

Watch Report

Watch news and reviews.

Review of the YES Zulu Watch (Outdoor/Diving, Travel Watches, Watch Reviews)

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It's not unusual to see cool new features and functionality packed into digital watches these days: MP3 players, infrared remote controls, cameras, compasses, flashlights, PDAs. Telling time has even become secondary for many watches by companies like Casio, Timex, Suunto, Fossil, and dozens of small new high-tech watch manufacturers. What *is* unusual, however, is to see a new and innovative high-tech watch whose primary function is not only to tell time, but to do so in traditional and even ancient ways. The YES Zulu watch combines fine Swiss quartz movements with Japanese microchips and complex algorithms to provide the most complete and comprehensive picture of time that I have ever seen in a watch.



The YES watch philosophy is that time is more than just 365 days in a year, 24 hours in a day, 60 minutes in an hour, and 60 seconds in a minute. Although that is how most of us experience time day to day -- and indeed, YES watches do capture the concept perfectly well -- there are other cycles and rhythms that play very important roles in our lives, whether we choose to acknowledge them or not. Most notably, sunrise and sunset, moon rise and moon set, solar noon, high and low tide, and lunar phases -- all of which (and more) the YES watch captures and conveys.

(Note: this review uses some terminology that may not be in all watch enthusiast's everyday vocabulary. The end of the review contains a short glossary of terms like solstice, equinox, solar noon, etc.)

Features and Functions of the YES Zulu Watch

- **Digital timekeeping.** Although the YES watch's specialty is celestial timekeeping, of course it conveys standard hours, minutes and seconds, as well. The upper portion of the watch's face is a dot matrix LCD which, in standard "home" mode, ticks off time just like any other digital watch.
- **Analog timekeeping.** Both in contrast to and complimenting the digital portion of the watch, YES watches have a single analog 24-hour hand powered by a Swiss-made quartz movement. The 24-hour hand makes one full revolution per day, indicating the time in both 12 and 24 hour formats, and also indicating the sun's current position in the sky, which brings me to my favorite feature of the YES watch: