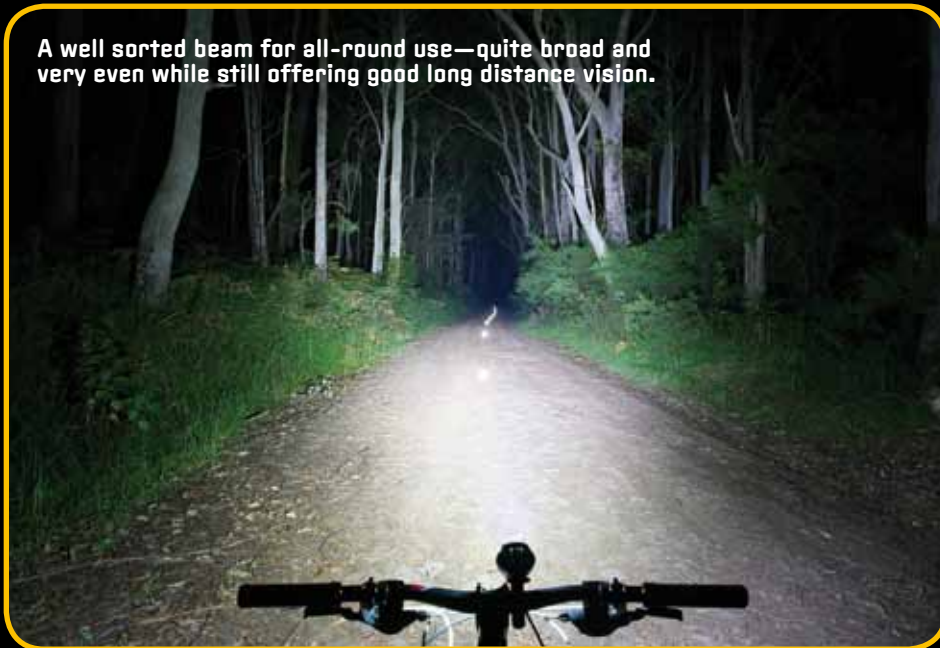


# NiteFlux Photon Max 24 Wireless

\$699

Distributed by NiteFlux (08) 8463 1382 / [www.niteflux.com](http://www.niteflux.com)

A well sorted beam for all-round use—quite broad and very even while still offering good long distance vision.



## Specifications

Price	\$699
LEDs	3 x LED run at 24 watts on high beam
Claimed Hi-Beam Output	2,000 Lumens
Battery Type	2,600mAh Li-ion
Charge Time	4 hours
Light Unit Weight (helmet mounted)	140g
Battery Weight	280g
Total System Weight	464g
Hi-Beam Burntime (as tested)	1:30 (3:00 with 5.2Ah battery)
Longest Burntime (claimed)	36 hours
Mounting Types	Helmet & handlebar

**R**esiding in the same shell as their previous big-output offerings, the new Photon Max 24 ups the ante to produce 2,000 lumens from 24-watts of LED power (their previous best was 1,350 lumens from 20-watts in the same Photon body).

Aside from the increased lumen output, there are a number of cool features that make this light more refined and easier to use. Previously, the light switch was on the battery pack, so changing light levels meant reaching down to your frame or into your pack to feel around for the mode button—less than ideal. With this much light, you'll probably want to step the power down when climbing, especially with the modest high beam burn-times (1.5 or 3-hours depending on your battery option).

Their solution is a very tidy one. The optional wireless control is a small rubberised button that velcros to your bars and allows you to flick between the beams—if you can find a suitable mount-

ing spot it's just like changing gears. With no wires required, it works especially well if you want to run the Photon on your head. Its ease of use means you can flick the power down whenever appropriate and substantially extend the burn-times. My only gripe lies with the simplistic Velcro strap used for mounting the switch—it's far from secure and can leave the button prone to moving around on the handlebar. My solution was to wedge the button between the grip and the brake lever.

Niteflux offers two battery options; the 280g, 2,600mAh flat pack (pictured) has a good shape and cable length for stowing in your pack or pocket for helmet mounted use, while the 450g 5,200mAh version is profiled for easier bike mounting with tidy short wire to match. Extension leads are available if you want to use the big battery with a helmet mounted beam. Both are hard case mounted for robustness and reliability.

By locating the switch within the bat-

tery (activated remotely on the wireless versions), the weight of the light head is kept down; at 140g it is acceptably light for helmet mounting. It also allows Niteflux some freedom in design, with the sculpted profile designed to optimise cooling—clearly an important thing as this unit gets very hot, very quickly on high beam. Thankfully it has thermal control as a safeguard against cooking, and we never noticed the unit throttling back on the trail or when bench testing to confirm the burn-times.

With a claimed 2,000 lumens at their disposal, Niteflux has created a very even beam pattern with no real 'spot' in the middle. It still offers good intermediate distance throw, but the consistent manner that it filters away to the sides makes this one of the best all-round beam patterns that we tried. There are no distracting rings or cut-offs between light and darker zones. The colour temperature was also a bit 'warmer' than most LEDs, making it less reflective in misty or dusty conditions.

It acquits itself well in tight singletrack offering plenty of clean light while still packing a good punch once things open up on faster fire-road descents. This light sits very comfortably with the big-hitters of the bike light industry, and does so at a competitive price-point for a 2,000 lumen light.

