

Sony's IFA Goes Xperia Z3

Written by Marco Attard
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Sony goes all out at IFA 2014 as it reveals a slew of mobile devices with the Xperia Z3 smartphone and tablet series, an accessory allowing one to combine mobiles with PlayStation controllers and wearable devices.



The Xperia Z3 series features 3 devices-- the flagship Z3 smartphone, its smaller Z3 Compact and the self-descriptive Z3 Tablet Compact. All build on the industrial design seen in the previous Z2 generation, with a slimmer version of the same minimalist stylings.

The Z3 is the series' flagship device. It features a 5.2-inch 1920 x 1080 Triluminos display, weighs 152g, is 7.3mm thin and is powered by a 2.5GHz Qualcomm Snapdragon 801 quad-core CPU, 3GB RAM and a 3100mAh battery. Like the Z2 construction is in aluminum with nylon corners.

Sony sells the device on the camera-- a 20.7MP number with a 1/2.3 Exmor RS sensor, Bionz image processing engine and 25mm wide-angle lens. The company says the device also features ISO 12800 sensitivity, as well as improved SteadyShot technology.

The Z3 Compact is near-identical to the Z3, only with a smaller 4.3-inch 1240 x 720 display, less (2GB) RAM, 2600mAh battery and what Sony says is a "liquid" translucent plastic frame.

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The tablet portion of the Z3 portfolio is the Z3 Tablet Compact, The slimmest and lightest waterproof tablet in the world according to Sony, it is 6.4mm thin, 270g heavy and features an 8-inch 1920 x 1808 display.

Inside are a 2.5GHz quad-core processor, 3GB RAM and a 4500mAh battery, as well as 8MP rear/2MP front-facing cameras.



Interestingly all the Z3 devices feature Remote Play capability, allowing customers to stream PlayStation 4 games on their smartphone or tablet via wifi. To play games one also needs to pair a Dualshock4 controller with the device, and to make this easier Sony offers a GCM10 Game Control Mount accessory.

The final Sony IFA 2014 revelations are wearable-- specifically the latest Sony smartwatch generation, the Android Wear-powered SmartWatch 3, and the SmartBand Talk fitness band featuring a 1.4-inch ePaper display and voice controls.

All the above mentioned Sony offerings should be available by Q4 2014.

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