

TRIED & TESTED

MCN STAFF RATE THEIR RIDING KIT

★★★★★



4 months ON TEST

Rain or shine, Neptune rules the road

Rev'it! Neptune 3 GTX jacket £599.99

'Canny choice for commuting'

Tested by Justin Hayzelden for 3800 miles
Rev'it! have a great reputation for all-weather touring gear, and so far the Neptune 3 GTX has proven to be no exception. The two-layer Gore-Tex laminate outer shell sheds water effectively and even when it eventually wets-out I've yet to have it leak anywhere, even when riding through sustained downpours. It's also been properly spattered with caustic road salt through winter (the joys of riding a naked) and came up looking none the worse for it. The light grey panels can get a bit grubby, but wipe clean easy enough, and there's been no staining from the usual peppering of bug innards. Ventilation is very good, channelling a high volume of fresh air

through generous chest and biceps panels to twin vertical outlets at the rear. Fidlock magnetic catches make pinning the chest vents open a single-handed operation, and both can be done with either hand. It's just about possible to reach around and operate the rear vents without having to take the jacket off, which I find particularly useful if it starts raining when they're open. CE certification is to AA standard, which is generally as good as textiles get. The shell feels sturdy, without being stiff, and has tougher, more abrasion-resistant material from shoulder to cuff along the outside of the arm. Shoulder and elbow armour is Rev'it!'s substantial CE Level 2 SEEFLEX, which is adjustable at the elbow, and there are pockets for chest and back protection. I've tried the Neptune over an airbag vest

(Furygan/in&motion) which fits just fine, but I find it more comfortable with the optional armour. The SEESOFT Level 2 back protector (£46.99) and Level 1 divided chest protector (£31.99) sit securely in their respective slots and feel as if they'll stay put in a tumble. At £599.99, the Neptune is bang on the price point and based on the performance to date, offers an excellent return on investment. All Rev'it! textiles come with a two-year guarantee against faulty materials and manufacture, and as a Gore-Tex garment it's covered by their 'Guaranteed To Keep You Dry' warranty, which extends to the useful life of the product. YKK zips with chunky, glove friendly pullers, Fidlock magnetic fasteners and sturdy adjustment straps all add to the general air of quality construction.

A good, versatile textile jacket is something that everyone should have in their biking wardrobe, and the Rev'it! Neptune 3 GTX is an ideal candidate for the job. It feels tough, is comfortable and has proved a solid performer. With the optional armour it offers a good level of protection, and if you zip it to matching trousers (£422.99) it makes an all-season suit that would be a canny choice for commuting or touring alike. **MCN rating ★★★★★** www.revitsport.com

PROS & CONS

- + Gore-Tex construction has proved fully weatherproof
- Magnetic pocket fasteners can flap at higher speeds



Handy slot for contactless cards



Vents that don't leak when it rains