

TRIED & TESTED

MCN STAFF RATE THEIR RIDING KIT

★★★★★

ECE 22.06 means
it's fine to ride
closed or flipped

3000
miles
ON TEST



Sporty looks, touring attitude. It's a class act



Nexx X.Lifetour £469.99

'Comfy from the first wear'



Tested by Alison Silcox for six months

This Nexx flip-front helmet delivers comfort from day one, with virtually no break-in period required. The carbon fibre construction keeps it relatively lightweight for the feature set, though at 1700g it's still on the weighty side for extended touring and may cause a bit of fatigue or neck stiffness if you're used to something lighter.

The fully removable liner is plush and soft, with seven different interior sizes across two shell options ensuring a proper fit. The ratchet style chinstrap adjusts easily and features a quick-release closure that's simple to operate. Intercom preparation is standard with all the wiring set in place for Nexx's bespoke Sena-based system, though I've never

experimented with that feature, as I'm not a massive fan of intercoms.

The large visor provides an excellent field of vision and includes a Pinlock to prevent fogging. While a smoked visor option comes included, the drop-down sun visor works perfectly with broad coverage and is easy to operate, making visor swaps unnecessary. When changes are needed – for Pinlock fitment or cleaning – the quick-release mechanism allows removal and refitting in under a minute.

Two well-positioned vents operate easily with gloved hands and provide adequate airflow during summer rides, and if you get hot in town you have the option of flipping the face open anyway. Noise levels are manageable, I always wear earplugs, so there are no issues, and the helmet handles wind noise reasonably well,

considering its modular design.

This helmet has a sleek, sporty design that looks less "touring spec" than typical flip-fronts, which can sometimes look a little dowdy. The mainly red graphics with carbon fibre accents create a stylish appearance across multiple colour options. Camera mounts come as standard for a GoPro attachment, though I'll never use them – there's no need to record my riding prowess.

After six months of use, some disappointing wear signs have appeared. One side of the flip mechanism shows slight damage, and while it still closes perfectly, it doesn't fill me with confidence that it will forever and extended use may cause issues. For the £469.99 asking price, I expected more durability.

And while I'm talking money, the cost of the X.Lifetour feels fair for a

helmet that is both made from carbon fibre and a modular type – both of which are things that generally demand a premium. HJC's RPHA 91 Carbon comes in at £549.99 in a plain finish, for example, and LS2's Advant X Carbon will set you back £429.99. You also get a two-year warranty from Nexx.

I've been broadly impressed so far, but there is still some room for improvement with the lid.

MCN rating ★★★★★
www.nexx-helmets.com

PROS & CONS

- + Comfortable, easy to operate visor and flip mechanism
- Slight signs of wear and tear, after only six months



Soft interior lining provides comfort



Snazzy carbon fibre details