

AT THE TOP THERE IS NOTHING ELSE THAN SECURITY AND RELIABILITY



In his fascinating and breathtaking images Bernd Ritschel celebrates the wild beauty of the mountains. His expeditions have led him around the world into the wildest regions of the Alps, the Andes, the Himalayas, the Arctic area and to Alaska. We have asked the well-known mountain- and adventure photographer which equipment he usually relies on when the air is getting thinner and temperatures become icy.

NOVOFLEX: Mr. Ritschel, from your point of view – why is the quality of your equipment and accessories an important factor during your expeditions and excursions into the wilderness?

Bernd Ritschel: Judging from 35 years of experience in rock climbing and hiking I am well aware of the possible surprises one can encounter in the mountains. I always try to prepare myself. Its not only the perfect nature experience that counts – as a father and the one being responsible for the whole team I foremost have safety in mind. In high-altitude the strain for man and equipment is extreme thus one will always try to avoid every unnecessary movement.



What is the main difference when taking images in the mountains?

The job as a mountain-photographer is a most rewarding one: I take images for lectures, adverts for mountain sports companies, the tourism industry and make cover stories for big magazines. When taking ad campaign images for companies like Deuter, Gore Tex or Lowa on the summit ridge of some 13000 ft high mountains I have to be very careful. In addition I'm responsible for the whole team of models and my assistants. Each and every one of them needs to be as fit as a fiddle and "mountain proven". I do love engineering and I am fascinated by high quality. Bad products receive a devastating verdict. They can be a real risk in the mountains.



What does your equipment look like?

Depending on the project I offer my clients 3 different versions: For large format prints, posters and banners I use my medium format camera. Standard orders are carried out with my 35mm full-frame camera. What becomes more and more important are the mirrorless cameras by Fujifilm. They're small and lightweight. I can carry them with 2-3 good prime lenses on top of mountains as high as 19600 ft.

Why did you choose the NOVOFLEX TrioPod?

The TrioPod is simply ingenious. Since I am using 3 hiking sticks as legs I have 4 hiking sticks while on tour together with my wife. Thus I don't have to carry additional tripod legs. For landscape photography in the valley or the nearest vicinity I store the carbon fibre legs in my car. In the blink of an eye I have lifted my viewfinder to a height of 6.06ft. When I am alone I take 2 hiking sticks and a carbon fibre leg with me.

But this does not work for your medium format equipment, doesn't it?

When working with the medium format camera I usually switch to the QuadroPod. The main advantage is its incredible stability in high snow due to the increased contact pressure.

Are speed and flexibility important factors when working with a tripod?

My photography depends on different light situations. Light varies a lot in the mountains. Thus I am faster and more flexible with 3 legs. The TrioPod with attached carbon fibre legs offers more than enough stability for 35mm DSLR- and mirrorless cameras. The QuadroPod is the perfect solution for deep snow.

How do you decide which products work best for your style of photography?

I thoroughly and meticulously test these products. As mentioned earlier my photography depends on different light situations. Every minute counts then. During production I usually reduce the equipment to the absolute necessary parts. From time to time you'll face extreme situations in which you have to improvise and need a whole lot of luck. The biggest joy for me is to encounter landscapes, light and impressions which are marvelous and unique. To know that I'll be the one to tell people about it is somewhat incredible.

DEPENDING ON THE SITUATION YOU CAN COMBINE THE INDIVIDUAL PARTS TO FORM „YOUR“ TRIOPOD

TrioPod	Trio CC	Standard	Travel	Outdoor	Macro
	 optional feature, variable base elevation, up to 10 cm (3,94 inch) in additional height	max. stability and max. height	low weight, min. folded length	Multifunctional combined with low weight	minimum working height, max. stability
A 2830 aluminium 3 section leg code: TRIO A2830	weight: 1800g (3,97 lbs) folded length: 65,4 cm (25,75") max. working height: 151 cm (59,45") min. working height: 7 cm (2,76") max. load capacity: 25 kg (55,12 lbs)	•••••			••
C 2830 carbon 3 section leg code: TRIO C2830	weight: 1460g (3,22 lbs) folded length: 65,4 cm (25,75") max. working height: 151 cm (59,45") min. working height: 7cm (2,76") max. load capacity: 55,12 lbs	•••••		••	••
A 2840 aluminium 4 section leg code: TRIO A2840	weight: 1700g (3,75 lbs) folded length: 54cm (21,26") max. working height: 149cm (58,66") min. working height: 6,5cm (2,56") max. load capacity: 25 kg (55,12 lbs)	•••••	••		••
C 2840 carbon 4 section leg code: TRIO C2840	weight: 1370g (3,02 lbs) folded length: 54cm (21,26") max. working height: 149cm (58,66") min. working height: 6,5cm (2,56") max. load capacity: 25kg (55,12 lbs)	•••••	••	••	••
A 2844 aluminium 4 section leg code: TRIO A2844	weight: 1600g (3,53 lbs) folded length: 47cm (18,50") max. working height: 125cm (49,21") min. working height: 6,5cm (2,56") max. load capacity: 25kg (55,12 lbs)	••••	•••		••
C 2844 carbon 4 section leg code: TRIO A2844	weight: 1340g (2,95 lbs) folded length: 47cm (18,5") max. working height: 125cm (49,21") min. working height: 6,5cm (2,56") max. load capacity: 25kg (55,12 lbs)	••••	••••	•••	••
C 2253 carbon 5 section leg code: TRIO C2253	weight: 850g (1,87 lbs) folded length: 35,5 (13,98") max. working height: 106cm (41,73") min. working height: 5cm (1,97") max. load capacity: 10kg (22,05 lbs)			•••••	••••
A 1010 mini aluminium code: TRIO MINI	weight: 490g (1,08 lbs) folded length: 24,5 cm (9,65") max. working height: 23cm (9,06") min. working height: 5cm (1,97") max. load capacity: 40kg (88,18 lbs)			•••	•••••
QLEG WALK II hiking stick code: TRIO WALK	weight: 1080g (2,38 lbs) folded length: 69,6cm (27,40") max. working height: 139cm (54,72") min. working height: 6cm (2,36") max. load capacity: 6kg (13,23 lbs)		••	•••••	•



TrioPod

SYSTEMTRIPOD

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SYSTEM-TRIPOD

ALL-IN-ONE



Whether for studio, outdoor, macro or travel – the NOVOFLEX TrioPod can be adapted to almost every photographic task within seconds. The modular concept system tripod with its ingenious center base and the innovative base elevation TRIO CC can be equipped with different legs depending on the situation and as such makes it variable like no other. One can choose between 2 to 4 section solid carbon fibre legs or legs made from aluminium. Additional hiking sticks and mini legs for the use as table- or macro tripod round out the whole system. All individual leg variants can be used as monopod as well. Thanks to its modular design the ideal tripod can be available on every occasion. Especially handy – all TrioPod sets can easily be upgraded with all other TrioPod components. The leg variants (type 2830, 2840, 2844) feature a stainless-steel spike which connects to a 3/8" - thread. Various other accessories can thus be attached as well. The NOVOFLEX TrioPod is the ultimate All-in-one system tripod for any conceivable "tripod-situation".

Tripod base elevation: more stable than a conventional center column, intelligent clamping mechanism for safe stop at every position.



QLEG C 2253

QLEG C 2844 QLEG A 2844

QLEG C 2840 QLEG A 2840

QLEG C 2830 QLEG A 2830

QLEG A 1010 Mini



QLEG WALK II

Exchangeable TrioPod-legs for the use as hiking stick, made from aluminium or carbon fibre with 2 up to 4 sections for macro photography close to the ground or as table tripod.

