



# Irix 15mm f/2.4 Blackstone

£600/\$600

EAST MEETS WEST IN THIS SMART NEW ULTRA-WIDE LENS

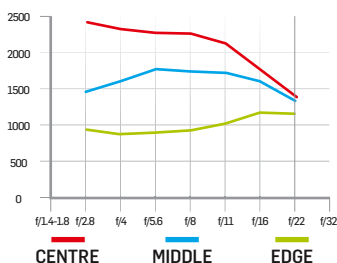
Designed in Switzerland and manufactured in Korea, the Blackstone is superbly well engineered, with a magnesium alloy barrel and full weather-seals. Advanced features include a fine-tuning adjustment to ensure accuracy of the focus distance scale on individual camera bodies, a locking mechanism for the focus ring, a sliding panel in the detachable hood for filter rotation, and even fluorescent markings for the focus distance scale, hyperfocal distance and depth of field.

There's no autofocus, but the silky-smooth focus ring operates with superb precision. The less expensive Firefly edition of the lens has a plastic barrel, plain markings and one less weather seal, but optically it's identical.

## Performance

Considering how wide this lens is, corner-to-corner sharpness is excellent in real world shooting. Barrel distortion and vignetting are tolerable, and 'neutrino' coatings do a good job of combating ghosting and flare. Overall image quality is simply sumptuous, in keeping with the lens's high-quality construction.

## Sharpness (Higher is better)



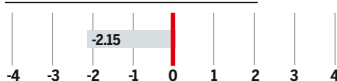
Impressive sharpness across the frame, even when shooting wide open at f/2.4.

## Edge fringing (Lower is better)

f/2.8 1.05 f/8 0.79 f/16 0.79

The Irix delivered some of the best lab scores for colour fringing.

## Distortion (Nearer 0 is better)



Barrel distortion is between that of the Samyang 14mm and the Zeiss 18mm.

## Verdict

Features  
Build/handling  
Performance  
Value for money  
**OVERALL**



This is a brilliant manual focus lens from an exciting new manufacturer.