

Female Formed

Built for women, the Syren Tempio Light is ready for the field.

THERE'S NO MISTAKING that the participation of women in hunting has grown in the past few years. In fact, of the 11.5 million hunters in this country, 11 percent are female. The rising number, specifically the staggering statistic that 47 percent of women use a shotgun to hunt, has led to a wave of firearms being made specifically for women—by women.

Enter Syren, a division of shotgun makers Caesar Guerini and Fabarm, that is devoted to the female hunter. Ditching the “pink it and shrink it” mentality, Syren has dedicated its efforts to producing shotguns specifically designed for female shooters and their anatomy.

Gone are the days of youth shotguns with short stocks as the only option for women hunters. This high-end firearm maker takes women shooters seriously and produces shotguns that fit well and swing perfectly on the flush.

MADE FOR THE FIELD Syren manufactures a variety of shotguns, including sporting and trap-specific guns. But this is a magazine dedicated to the bird hunter, so Syren’s line of field guns caught our attention—specifically, the Tempio Light.

Light is the key word in the name of this over/under. Depending on whether you choose the 20-gauge or the 28-gauge (or both—more on that later), the Tempio Light comes in at just 5 pounds, 10 ounces or 5 pounds, 5 ounces, respectively. As

a hunter who chases chukar to the ridges in Idaho and blue grouse at 10,000 feet in Colorado, I appreciate a shotgun that comes in at under six pounds—five pounds was just mindblowing.

Available only with a 28-inch chrome-lined barrel with a silver front bead, the Tempio Light comes with five nickel-plated, flush-fitting chokes, giving you an array of options depending on if the birds are holding tight or flushing wild. A single selective trigger lets you choose which barrel fires first, and while a manual safety is standard, an automatic safety can be added at an additional cost.

IT'S IN THE DETAILS You can’t miss the elegance found in the overall aesthetics of the Tempio Light. Made with deluxe grade Turkish walnut, a Monte Carlo buttstock offers a seamless weld to a woman’s high cheekbones, and an adjusted cast and pitch molds perfectly to the female anatomy.

True charm is found in the nickel-alloy action that is engraved with a unique rose bouquet and scroll pattern. A flourish of roses is carved into the stock that is then finished with hand-rubbed oil.

The stock and Schnabel forend of the

Tempio Light are slim for easier handling. The checkering of 26 lines per inch allows for a better grip when mounting the gun quickly or when the weather is foul.

OVERALL FIT AND FEEL I should mention that I am taller than the average female, and as a result, many female-specific firearms are too short for me. However, upon my first mount at the trap range, I found the Tempio Light shouldered well and molded to my frame. A busted clay seemed to confirm my findings.

I prefer a 28-inch barrel, so the extra two inches of the barrel weren’t a hindrance and didn’t add much weight to the over/under. The longer barrel pointed well and aided my swing on crossing clays.

It’s also available in a 20/28-gauge combo package, and I spent the afternoon burning through shells with both barrels and walked away refreshed rather than bruised and tired. Felt recoil on the Tempio Light is minimal, thanks in part to the well-fitting shotgun and the wood butt plate. However, I did find that when starting from the low gun position and mounting quickly, the wood



butt plate tended to slip off my shoulder. I would suggest Syren consider adding more checkering or a rubber butt pad to offset this issue.

The slim forend and stock provided an easy grip when mounting and shooting and were an improvement over many shotguns that tend to prove bulky to women in both of those areas. A woman’s neck is naturally longer than a man’s, and the raised Monte Carlo stock compensates for this difference. It fit well against my cheek and perfectly in the frame of my neck.

A five-pound over/under is something that most shooters have to get

used to, myself included. A solid shoulder mount is paramount on flushing birds, and because of its light weight, this takes practice. But don’t let that scare you away from this over/under. It is just one of the remarkable features found of this shotgun.

Aside from having to get used to the light weight, my day on the trap range was well spent, and orange clay fragments littered the field. The shotgun shouldered well, fit my frame perfectly, and swung like a charm. Overall, the Syren Tempio Light is elegantly refined and made for early mornings behind a good bird dog. *



SYREN | TEMPIO LIGHT

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| MANUFACTURER | Caesar Guerini |
| MODEL | Syren Tempio Light |
| ACTION | Over/under |
| GAUGE | 20 or 28 |
| BARREL LENGTH | 28 in. |
| AVERAGE WEIGHT | 5 lbs., 10 oz.; 5 lbs., 5 oz. |
| RECOIL PAD | Wood butt plate |
| CHAMBER | 3 in.; 2¾ in. |
| TRIGGER | Single selective |
| SAFETY | Manual (automatic as an option) |
| STOCK DIMENSIONS | Drop at comb: 1.4 in.; drop at heel: 2.5 in.; length of pull: 13.75 in.; cast at heel: 0.25 in.; cast at toe: 0.5 in.; pitch: 7 degrees; breech to comb: 7 in.; reach: 4 in. |
| MSRP | Tempio Light 20 gauge: \$4,225; Tempio Light 28 gauge: \$4,225; Tempio Light 20/28 gauge combo: \$6,335; Tempio Light 20/28/410 gauge combo: \$8,635 |
| WEBSITE | syrenusa.com |

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NOVEMBER 2018 | VOLUME 37 | NUMBER 7

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