



DAYTONA ROADSTAR GTX

■ **£370** www.tranam.co.uk

THIS IS A seriously expensive pair of boots, but it has a seriously impressive pedigree. The model has been running for years and, as well as being the boot of choice for many serious year-round riders, it's won a Recommended triangle every time RiDE has tested it.

The boot scooped its accolades for its faultless Gore-Tex waterproofing; its solid construction, with decent armour behind the full leather outer; and for its comfort.

As well as coming in sizes from 36 to 51 there are fittings for wide and narrow feet. So my wide, long feet should be fine, and they are.

The comfort is genuinely lush, straight out of the box, and there's a



reassuringly solid stomp when walking. And they are great to walk in.

But it's on the bike that they stand out. For such solid-feeling boots, there's still great feel for the footpegs. The sole is grippy and doesn't slip, even on wet pegs. The leather that feels so reassuringly thick is actually flexible for very easy movement. They're warm without getting sweaty and so far have been perfectly dry.

Still, they are frighteningly expensive boots. However, the quality inspires confidence that they'll easily withstand their share of my 40,000 miles a year –

especially as it's backed up by a factory repair/reconditioning service if it turns out that a couple of years' hard use does wear them down.

Now the work of piling on the miles begins. **SW**



How we test kit

RiDE is the home of serious testing of motorcycle clothing and accessories. No other British motorcycle magazine goes to as much trouble as we do to obtain, use, compare and appraise kit.

Our comparison tests, which reward the most impressive gear with Best Buy and Recommended triangles, are respected worldwide.

As well as conducting several of those big RiDE Product Tests every year, we are constantly using new and familiar kit, featured on these pages.

Where to buy it

A growing selection of gear endorsed by RiDE is available from a special RiDE zone on the MCN Shop. Go straight there by clicking the link at www.ride.co.uk.

Jargon buster

CE approval: European product safety labelling system. If something has CE approval it means the product has been tested and found to meet a certain standard. Confusion arises because you have to read the label to see precisely what it applies to – often it refers only to the armour in a product, not the product as a whole. For a more detailed explanation of the CE marking system for bike gear, visit the blog at www.ride.co.uk.

ACU Gold: Sticker required on any helmet used on track.

ECE22-05: Helmets sold in the UK are tested to this standard.

Sharp: This government scheme awards helmets a rating out of five – see sharp.direct.gov.uk

Snell test: US helmet safety standard. Universally respected, but has no standing in British law.

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