

TRIED & TESTED

MCN STAFF RATE THEIR RIDING KIT

★★★★★



Feel the breeze in open-face mode



Carbon weave is a classy touch

3 months ON TEST

Nexx X.Lifetour Pro Carbon £449.99

‘Premium, feature-rich lid’



Tested by Robin Kirkley for three months
I've been using the Nexx X.Lifetour Pro Carbon for the past three months on everything from motorway schlepps to Sunday rides, and it's clear this is a helmet designed with serious miles in mind.

Straight out of the box the carbon finish looks superb, with a deep lacquer that really shows off the weave. At 1500g (size M) it's light for a modular lid, and in use it's less tiring over a full day than some composite rivals I've worn.

The fit for me is on the snug side of neutral, with firm cheek pads that bedded in slightly after a couple of weeks. Initially it felt tight around the jaw, but it never caused pressure points and soon became comfortably secure. The lining is plush and well

finished, and after hours in the saddle I didn't experience any hot spots. It's ECE 22.06 certified, and the build quality gives added reassurance, from the smooth visor mechanism to the positive action of the vents.

Ventilation is one of the strong points. There's a large chin vent and a two-stage top vent, and both make a noticeable difference in warm weather. With everything open there's a steady flow of air across the crown. Close it all down and it's draught-free on colder mornings. The chin curtain and breath guard help reduce unwanted airflow, and I've ridden in heavy rain without any leaks through the visor seal. Noise levels are good rather than class-leading. On an unfaired bike at motorway speeds there is some wind roar, but it's a smooth sound rather than an intrusive whistle, and with earplugs in

it fades into the background. On a faired tourer it's quieter still. The visor provides a wide field of vision and the optical clarity is excellent, with no distortion at the edges. The internal drop-down sun shield is easy to operate with a gloved hand and covers most of my line of sight, although I'd prefer it to come down a fraction lower.

Practicality has clearly been considered. The visor mechanism allows for tool-free removal, which made fitting the included Pinlock insert straightforward. Said Pinlock has been faultless through cold, damp early starts.

There's also provision for Nexx's X-COM communication system, with neat recesses for speakers and space for the battery. I already had my own comms system, which made fitting a bit tricky. Going for the dedicated kit

might be a better option if you are starting from scratch.

After three months of steady use the helmet still looks fresh, with the interior showing no premature wear and the visor mechanism operating as crisply as it did on day one. It isn't the cheapest carbon touring helmet, but the combination of low weight, ventilation and comfort makes it a convincing option for riders who regularly rack up miles.

MCN rating ★★★★★
www.nexx-helmets.com

PROS & CONS

- + Comfortable on long journeys, action camera ready
- Some wind roar at motorway speeds on a naked bike



Flip release button is easy to locate



Sun visor is good, but not perfect