



## Kriega Trail 18 backpack £209

### 'The ultimate stash & carry'



**Tested by Richard Newland for two years**

I've always hated rucksacks – but I've become addicted to this Kriega.

Constructed from super-tough 420D Cordura Lite Plus and Hypalon, the T18 has a rugged technical feel, and has laughed off two years of all-weather year-round abuse. I've even climbed a mountain in it.

The sack is comprised of three main sections: a waterproof roll-top compartment that'll take 11 litres, a zipped compartment that'll swallow 7 more, and a netted outer cover. While the heavy-duty YKK zipped compartment isn't waterproof, it does feature an additional one-litre waterproof pocket inside (great for passport, wallet, phone etc).

I use mine daily for carrying a change of clothes for the office, my laptop, and various bits of other day-to-day paraphernalia. And it excels at all that, but you wouldn't get a pair of trainers inside as well.

It's sublime in terms of comfort, with the Quadloc Lite harness making it beautifully secure as well as spreading the load across your chest, rather than tugging at your shoulders. My only wish would be a T25 option for more lugging capacity.

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

It's available in four other colours, too...



**22,000 miles**  
ON TEST

Quadlock Lite spreads the load

## Keis heated gloves G601, £210

### 'Who needs heated grips?'



**Tested by Saffron Wilson for 13 months**

I proclaimed in my previous product review that heated kit was the essential in the winter biking wardrobe that I never knew I needed, and if you're thinking of dabbling in the Narnia that is warmth on the road, then I'd suggest you start the adventure with a pair of gloves.

I know what you're thinking, why get a pair of gloves when you've got heated grips? I can't be the only one who ends up with cold fingers and thumb and a sweaty palm with heated grips, whereas with a pair of gloves, everything is warm and levers are still easy to use.

I've had a pair of Keis gloves before (G701s) and thought I'd take things up a notch with a set of touring gloves. These claim to be waterproof which so far has proved to be true, are certified to Level 2 protection and can be powered by either the bike or batteries – although the latter are sold separately for £85. Features include a visor wipe (which has come in handy during winter riding) and a handy tip is that the battery pockets, should you be hooked up to the bike instead, are the perfect place to pop a debit card for toll booths.



Toastiness across the whole hand gets thumbs up from Saffron

You can go up a spec with the Extreme version which includes touchscreen compatibility and Level 1 protection, but even though this pair of gloves claims 'medium' heat, I still found the lowest setting plenty, even in the minus figures.

The only issue I encountered with these is that one of the internal wires sat oddly on the fourth finger knuckle on my left hand, and as a result, if I kept the finger bent around the 'bars, I could sometimes get scorched on the knuckle. However, after consistent use, and using the lowest setting rather than the middle and the highest, I haven't really had a problem.

At £210 they're certainly not the cheapest heated gloves on the market, but compared to other options I have tested, they work well, and they are by far my favourite. Plus, with the manufacturer warranty, they're putting their money where their mouth is and should see you through a good few winters. I'll be keeping mine for next year for sure.

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

**13 months**  
ON TEST

## RST Tech Pro CE pants £189.99

### 'Big on safety and comfort'



**Tested by Gareth Evans for nine months**

AAA-certified riding jeans are often heavy, but these ones truly buck that trend. They're extremely comfortable when employed to do their main job – riding – primarily because of the concertina-effect stretch panel just above the knees. This offers the flexibility to ride even the sportiest of bikes, including cramped litre superbikes such as a ZX-10R, with no pinching or restricted movement.

Unfortunately, it's that same stretchy material that makes these stand out as quite clearly riding jeans rather than more casual legwear, but if you can get over that, you'll find these are as comfortable as AAA jeans get, in my experience, and I've



Obviously riding jeans, but very comfy

**Nine months**  
ON TEST

tested quite a few over the years.

They're pleasingly light too, which makes them a joy in summer where similarly rated trousers can tend to boil your legs. This is despite RST claiming 'heavy duty' Cordura denim. Topping off the safety aspect is CE Level 2 knee and hip armour,

while they come with a two-year warranty (mine are still in perfect nick) and are nicely constructed, with strong stitching and a quality zip. They come in short or regular, and waist sizing between 30 and 42in.

**MCN rating ★★★★★**  
[www.rst-moto.com](http://www.rst-moto.com)



Quadlock case keeping it safe

**One month**  
ON TEST

**Quadlock MAG case £34.99**

### 'Fool-proof phone security'



**Tested by Charlotte King for 300 miles**

I've had a couple of Quadlock cases now for various phones over the years and they have all done exactly what I need them to do. This one is no different.

It fits the phone snugly so the buttons are easy to operate, it has protected my phone from damage when I have dropped it – which is

quite often as I am a bit clumsy – and it fixes securely to my reservoir-mounted Quadlock system with ease. The design means I can charge the phone wirelessly without removing the case and use it with handy accessories like the wallet case. I've never had any issues with it working loose, and I trust it completely to keep my phone safe.

**MCN rating ★★★★★**  
[www.quadlockcase.co.uk](http://www.quadlockcase.co.uk)