

Developed by The Doctor

But you don't have to be a MotoGP hero to wear AGV's impressive GT Veloce Aspide helmet



Top 3 details

1. Instead of having the visor mountings on the lid, they're on the visor. This makes them smaller, so they cut through the air more

efficiently and I get a quieter ride on my Triumph Street Triple R.
2. The visor locks into place when this clip secures into the base mounting in front of the rider's

nose. It has to be released by pushing the button. It's fiddly to use.
3. Tall visor opening was designed to help Rossi see when he was head-down behind a screen.



AGV GT Veloce Aspide helmet, £399.99

Tester: Tony Hoare



Time tested: Four months/1500 miles

What's good? The aerodynamics and adjustable fit are excellent when worn on a naked bike, which chimes with the claims made that the helmet is a sports touring offering based on technology developed for Valentino Rossi's AGV race lid. The vision through the taller and wider visor aperture is also very good, and the simple visor mechanism helps keep it very quiet for road riding on naked bikes. It's possible to tune the fit by altering the inner comfort padding to be tighter or looser and sit lower or higher on your head. There are extra sections of foam to make it tighter at the neck and to insert into the cheekpads for a closer fit around the ears. An impressive helmet that brings something different to the market.

What's not? While excellent for sporty riding on short outings, it's not as good for touring as AGV would like to think. The lack of a dropdown sun visor hampers its touring capability and the vents are fiddly to open and close while riding. Neither is a problem on shorter journeys, where you can fit a tinted visor and set the vents how you want them beforehand, but on longer trips it's useful to be able to tweak vents and lower or raise a tinted visor. Also, the taller aperture means the ridge above your eyebrow sits higher and can't be so effectively used as a shield from the sun as on a helmet with a visor opening that's more conventionally shaped.

Contact: www.agv.co.uk

Quality rating: ★★★★★

Value rating: ★★★★★



Knox Recon touring gloves, £89.99 (£64.99 on www.mcnshop.com)



Tester: Simon Patterson

Time tested: Three months/2000 miles

What's good? These are my go-to gloves for long distance riding. The Boa wrist closure system – a bit like that used on ski boots – might look complicated, but it means the gloves seal around my wrist perfectly. The gloves themselves are made from soft leather, and they're very comfortable, while still having decent hard armour on the knuckles, scaphoid and fingers. They're not waterproof, but they'll survive heavy showers.

What's not? The closure can be a bit fiddly to get right at first – if I haven't got the cuffs tucked in right, it tends to bunch up.

Contact: www.knoxarmour.co.uk

Quality rating: ★★★★★

Value rating: ★★★★★



Revit Ventura jacket and trousers, £289.99 & £199.99



Tester: Alison Silcox

Time tested: Three months/2020 miles

What's good? The suit's proved to be waterproof and with the double zip on the jacket it's definitely draughtproof. I've removed the thermal lining as it's a bit bulky but this leaves plenty of room to wear a couple of thinner layers if needed. The waterproof lining that remains is secured with poppers and zips, it's never moved or twisted when riding. At 5ft 10in tall and with a 34-inch inside leg it was great to have the choice of more than one length of trousers. Finally, the light colours are refreshing compared to my usual dark gear.

What's not? The trouser pockets don't have any fasteners and the neck closure is fiddly.

Contact: www.revit.eu

Quality rating: ★★★★★

Value rating: ★★★★★



Red Wing 8146 Moc Lug boots, £225



Tester: Simon Relph

Time tested: Seven months/2300 miles

What's good? I wore these all summer. I wanted something sturdy with some ankle protection, but also something I could wear all day. Traditionally catering for the American workforce, making sure they are well shod with sturdy boots since 1905, Red Wings are made from beautifully stitched Briar oil slick leather. A sewn-in tongue helps to keep the weather out, as they are only six inches high, and my waterproof trousers go over them nicely to stop me getting soggy ankles. The Vibram sole provides comfort and grip. Best of all is the style – a real classic that lasts for years.

What's not? £225! It seems a lot, but the quality and craftsmanship out-weigh the price.

Contact: www.redwingshoes.com

Quality rating: ★★★★★

Value rating: ★★★★★



Alpinestars Viper Air Textile Jacket, £169.99



Tester: Michael Neeves

Time tested: Six months/4000 miles

What's good? I've been wearing this textile jacket for the summer, including a 3000-mile trip to Portugal on my Hyperstrada. It's light, comfortable and the mesh construction keeps you cool in the very hot weather, but thanks to a removable, windproof inner-lining it keeps you warm in chilly winds. It comes with CE-certified Bio Armor shoulder and elbow protectors plus a thin foam back insert.

What's not? The white sections are very hard to keep clean and it doesn't look pristine anymore despite me putting the jacket in the wash a number of times.

Contact: www.alpinestars.co.uk

Quality rating: ★★★★★

Value rating: ★★★★★