

TRIED & TESTED

MCN STAFF RATE THEIR RIDING KIT

★★★★★

4000 miles ON TEST

Dan and the Shark at a sweltering Mandalika



Great looks and a jumbo field of vision too



Shark Aeron GP £949.99

‘Fab looks, but a noisy ride’



Tested by Dan Sutherland for six months
Shark's Aeron GP is the world's first lid with adaptive aero and up until last year was the French firm's range-topping race helmet. It's since been superseded by the Aeron GP FIM, but there are still ECE 22.06-compliant GPs left available with UK-based riding kit retailers.

I spent a decent chunk of this summer wearing the Aeron GP for commuting, trackdays, and weekend rides – completing most of my test miles aboard my Yamaha R9 long-term, as well as a couple of track-only machines.
We'll go into the looks first, because I'd say that is the GP's strong point. I'm not normally into the long rear spoilers seen on many Grand

Prix-inspired helmets – especially for the road – however the Shark looks terrific in this colourful Johann Zarco replica design.
Complete with one of Shark's darkest, blacked-out track visors, it looks the absolute business, and I've enjoyed wearing it over the warmer months of the year.
Visibility is very good, be that tucked in behind a screen on circuit, or just riding on the road, with a decent field of view in your peripherals, and an easy-to-operate front mechanism for popping the visor open at the traffic lights.
Changing the Optical Class One visor itself is effortless – simply un-flick two external tear-drop-shaped latches, and then do the inverse to reattach it. It's a system that's been in place on Sharks for many years, and one I'm pleased to

see retained for the latest FIM model.
The fit is also bang on for me – giving just enough squidge to my cheeks without causing any pain around the rest of my head. I've worn it for hours on end on the road with no problems to report, however in very hot conditions (I had the chance to wear it on track at steamy Mandalika circuit, Indonesia), I do feel it could be slightly better ventilated, especially for track use.
The forehead vent feels especially lacking, and I'll quite often leave the visor ajar for a little extra air-flow when bumbling from A to B.
The vents themselves are easy to operate with a gloved hand though, with the gloss finish on the external shell making the product easy to keep clean between rides. It's a helmet that you always want to keep in tip-top condition too, with the vibrant

colours and lashings of silver really popping on a bright sunny day.
Stability at speed is a plus point, although I would be lying if I'd said I'd really noticed the benefit of the dual moving flap design within the rear wing (perhaps you need to be able to ride much faster than I can). It's also very noisy on the go, even when you are wearing earplugs, with the rival Shoei X-SPR-Pro offering a far quieter ride at motorway speeds.
MCN rating ★★★★★
www.nevis.uk.com

PROS & CONS

- + Fantastic looks, stability at speed, comfortable
- Very noisy on the road, vents could be better



Chin vent is good, others less so



Who doesn't want moveable aeros?