at the amount of extras that come standard with this spotting scope. Accessories ranged from a carrying bag, tripod and mounting gear, to an accessory straps. These were welcomed additions that you usually end up buying separately.

The scope itself is very compact, lightweight and durable. Starting at the scopes 50mm objective end and working back you will find a hard plastic flip up cap to help protect the objective lens. Moving rearward you come upon two attachment points for the lanyard to be attached to the scope with. Directly behind the lanyard points are two metal attachment points where the picatinny rail and tripod get mounted to the scope. Behind that you come to the rubberized reticle focus wheel which allows you to adjust the focus of the unit. Another feature found on this compact scope is the belt clip which can be attached to your belt or any other gear that offers webbing. There are three places that you can move or switch the belt clip too, to allow it to work for you. The reticle can be adjusted by using the reticle focus wheel to gain the clarity of the units milliradian based reticle. Capping off this scope is the winged eyecup that allows exterior light to be blocked out of the user's eye while using the scope.

The Recon R/T's lenses are made of premium XD glass Extra-low dispersion (XD) glass enhances resolution, color, and contrast. The XR lens coatings uses proprietary anti-reflection lens coatings that increase light transmission with multiple coatings on all air-

to-glass surfaces. Also applied to this scope is an Ultra-hard, scratch-resistant coating that repels oils and corrosive salts on the outer glass surfaces.

A few other points of interest with this scope are that the unit is waterproof and it is sealed with O-rings to prevent moisture, dust, and debris from getting inside the scope. The unit is fog proof due to the barrel being filled with argon gas to help eliminate internal fogging of the unit.

I have had the chance to use this scope in a variety of conditions from sunny to overcast days and from temperatures in the 40's to 100 degrees and the clarity was crisp and clear. The Vortex Recon being a compact scope runs up at the upper levels in spotting scopes wrapped up in a lightweight, durable package that's affordable. I enjoyed the ranging reticle offered in this optic. I ran a series of ranging drills and found it to be just as easy to range with this optic as with my current rifle scope. The only recommendation I could make to anyone ordering the Vortex Recon is to invest into one of the more durable solid tripod unit to hold your scope. The tripod that comes with the unit is handy but anyone working in a tactical or competitive environment will want something sturdier.

All in all I highly recommend the Vortex Recon to anyone needing a quality spotting scope, and you will find it in my rucksack being used by Team Blaster at a competition near you.

Kit Includes:

- 1 Recon Tripod
- 1 Tripod quick release Uni-Daptor
- 1 Post Unit
- 1 Hand Strap
- 1 Lanyard
- 1 Picatinny Rail and mounting screws
- 1 Soft case
- 1 Flip cap objective lens cover

Specifications:

- **Magnification:** 10 x
- **Objective Lens Diameter:** 50 mm
- **Eye Relief:** 19.5 mm
- **Exit Pupil:** 5 mm
- **Linear Field of View:** 280 feet/1000 yards
- **Angular Field of View:** 5.3 degrees
- **Close Focus:** 12 feet
- **Length:** 7 inches

- **Width:** 3 inches
- **Weight:** 15.2 ounces

Unit Retail for **\$589.99**

Contact Info:

Camera Land NY
575 Lexington Avenue,
New York, NY 10022-6102

Telephone: 212-753-5128

Email: Cameraland@aol.com

<http://www.cameralandny.com/>











