

# Asus ZenBook S13

**Price:** To be confirmed

**Release date:** To be confirmed



Asus further cemented its position as one of the premium hardware manufacturers at this year's CES. If it's taking gaming hardware in a new direction with the ROG Mothership ([page 41](#)) or cramming as much performance as possible into a tiny form with the ZenBook S13, Asus is fighting its corner vigorously. The S13 is a beautiful device. The almost bezel-less design makes it look extremely clean and tight, and the inclusion of the 'reverse notch' places the webcam where it doesn't increase the size of the top bezel. In terms of the more interesting and innovative

design choices we saw at CES, Asus certainly took more calculated risks and they're paying off.

## Design

When looking at the device for the first time the biggest impression comes from the screen. The bezels are almost non-existent, making the viewing experience extremely slick as the display almost touches the edges of the laptop. This design allows for a staggering 97 per cent screen/body ratio on the 13.9in display, which is only Full-HD, but very pretty to look at nonetheless.

The webcam is held within a notch that protrudes from the centre of the top bezel, it's small enough to still fit within the design and works very well thanks to the gently curved edge. It also provides a little lip that you can use to open the lid, which is more useful than you may imagine in a time of extremely slim design and small form factors.

There are a couple of little design details that make the S13 feel like a premium device. The diagonally brushed aluminium on the keyboard deck and the cut line above the function keys make it stand out just that little bit more from the vast array of laptops on the market these days.

The laptop is tiny too, with dimensions of 316x129x19.5mm. Despite this, the S13 has a nice array of ports, including a full-sized USB-A, 2x USB-C, a microSD slot and a headphone jack to boot.

The S13 is powered by a 50Wh battery, which is supposed to provide up to 15 hours of battery life. You should take this with a pinch of salt though, until we've had a chance to test it properly.

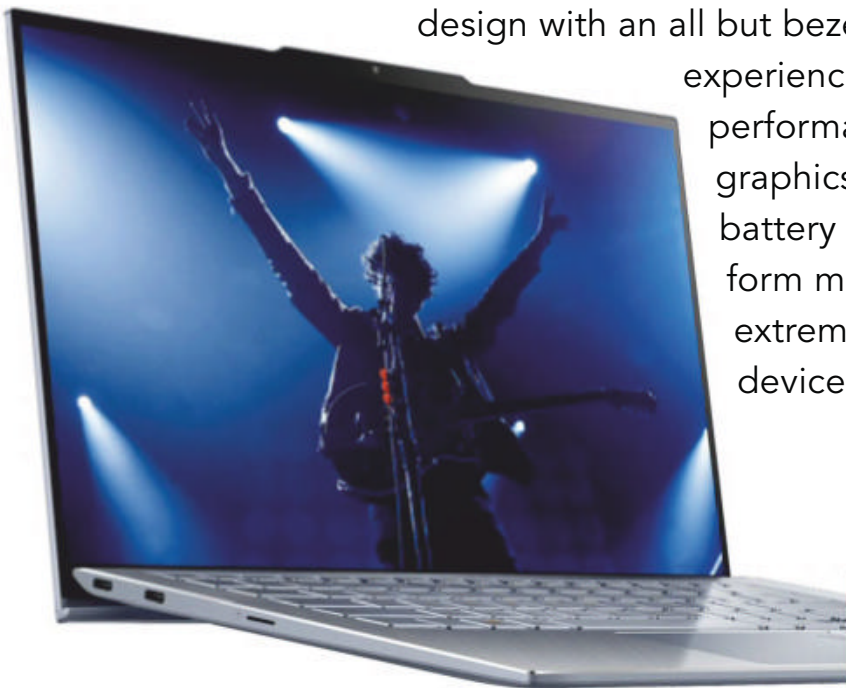
### Performance

Asus has made sure the ZenBook S13 is well-equipped with your choice of the Intel Core i7-8565U or the Core i5-8265U processors. You'll also have the option of a discrete Nvidia GeForce MX150, which will provide some substantial graphics performance, although it will certainly come with a substantial increase in cost. These are supported by up to 16GB of RAM and 1TB of SSD space. These specs allow the laptop to be extremely nippy, and while we haven't had the chance to put it through its paces with the discrete graphics card just yet, it should provide some impressive Photoshop performance on the move too.

### Verdict

If there is ever a sign that laptops are getting smaller and lighter without compromising performance, then the Asus ZenBook S13 is a prime example. Gorgeous design with an all but bezel-less

experience, impressive performance, discrete graphics and a large battery in a small form make this an extremely impressive device. Sean Bradley



The ZenBook S13 has a gorgeous design

## Specifications

- 13.9in (1,920x1,080) LED-backlit IPS Full-HD panel
- Windows 10 Home/Pro (Asus recommends Pro)
- Intel Core i7-8565U, 1.8GHz Quad-core with Turbo Boost (up to 4.6GHz) and 8MB cache; Intel Core i5-8265U, 1.6GHz Quad-core with Turbo Boost (up to 3.9GHz) and 6MB cache
- Nvidia GeForce GTX MX150
- 8GB, 16GB 2,133MHz LPDDR3 RAM
- 256GB, 512GB, 1TB PCIe SSD
- 50Wh 3-cell lithium-polymer battery
- 2x USB 3.1 Gen 2 Type-C (support fast charging, data transfers and display connectivity)
- USB 3.1 Gen 2 Type-A
- MicroSD card reader
- Audio combo jack
- Full-size backlit keyboard, with 1.4mm key travel
- Asus SonicMaster stereo audio system with surround-sound
- Array microphone with Cortana voice-recognition
- 3.5mm headphone jack
- HD webcam
- Dual-band 802.11ac gigabit-class Wi-Fi
- Bluetooth 5.0
- 316x195x129mm
- 1.1kg