

TRIED & TESTED

MCN STAFF RATE THEIR RIDING KIT

★★★★★

12 months ON TEST

Easy to fit and durable



My recent touring set-up



Oxford Atlas T20 Advanced Tourpack £99.99

‘Ultimate versatility’



Tested by Ben Clarke for 12 months, 4000 miles

The highest praise I can give a piece of bike luggage is that it is simple to use, and Oxford's Atlas Tourpacks most certainly fit that description. I can't stand fiddling around with pannier back plates or ill-fitting under-seat Velcro and I've scratched many of the frames on my own bikes with a bungee at the extremes of its elasticity – trembling with the potential energy required for a swift eye removal... Once you've fitted the Oxford Atlas system's frame straps, you can just tuck them away and forget about them until you next come to use the luggage. Then the G-hooks are as simple as can be to fit in seconds and away you go on adventures.

I deployed the T20 to carry my tent, roll-matt, sleeping bag and some other camping bits on a recent overnigher, which it managed with room to spare. I then used the modular system to add a smaller T10 (£79.99) with my clothes, toiletries, and other essentials. You can stack one of the smaller bags on top, or put one on either side of the T20, or do both to create a 50-litre luggage multiplex. Once I arrived at the campsite, I simply unhooked the whole lot and used the included shoulder strap to carry it to my pitch. It's one of the simplest motorcycle camping experiences I've had since I used Kriega's modular US system the same way back in 2019. It's impossible to ignore the more-than-passing resemblance between the two systems. With Oxford's lower asking price, you'd expect a gulf in

quality – but while the Atlas's polyester ripstop construction feels flimsier to the touch than the Kriega's Cordura Lite, I haven't had any issues so far during 12 months of use. You also get a reassuring lifetime warranty against manufacturing defects with the Oxford kit versus ten years from Kriega. I've also been using the T20 as my main commuting luggage to keep the weight off my back on the firmly suspended Indian 101 Scout long-term test bike. For this task, I use an extra internal roll bag to create two compartments (it's easily done in seconds with the bags' own Velcro) one for my laptop and the other for my spare clothes, shoes etc. It's remained entirely and dependably waterproof through biblical rain and I never think twice about carrying expensive electronics inside. The bag

fits across the frame on the Indian's pillion seat due to the bike's sissy bar, but it's just as happy packed longitudinally if there's room with no need to change the frame strap arrangement. But there are so many fixing options and massive adjustability – type 'Oxford Atlas' into YouTube and find Justin Hayzleden's excellent explainer video – that I think you could find a way to attach it to almost anything. **MCN rating**★★★★★ www.oxfordproducts.com

- PROS & CONS
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Incredible versatility, practicality and price
- Ripstop feels slightly flimsy but has been fine so far



The roll-top closure keeps out rain



Robust G-hooks are simple to use