### Top of the Line ($2,000–$3,000; 14 reviewed)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Binocular</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Quality Index:</th>
<th>Overall Feel:</th>
<th>Clarity/Crispness:</th>
<th>Eyeglass Friendliness:</th>
<th>Close Focus:</th>
<th>Field of View:</th>
<th>Price (MSRP):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Zeiss Victory T*HT 8x42</strong></td>
<td>(27.7 oz.) Superb image. Birds pop out from the background. Great feel in the hand and good eye relief.</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>6.2 ft</td>
<td>408 ft at 1,000 yd</td>
<td>$2,444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Zeiss Victory T*FL 8x32</strong></td>
<td>(19.8 oz.) A smaller, more comfortable binocular that’s not too small—with all the benefits of top-of-the-line glass and coatings. Gorgeous.</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>6.5 ft</td>
<td>420 ft at 1,000 yd</td>
<td>$2,055</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Swarovski Swarovision 10x42 EL</strong></td>
<td>(28 oz.) Really a fantastic binocular. The open bridge design makes it feel good in the hand and the image quality is excellent.</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>4.9 ft</td>
<td>336 ft at 1,000 yd</td>
<td>$2,777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Swarovski Swarovision 8x32</strong></td>
<td>(20.5 oz.) A smaller binocular with excellent glass and coatings. A superb image sized for smaller hands and lighter carrying weight.</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>6.2 ft</td>
<td>423 ft at 1,000 yd</td>
<td>$2,399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Leica Ultravid HD 8x42</strong></td>
<td>(27.9 oz.) Exceptionally durable, constructed with top-notch materials, and Leica’s legendary image quality. A great companion for long forays into the back of beyond.</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>9.8 ft</td>
<td>389 ft at 1,000 yd</td>
<td>$2,099</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Leica Ultravid HD 8x32</strong></td>
<td>(18.9 oz.) Amazing brightness and crispness, with an exceptionally small size.</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>6.9 ft</td>
<td>404 ft at 1,000 yd</td>
<td>$1,899</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The New Midrange ($700–$1,999; 19 reviewed)

Zeiss Conquest HD 8x32 (22.2 oz.)

Testers loved this brand-new line from Zeiss. Smaller size makes them ideal for carrying along with lots of other gear. Super sharp and bright.

- Overall Feel: 4.8
- Clarity/Crispness: 4.9
- Eyeglass Friendliness: 4.6
- Close Focus: 4.9 ft
- Field of View: 420 ft at 1,000 yd
- Price (MSRP): $999

Zeiss Conquest HD 8x42 (28 oz.)

A slightly larger version of the Conquest 32s, with larger objective lenses for better performance in low light. The image is bright, clear, and true to color.

- Overall Feel: 4.7
- Clarity/Crispness: 4.8
- Eyeglass Friendliness: 4.6
- Close Focus: 6.5 ft
- Field of View: 384 ft at 1,000 yd
- Price (MSRP): $1,077

Leica Trinovid 8x42 (28.6 oz.)

A reboot of the long-admired Trinovid line—fantastic image and durability priced for the midrange class.

- Overall Feel: 4.2
- Clarity/Crispness: 4.7
- Eyeglass Friendliness: 4.8
- Close Focus: 1.4 ft
- Field of View: 378 ft at 1,000 yd
- Price (MSRP): $1,449

Vortex Razor HD 8x42 (24.7 oz.)

Vortex is the high-end line from the trusted manufacturers at Eagle Optics. These binoculars have a good image and feel with great close focus.

- Overall Feel: 4.3
- Clarity/Crispness: 4.2
- Eyeglass Friendliness: 4.6
- Close Focus: 6 ft
- Field of View: 362 ft at 1,000 yd
- Price (MSRP): $1,279

Swarovski CL 8x30 (17.6 oz.)

Great for people who like small-form binoculars, with a very nice image that is just slightly less sharp than the top-of-the-line Swarovision 8x32.

- Overall Feel: 4.3
- Clarity/Crispness: 4.3
- Eyeglass Friendliness: 4.0
- Close Focus: 9.8 ft
- Field of View: 372 ft at 1,000 yd
- Price (MSRP): $1,054

Meopta Meostar 8x32 (20 oz.)

Reviewers noted good close focus and wide field of view. The image crisp, clear, and bright.

- Overall Feel: 3.9
- Clarity/Crispness: 4.3
- Eyeglass Friendliness: 4.3
- Close Focus: 5.7 ft
- Field of View: 420 ft at 1,000 yd
- Price (MSRP): $959
## The 400 to 699 Club ($425–$680; 26 reviewed)

### Nikon Monarch 7 8x42 (22.9 oz.)

Fantastic binocular for the price category. Sharp image; a great feel in the hand. The Nikon Monarch has been a popular line for years, and this is their new top of the class.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quality Index:</th>
<th>4.5 OUT OF 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall Feel:</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarity/Crispness:</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eyeglass Friendliness:</td>
<td>4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Close Focus:</td>
<td>8.3 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field of View:</td>
<td>420 ft at 1,000 yd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Price (MSRP):</td>
<td>$530</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Opticron Verano BGA HD 8x42 (26 oz.)

An all-around solid binocular from a brand well-known in the U.K. Good feel in the hand, popular open bridge design, and good close focus.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quality Index:</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall Feel:</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarity/Crispness:</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eyeglass Friendliness:</td>
<td>4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Close Focus:</td>
<td>6.6 ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field of View:</td>
<td>366 ft at 1,000 yd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Price (MSRP):</td>
<td>$641</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Celestron Granite ED 8x42 (25.6 oz.)

Sharp and crisp; great close focus and field of view; colors seem warmer than real life. Open bridge design for comfort in the hand.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quality Index:</th>
<th>4.3 OUT OF 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall Feel:</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarity/Crispness:</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eyeglass Friendliness:</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Close Focus:</td>
<td>6.5 ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field of View:</td>
<td>426 ft at 1,000 yd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Price (MSRP):</td>
<td>$440</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Eagle Optics Golden Eagle HD 8x42 (24.2 oz.)

Features the tried-and-true design of the popular Eagle Optics Ranger but adds HD glass for a noticeably better image.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quality Index:</th>
<th>4.3 OUT OF 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall Feel:</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarity/Crispness:</td>
<td>3.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eyeglass Friendliness:</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Close Focus:</td>
<td>5.1 ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field of View:</td>
<td>347 ft at 1,000 yd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Price (MSRP):</td>
<td>$600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Vortex Viper HD 8x42 (24.2 oz.)

Compact and comfortable. Firm focus wheel that is easy to dial in. The close focus is excellent.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quality Index:</th>
<th>4.2 OUT OF 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall Feel:</td>
<td>4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarity/Crispness:</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eyeglass Friendliness:</td>
<td>4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Close Focus:</td>
<td>5.1 ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field of View:</td>
<td>347 ft at 1,000 yd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Price (MSRP):</td>
<td>$655</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The 200 to 399 Club ($210–$399; 25 reviewed)

Nikon Monarch 5 8x42 (20.8 oz.)
Lightweight, well balanced, and comfortable in the hand. This and the Zeiss Terra ED are the only binoculars in this category to feature the clarity of ED glass.

- Overall Feel: 4.5
- Clarity/Crispness: 4.2
- Eyeglass Friendliness: 4.5
- Quality Index: 4.3 OUT OF 5
- Close Focus: 8.3 ft
- Field of View: 330 ft at 1,000 yd
- Price (MSRP): $309

Zeiss Terra ED 8x42 (25.4 oz.)
This is one of the lowest priced binoculars in our review to feature ED glass—a clear step up in terms of materials and image.

- Overall Feel: 4.4
- Clarity/Crispness: 4.0
- Eyeglass Friendliness: 4.8
- Quality Index: 4.3 OUT OF 5
- Close Focus: 5.3 ft
- Field of View: 375 ft at 1,000 yd
- Price (MSRP): $385

Opticron Trailfinder 3 WP 8x42 (22 oz.)
A fairly crisp image with a nice feel in the hand and a sensitive focus wheel that is quick to focus.

- Overall Feel: 3.8
- Clarity/Crispness: 3.7
- Eyeglass Friendliness: 4.3
- Quality Index: 4.0 OUT OF 5
- Close Focus: 16.4 ft
- Field of View: 357 ft at 1,000 yd
- Price (MSRP): $219

Eagle Optics Ranger 8x42 (21.8 oz.)
A longtime favorite that has served thousands of birders well. Not quite as sharp or bright as the Best in Class, but still an excellent value for the category.

- Overall Feel: 3.7
- Clarity/Crispness: 4.1
- Eyeglass Friendliness: 4.3
- Quality Index: 4.0 OUT OF 5
- Close Focus: 5.2 ft
- Field of View: 341 ft at 1,000 yd
- Price (MSRP): $399

Vixen New Foresta HR WP 8x42 (23.1 oz.)
Not quite as crisp or bright as Best in Class, but very close. Open bridge design is a plus. Smooth focus wheel. Easy to dial into focus.

- Overall Feel: 3.9
- Clarity/Crispness: 3.7
- Eyeglass Friendliness: 4.3
- Quality Index: 3.9 OUT OF 5
- Close Focus: 9.8 ft
- Field of View: 423 ft at 1,000 yd
- Price (MSRP): $399
Budget Bins (under $200; 18 reviewed)

Celestron Nature DX 8×42 (22.2 oz.)
Nice feel in the hand. Light weight. Reviewers were surprised at the excellent image these binoculars provide at a low price.

- Overall Feel: 4.4
- Clarity/Crispness: 4.0
- Eyeglass Friendliness: 4.5

Close Focus: 6.5 ft
Field of View: 388 ft at 1,000 yd
Price (MSRP): $185

Quality Index: 4.2 OUT OF 5

Atlas Optics Sky King 8×42 (26.7 oz.)
These binoculars offer a nice, crisp image for this price category, although the somewhat heavy and stiff feel may not be for everyone.

- Overall Feel: 3.7
- Clarity/Crispness: 4.0
- Eyeglass Friendliness: 4.5

Close Focus: 6.0 ft
Field of View: 365 ft at 1,000 yd
Price (MSRP): $199

Quality Index: 4.0 OUT OF 5

Opticron Oregon LE WP 8×32 (18.2 oz.)
Excellent value. Small size, ideal for smaller hands. Best of the lower-priced "small-sized" binoculars. Great for kids!

- Overall Feel: 3.8
- Clarity/Crispness: 4.0
- Eyeglass Friendliness: 4.2

Close Focus: 5.9 ft
Field of View: 423 ft at 1,000 yd
Price (MSRP): $155

Quality Index: 4.0 OUT OF 5

Optics Planet OPMOD 8×42 (26 oz.)
A sturdy, slightly heavy binocular that offers a good image for the price.

- Overall Feel: 3.8
- Clarity/Crispness: 4.0
- Eyeglass Friendliness: 4.5

Close Focus: 6.6 ft
Field of View: 366 ft at 1,000 yd
Price (MSRP): $195

Quality Index: 4.0 OUT OF 5

Eagle Optics Denali 8×42 (21.9 oz.)
A lightweight binocular with a smooth focus wheel and a nice image.

- Overall Feel: 4.3
- Clarity/Crispness: 3.8
- Eyeglass Friendliness: 3.7

Close Focus: 7 ft
Field of View: 408 ft at 1,000 yd
Price (MSRP): $199

Quality Index: 3.9 OUT OF 5

Leupold BX-1 Yosemite 8×30 (17 oz.)
These are especially good for kids, with a nice image and feel, low price, and several fun colors.

- Overall Feel: 3.7
- Clarity/Crispness: 3.0
- Eyeglass Friendliness: 4.0

Close Focus: 11 ft
Field of View: 389 ft at 1,000 yd
Price (MSRP): $129

Quality Index: 3.5 OUT OF 5