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A Couple New Peak LED Powerhouses

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- Gear reviews and tests - Lamps and Lanterns -



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Description :

The Peak 1.5W CR123 Caribbean and 1W AA Kino Bay pass muster

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I received two more fantastic lights from Peak LED Solutions - the single AA powered 1 watt Kino Bay (uppermost in the following pic) and the single CR123 powered 1.5 watt Caribbean (bottom in the following pic)...



Here's some specs, courtesy of Peak:

Kino Bay 1w Single AA: 450 candle power Diameter - Head .81", Body .72" 3.78" OAL 2.16 ounces Run Time - 1.5 hours to 50%, 6 hours total MSRP - \$69.95

Caribbean 1.5w Single CR123: 1050 candle power Diameter - Head .81", Body .78" 3.38 OAL 1.71 ounces Run Time - 1.5 hours to 50%, 5 hours total MSRP - \$99.95

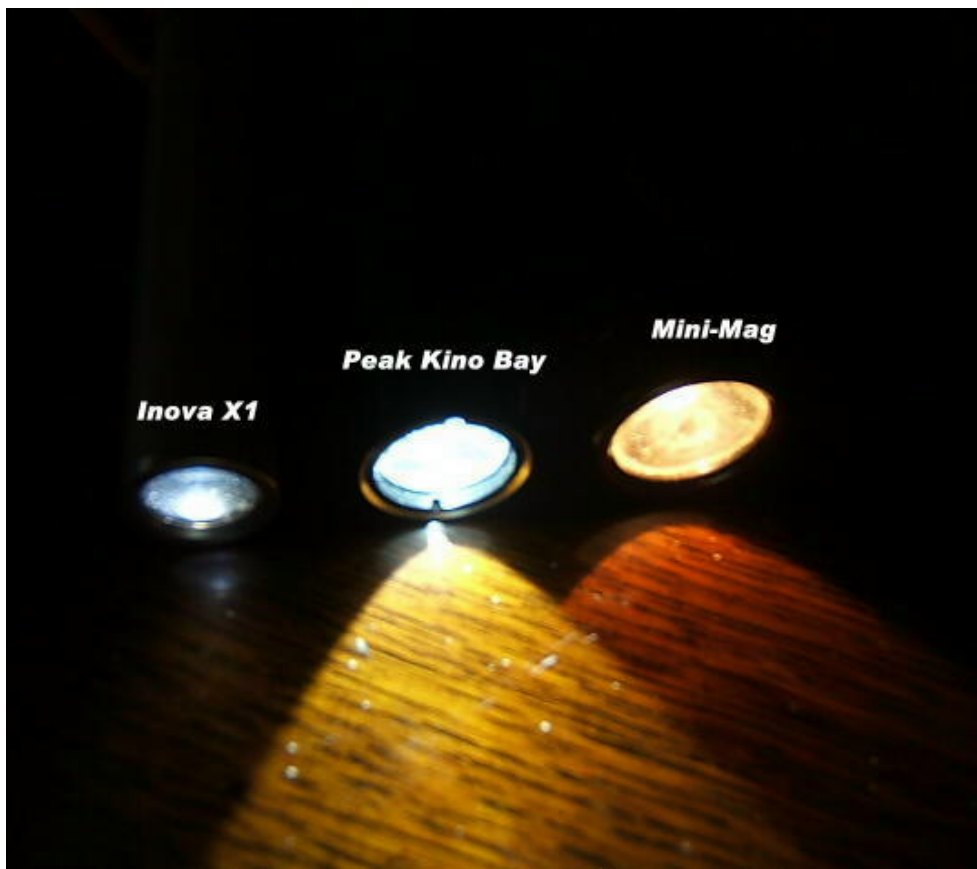
My initial impression of both lights was very good. Their fit and finish is flawless, head action is tight but easy to manipulate for on/off, and keyring lugs are tight but easily removeable should you ultralight folks choose to lighten them and shorten them up. O-rings keep out dirt, grit and water. The heads and barrels are precision machined and are very stout. Lenses are slightly recessed to help keep them protected from scratches. Light output is phenomenal. An accidental beamshot from the Caribbean directly into my eyes left me seeing spots for hours.

Need a size reference? Here's a pic of the Kino Bay as compared to a Mini Mag and an Inova X1...

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Need some light reference? Here's some help in showing off how much light the fine lights pictured above will throw...



Here's a comparison of the output of the Kino Bay and Caribbean together...

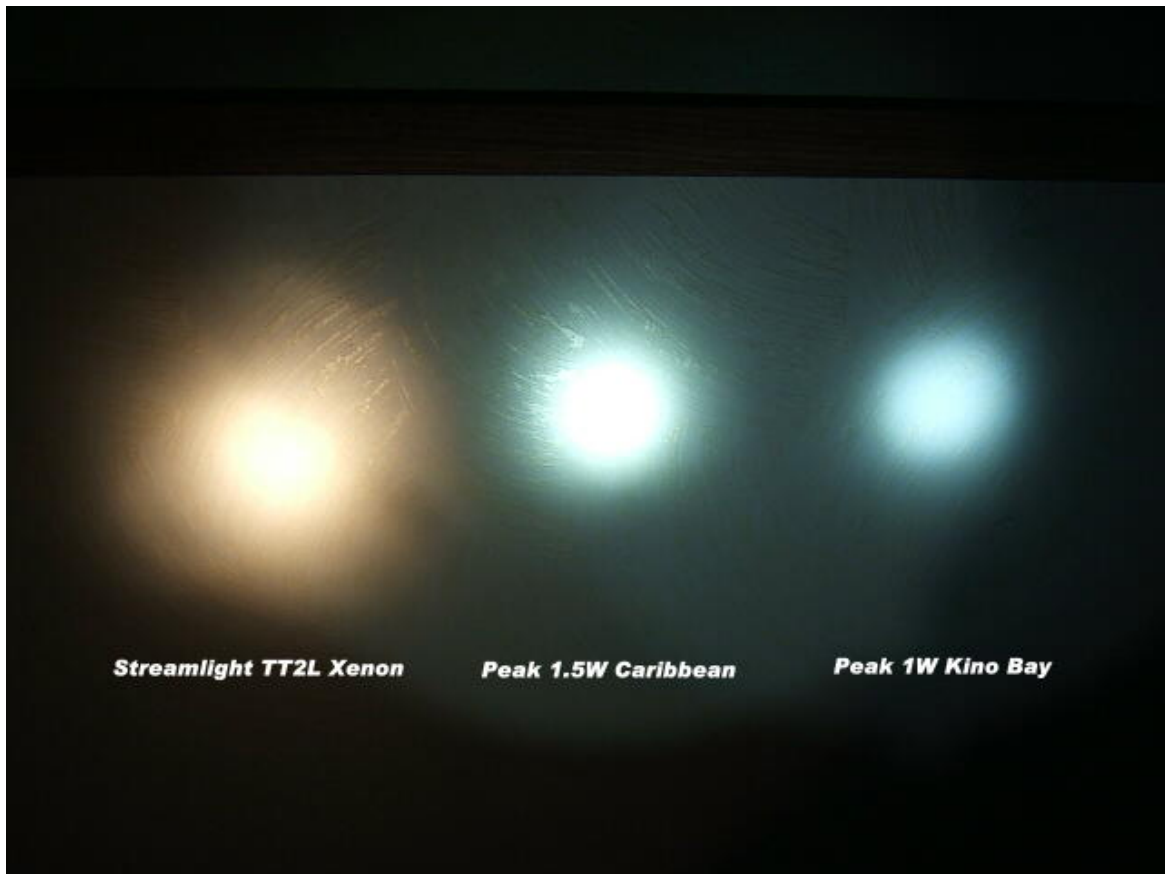
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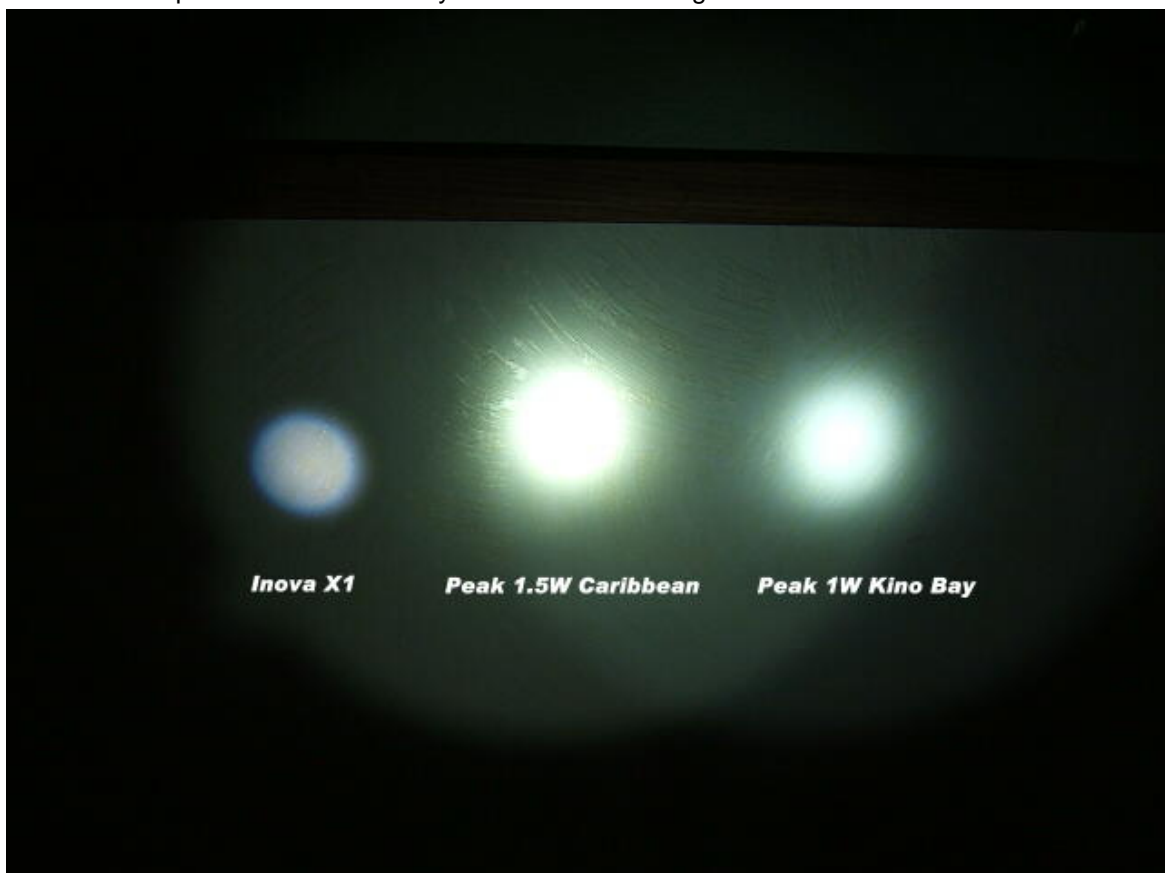
Here's the beamshots of the Kino Bay and Caribbean as compared to my former standby, the Streamlight Twin Task 2L...



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Here's a beamshot comparison of the Kino Bay and Caribbean along beside an Inova X1...



I don't mean to pick on Inova, Mag, or Streamlight - they're just the only other lights of somewhat similar size that I had available for comparison. They're all good lights for their intended purposes. However, the performance of my

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new Peaks has relegated all others to backup duty.

The Peak LEDs are my preferred carry pieces now. They may not be the most powerful on the market, but they offer an excellent combination of awesome light output and very reasonable runtime for that light output. Speaking of runtime, I guess mileage may vary. Peak's advertized specs were modest compared to my tests - both lights ran about 45 minutes longer than Peak advertised.

In as far as durability, I can tell you this - they're tough. I dropped my Kino Bay at work last night, it fell about 8' and bounced off a steel countertop, then fell another 4' to the cement floor. The light was still running when I picked it up. Albeit a bit dirty, the finish shows only one small scuff mark from contact with the cement.

Need more info or more selection? Peak here: <http://www.peakledsolutions.net>