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Gear *Guide*

KEEPING YOU UP-TO-DATE WITH THE VERY LATEST FLYFISHING GEAR ■ By Robbie Winram

Reel with real pedigree

Info | Hardy Uniqua 7/8wt reel, £169.00

1 THIS new 'entry level' reel was launched to complement the 2010 range of Uniqua rods, and although it is the cheapest in the Hardy range, it doesn't lack the engineering and pedigree you expect from this company.

The reel cage and spool are machined from high-grade aluminium alloy and are heavily ventilated to reduce weight. The reel is a large arbor design with diameter of 94mm and has more than enough depth to take a WF8 line plus 140m of backing. It has a polished black anodised finish that looks stylish and more importantly protects the reel from corrosion.

The carbon fibre disc drag system is operated via a large knurled knob on the rear of the cage and is more than capable of stopping most fish. It is easy to operate even with cold, wet fingers and the drag operates smoothly with no jerky movements. The spools are simple to change by depressing a small spring lever in the centre of the spool. To change from left to right hand wind simply flip the clutch bearing.

The reel is supplied in a protective neoprene pouch with Velcro closure.

If you are looking to upgrade to a fully machined alloy reel with quality specifications, but still at an affordable price, the Uniqua is well worth a closer look.

Contact: www.hardyfishing.com

TECH SPEC

Weight: 190gr

Diameter: 94mm

Spool width: 30mm

Spare spool: £69

Drag: Carbon fibre disc



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