

**TRIED & TESTED**

**MCN STAFF RATE THEIR RIDING KIT**

★★★★★

Spot on for good old-fashioned UK touring

**12 months ON TEST**



Modest venting is effective in UK summers

**Rev'it Outback 4 jacket £289.99**

# 'Year-round performance'



**Tested by Emma Franklin for one year / 7500 miles**

Remember when touring was more popular than adventure riding? These days, many clothing manufacturers focus on keeping riders cool with lightweight laminated outers and numerous zipped vents, rather than warm and dry with multiple significant layers and robust waterproofing.

While this is great for avoiding the Moroccan heat or crossing a Spanish plain, it's less helpful when you're freezing your wotsits off on the M6 in November... or even August.

Although the Rev'it Outback 4 jacket is claimed to be developed by 'adventure riding experts' and includes ventilation zips, it actually truly excels at real-world commuting

and touring, keeping you warm and dry in typical UK weather.

Made from tough 600D fabric and featuring Seesmart Level 1 protectors, this CE AA-rated jacket offers reassurance and protection against harsh elements. It includes two drop liners – a thermal one and an impressive rubberised hydratex layer.

Initially, I was drawn to single-layer laminate textiles, but I've since come to realise that drop liners are better for year-round riding in Britain. The extra layers provide crucial warmth, and the hydratex inner jacket delivers excellent waterproofing. I've ridden through severe, freezing downpours, and the Outback 4 kept me completely dry and, with some additional layering, warm.

In contrast, a similar laminated jacket left me feeling cold and damp in less extreme conditions.

One advantage of laminate textiles is they resist saturation, but the Outback's DWR-treated Cordura eventually wets through in heavy rain. However, it holds minimal water and dries quickly; a couple of hours hanging up, and it's good to go.

When the weather's warm, the Outback performs well too. On hot days, I removed the drop liners (which simply pop-stud in and out) and opened the pectoral vents, rear exhaust, and two-way zip on the forearm. This kept me comfortable in summer heat.

The downside of drop liners is needing to stop to adjust them when the weather changes, and there's a risk of misplacing them. Nevertheless, the Outback's tough Cordura offers some warmth and waterproofing, so you're not left out in the cold if a summer shower hits.

My main issue with the jacket is its fit. I had to size up twice from my usual size, and the length is a tad short for my taste. Also, the sleeves are narrow at the wrists, making it difficult to fit gloves underneath.

Despite these minor issues, the Outback 4 delivers genuine all-season performance, decent adjustability, excellent construction, and a reassuring sense of protection, making it highly recommended.

**MCN rating ★★★★★**  
[www.revitsport.com](http://www.revitsport.com)

## PROS & CONS

- +** Genuinely versatile for all weathers
- Sleeves are much too narrow



More venting here; sleeves narrow



Effective rubberised hydratex lining