

Sony RX100

The Sony RX100 is Sony's highly acclaimed compact travel camera. I am using version vi (the latest version currently is vii). I am very happy with this camera rig. It has excellent image quality, good zoom range (24-200mm for v. 6) and excellent electronic viewfinder (EVF). The connections are simple and the synchronization is very good.

One issue is that the cameras cannot get close enough. In the side-by-side configuration the lens spacing is 115mm. In the z-configuration it is 90mm. In the staggered (overlapping) configuration it is 75mm.

At first, I used the cameras side-by-side or in the z-configuration. Lately I have been using the staggered configuration and I am very pleased. In this configuration there is an error because one camera is closer to the subject than the other. The error is equal to z/D (where z is the displacement, 25mm here, and D is the distance to the nearest object). The error is minimized by maintaining a certain minimum distance to the near subject (I recommend $100z$ or $2.5m = 8.2$ ft). You can take close-ups, but the background must be blocked.

I use mini panoramic clamps which allow me to rotate and slide the cameras easily. I can switch from staggered to side-by-side (or even wider) or converge the cameras quickly and align them accurately.

When the cameras are first turned on, the zoom goes to the widest end (24mm). I prefer to use 35mm or 50mm. I have this setting memorized. I also use step zoom and make sure that the zooms match. I use the EVF to compose and see the settings (I prefer the EVF over the screen because I need

SONY RX100vi twin rig at a glance

- + Excellent image quality
- + Excellent synchronization
- + Good zoom range (24-200)
- + Electronic Viewfinder

- Larger / Heavier
- Wide base side-by-side
- Non intuitive menus
- Expensive



Staggered cameras
(75mm with 25mm offset)

Mini panoramic clamps on quality camera bar (allows for quick control of rotation to go from staggered to side-by-side or convergence and also changing the base, without disturbing the cameras)

Twin camera switch by DrT (has two 2.5mm isolated inputs, a quality two stage switch and a third input for remote control)

90 degree Multiport cables (protect the camera ports better than straight cables)

Fig 5: Sony RX100 cameras in the staggered configuration for normal (75mm) lens spacing. I am using mini panoramic clamps that allow the cameras to rotate and also slide (see Text).

reading glasses to see the screen but not the EVF).

I am generally pleased with the results. I have used the cameras for action shots (Vinny jumping over logs), general 3D and close-ups. Some examples are shown here.

I have to make sure that the mode dials are at the same setting. Also, the

camera in the front can bump the zoom lever of the camera in the back so I have to check to make sure that the zooms match. The rig is heavier than the others but it gives noticeably better results.

This rig has now become my main travel 3D camera. I use it for anything from normal to hyperstereos and even close-ups (at a distance, zooming in).

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