

# Vosonic VP8870

www.vosonic.com

**Guide price: £320**

**Street price: £300**

**SUPPLIED ACCESSORIES**

USB cable, mains adaptor, earphone, AV cable, rechargeable lithium-ion battery, leather case, MAGIX Media Suite, instruction manual



148mm

76mm

WHEN IT COMES TO BRAND AWARENESS, VOSONIC isn't in the same league as Canon, Epson or Jobo, but take a look at their website and you'll see that they're prolific producers of various electronic devices, including portable hard disks. The VP8870 is its most popular model and, looking at its specification, it's easy to see why. Its 4.3in LCD screen is larger than any of the others on test and its range of features makes it a real multimedia option. The design bears a resemblance to the Epson models, with the large LCD dominating the centre of the front of the unit and its control buttons to the right of the screen. It is slightly thinner and longer than the Epson and the neat design means that you can grip it with your left hand and adjust the controls with your right. The buttons on the right-hand side are neatly arranged in a row, but have a slightly crude appearance, though this is totally superficial and has no adverse effect on how well they work. The menu system is very easy to navigate, with clear tabs leading you through to all the major functions. Card slots are found on the top side, with one for CompactFlash and another that accepts SD and MS cards. Next to these are the AV In and headphone sockets. On the bottom is a mini-USB socket and a mains socket for charging the battery. When reviewing images, you'll find that you can work through the images very quickly and that you can view Raw files as well as JPEGs. The screen delivers very good sharpness and accurate colour reproduction and, while it's not quite as good as the Epson models, it's on a par with Jobo's Giga Vu Pro Extreme. In our speed test, the 2GB transfer from the CompactFlash card took 7 minutes 48 seconds, while the SD transfer took 6 minutes 5 seconds. Try as we might, we couldn't get it to work with MemoryStick. Battery life remained at full power after an hour's use. A great choice buy (if you use SD or CompactFlash).

**Features at a glance**

Memory capacity: 160GB  
Screen Size: 4.3inches  
Card slots: CF, SD and MS  
Dimensions: 148x76x27mm  
Weight: 328g

**Verdict**

The largest screen and capacity at the lowest price, along with good performance makes this worth a look.

Ease of use	★★★★★
Features	★★★★★
Performance	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★

**Overall** ★★★★★

# Epson P-3000

www.epson.co.uk

**Guide price: £330**

**Street price: £280**

**SUPPLIED ACCESSORIES**

USB cable, mains adaptor, rechargeable lithium-ion battery, wrist strap, soft case, instruction manual



150mm

88.7mm

EPSON HAS THREE PHOTO VIEWERS in its range and this is its budget model. It's also the oldest of the three, being released along with the now-discontinued P-5000 in late 2006. Its design set the benchmark for the latest models, with a very neat set-up and a large 4in Photo Fine Ultra screen, which dominates the front panel. The contoured handgrips on either side allow it to be comfortably held in one or both hands and build quality is excellent. The layout of the controls, as well as the menu system, is excellent, and most users will find that they can access the majority of functions without the need to dig out the thick and comprehensive instruction manual. A sliding control on the right edge switches the unit on and off, and a blue light on the left indicates when it's powering up (or down). Controls are found to the right of the LCD and consist of seven buttons and a four-way control. Users will find that they can access most functions via the four-way control and central OK button. Two card slots (CompactFlash and SD) are found on the top, along with a headphone socket. Inserting a card while the unit is switched on leads to a prompt to either transfer images or to browse them. Everything is logical and well thought out and moving from one menu screen to another is fast and straightforward. Screen quality is excellent, with very good colour reproduction and sharpness. On the left side are ports for AV, standard and mini-USB sockets, as well as a DC socket for the mains. We connected a USB key and then a card reader and were able to browse files and transfer them. A progress bar provides an indication of how far the transfer has run while the blue light pulses next to the LCD. In our speed test, transferring 2GB from the CompactFlash card took 6 minutes 23 seconds, while the SD transfer took 5 minutes 18 seconds. The battery life indicator remained at full power despite using various functions for an hour. Highly recommended.

**Features at a glance**

Memory capacity: 40GB  
Screen Size: 4inches  
Card slots: CF and SD  
Dimensions: 150x88.7x33.1mm  
Weight: 425g

**Verdict**

The Epson proves to be a very good all-rounder that's easy to use and fast, but over-priced compared to the Vosonic.

Ease of use	★★★★★
Features	★★★★★
Performance	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★

**Overall** ★★★★★