

We're dealers for **Swarovski**, **Zeiss**, and **Vortex** whose equipment ranges widely in price. Swarovski and Zeiss make the best optics in the world and are what most serious birders are now using (and the last binocular or scope you'll ever need to buy). If Swarovski or Zeiss fit your budget, it's money well spent. You'll not regret your purchase for a second and wonder why you waited so long. All three of these companies offer great warranties. We suggest **establishing a budget** from where we can then make a recommendation.

One big variable is the **glass quality**. **Swarovski** and **Zeiss** have the best and **Vortex** is a good financial alternative. The difference in glass between older and the newer optics is like the difference between an old color TV and a new HD TV. Significant! If you haven't had the chance to compare the difference, you'll be seriously surprised at how good binoculars and scopes can be. We hear "OMG!" a lot.

Binocular **magnifications** recommended for nature viewing are the 8, 8.5, 10, and 12 powers. The **objective lens size**, the lens closest to the object at which you are looking, should be 40mm or 42mm. These two factors will give you the best balance of magnification, light transmission, depth of field, width of field, and the ability to hold the binocular steady (a function of size and weight). Magnifications of 10 or more are harder to hold steady and often will reduce the width and depth of field. Objective lenses of 50mm or larger will let in more light, but a binocular of this size is ungainly, heavy, and difficult to hold for extended periods of time.

Below are our binocular **recommendations** in the following price categories. **Shipping and tax** (if applicable) are additional. Prices can be found on our website and reflect about a 10% discount.

Swarovski NL Pure 8x42	Highest Recommendation! Swarovski's newest binocular. Nothing better! No regrets (except for why you waited so long)! The NL line has the best ergonomics.
Swarovski NL Pure 10x42	Like above with more magnification. Some minor tradeoffs with field of view and brightness.
Swarovski NL Pure 12x42	Like above with more magnification. Great if you are using them for shorebirding.
Zeiss Victory SF 8x42	This is their top-of-the-line. Highly recommended.
Zeiss SFL 8x42	A quality binocular in the middle price category.
Swarovski NL 8x32	More compact and less weight than the 42s. Best compact!
Swarovski EL 8.5x42	Highest Recommendation! Very bright. Great eye relief.
Swarovski CL Companion 8x30	Smaller, more compact, and less weight than the ELs. Not quite as bright.
Vortex Razor HD 8x42	Best binocular dollar-for-dollar!
Vortex Viper HD 8x42	Best in its price category.
Vortex Diamondback 8x42	A great value!

The best spotting scopes available are made by **Swarovski**. Their top to the line are the **ATX 95mm** and **ATX 115mm**. If in your budget, they're the best and you'll be forever grateful for having such a wonderful piece of equipment. It'll offer you the highest quality digital images, too.

Here is our list of **scope suggestions**. Shipping and tax are additional. Prices can be found on our website, and reflect about a 10% discount.

Swarovski ATX 115mm	No better! This has the largest objective lens, so will produce the best images. It is the heaviest of the scopes.
Swarovski ATX 95mm	The choice if the 115mm is too big for your needs. Great for digital imaging with your camera or cell phone.
Swarovski ATX 85mm	Lighter in weight. If you are this close, go with the 95mm!
Swarovski ATS 80mm	Great at the price! (20-60x eyepiece)
Vortex Razor 85mm	Very good for the price!
Vortex Viper 85mm	The choice in this price category!
Vortex Diamondback 80mm	For a tight budget. Good value!

The **Vortex Razor 85mm** is a fine scope in its price category, but if you can invest in one of the Swarovski scopes, it'll be well worth it for better clarity of image. Again, the difference is in the quality of the glass.

We sell and recommend **Benro Tripods** with aluminum legs or with carbon fiber legs (carbon dampens vibrations – important to photographers). Excellent product and value.

Swarovski Tripods with carbon fiber legs are high quality and are significantly more expensive.

If you would like to be in touch with **questions** or to **place an order**, please call. We can drop ship the order to your location and have it in your hands usually within two or three business days. We also offer delivery and set-up services to most places in Connecticut (fee depending on mileage).

We're happy to match any price you see advertised (truthfully, all dealers sell at the same price). Be assured that your purchase supports our environmental education and conservation programs, and that we appreciate your support.

Looking forward to helping you further!