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Ultra-compact cameras

RICOH CAPLIO R6

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Ricoh's Caplio R6 is pretty amazing, managing to fit a 7X optical zoom lens into an ultra-compact chassis. Add in the 7.1MP image sensor and these are impressive specs. The R6 makes good use of them, producing very good-quality images that were well lit, nicely balanced in colour and remarkably free of noise. There was a small amount of white-level crushing in some of the darker shots, but the overall balance was still quite good. That lens is also the widest angle in this group, starting at 28mm 35mm-equivalent focal length, so you can achieve wide-angle shots. We were also

expecting worse in terms of barrel distortion than we got. It'll capture video at 640 x 480 pixel/30fps, but only in Motion JPEG format. There's no viewfinder, but the 2.7in LCD was the largest of the group, as was the 54MB of internal memory. The unit supports new SDHC memory cards and its USB 2.0 Hi-Speed connection means image transfers to your PC are nice and quick. It was only one of two to offer a high 1/2,000th of a second shutter speed and offered the best macro mode focus down to just 1cm. The R6 is definitely one you must see if you're after an ultra-compact camera.

PC User says: **A good-quality big-zoom lens in an ultra-compact body with good image quality.**

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DIGITAL CAMERA



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Caplio GX100

