



Media Contact:
Jonina Costello | jcostello@full-throttlecom.com
Jason Bear | jbear@full-throttlecom.com
805.529.3700

HAWKE® OPTICS' NEW VANTAGE HD 8x34 NAMED *BEST COMPACT BINOCULAR BY OUTDOOR LIFE*

"Ultimate One-Hand Binocular" Recognized in Outdoor Life's 2026 Budget Optics Test

[Hawke® Optics](#), a global leader in precision sporting optics, is proud to announce its new Vantage HD 8x34 binoculars have taken the top spot for "Best Compact Binoculars" in [Outdoor Life's 11 Best Budget Binoculars of 2026](#) comparison. This recognition highlights Hawke's commitment to delivering optics that combine impressive performance and optical quality for an exceptional value.

"Hawke's new super-compact 8x34 Vantage HD is the ultimate one-hand binocular," said *Outdoor Life* Optics Editor, Andrew McKean. "Its open barrels allow users to confidently grip the bino, and it's so lightweight (less than a pound) and compact that it's easy to grab out of a harness or a jacket pocket. This little powerhouse might also be the ultimate travel optic, easy to pack and produce when you want to see the details of a gargoyle gracing a Medieval cathedral, for instance."

The [Vantage HD 8x34 binoculars](#) are loaded with Hawke's H2 optics, giving them high performance at an incredible value. They feature phase-corrected BAK-4 roof prisms and fully multi-coated optics that increase light transmission and produce crisp detail with stunning color. The compact binos are built on an open hinge design with a rubber-armored polycarbonate body, plus have twist-up eye cups and stay-on lens covers. This makes the Vantage HD 8x34 binoculars easy to use and extremely lightweight, as noted in McKean's review.

During testing, McKean used the Vantage HD binos on a dove hunting trip to Argentina, putting them to hard use identifying various birds. The subtle differences of the Argentinian birds compared to North American birds was quite evident to McKean thanks to the optical quality and ease of use he experienced with the Hawke binoculars.

With an MSRP of \$189, the Vantage HD 8x34 delivers impressive optical performance at an accessible price. These award-winning binoculars also carry the Hawke Lifetime Warranty. Read the full review here: [11 Best Budget Binoculars of 2026](#). Learn more about the 8x34 as well as the entire line of Hawke Optics Vantage HD binoculars at www.hawkeoptics.com.

About Hawke

#VISIONACCOMPLISHED. Hawke is a worldwide market leader at the forefront of optical performance with class-leading innovation and design offering a complete line of sport optics from rifle, crossbow, shotgun and air gun scopes to binoculars, spotting scopes and accessories. Accuracy, strength and precision; Hawke optics blend iconic design, exceptional engineering and unrivalled craftsmanship to create an unforgettable viewing experience. As awareness of Hawke Sport Optics continues to grow, more customers are trusting Hawke as the unquestioned industry leader in optics. Learn more at www.hawkeoptics.com.

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