



Seabird Expedition LV - For the long distance oriented beginner

Ingvar Ankervik at Vitudden canoe shipyard (VKV) has built kayaks all his life and when he says that this kayak is "as much kayaking as most people will ever need" one undeniably becomes a bit curious. When the first expedition arrived, it was essentially a VKV Seagull Offshore made in plastic with all that it implies. The new LV version (low volume) is much neater in its design and that is only positive ("In the first expedition, it was almost possible run below deck and hide" as one tester said). It is said to fit paddlers up to about 85 kg. If you are heavier you should consider the larger model.

The tested kayak was a "VKV-edition" which means it comes with a set of pontoons and that the VKV tube to facilitate self-rescue is mounted just behind the cockpit. In addition, they put in extra seals at the screws that hold the pedals and fixes some other details. The price tag for the whole package is just below 10 000 SEK.

The first impression of the Expedition LV gives no major expectations, this is not a kayak who will win any beauty contests; the great weight and details like suspiciously floppy hatch covers, frighteningly sharp wire attachment at the pedals and an oddly placed clam cleat located inside the cockpit is off-putting. One of the test pilots looked suspiciously at the rudder type that is of Seabirds own design, claiming to have had bad experiences previously.

In water, the feeling is quite different. Good seating position, pleasantly low cockpit together with nice paddling characteristics (both speed and manoeuvrability) makes Seabird Expedition LV a really enjoyable experience for all paddlers (below 85 kg). This is a kayak that feels longer and more spacious than its 480 centimeters and something you certainly can imagine paddling longer rides in. This really is a lot of kayak for your money and it is an unusually petite beginners kayak (at least while in water) that can grow with your long distance ambitions. Just pay some attention to the small details before signing the deal.

DATA

LENGTH 480 cm **WEIGHT** 30 kg with rudder and hatches **WIDTH** 56 cm **COCKPIT** 80x39.5 cm
HATCHES Round 25 cm + quick hatch in front, Oval 33 cm + quick hatch in rear
MATERIAL Polyethylene **PRICE** 9950 SEK including rudder and VKV safety system + pontoons
MORE INFO seabirddesigns.com

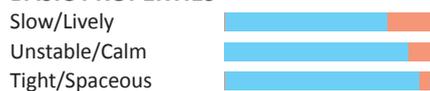
Overall impression

88%

Price/performance

98%

BASIC PROPERTIES



VOLUME



SCOPE OF USE



SUITED FOR



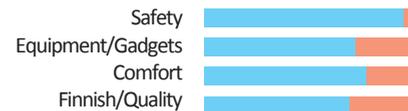
SIZE OF PADDLER



FUNCTIONS



OTHER



AT SEA

