

LATEST KIT RATED

‘They just feel like normal jeans’



▲ Armour is slim and flexible so there's day-long comfort

▲ Rear pocket stitching has started to fray 500 miles in

Weise Norvik jeans £159
www.weiseclothing.com

THE CLAIM

“Made from a single layer of stretch 390gsm denim, for all-day comfort on or off the bike, combined with the reassurance of AA-rated protection. Double and triple-stitched main seams add strength to the construction, while RE ZRO impact protection at the knees and hips comes as standard. More flexible, breathable and lighter than most alternatives, it eliminates hot spots while riding and has a slim profile.”

THE REALITY

These are the lightest, most ‘wear and forget’ riding jeans I’ve used. Certified to AA standard and with enough armour to make you feel protected, they work well on the bike, with just enough stretch in them for comfort, but not so much that you feel like you’re wearing insubstantial leggings. It’s easy to move around on the bike, they don’t ride up, and the knee armour stays in the location you need it.

By definition, this lightness means they work well in hotter weather - they were my choice at the tail-end of our Indian summer, but now with autumn in full swing there are warmer options. There is enough room in them for a base layer underneath, though.

Cut on the slim side of a regular fit, the thin armour doesn’t get in the way during your off-bike time - walking and sitting at a desk isn’t a problem. Neither the hip or the knee armour intrudes. They’re the only pair of riding jeans I’ve been happy to wear all day, off the bike.

Of course, there are compromises. While they are certified to a decent standard, they don’t inspire confidence like other riding jeans - this is backed up by the fact the armour is only certified for CE level 1. Also, I haven’t been that impressed that the stitching on one of the back pockets has started to fray.

That said, if you’re after a pair of stylish jeans that look great and are comfortable in day-to-day use while having a good level of protection, they’re worth looking at. **MATT WILDEE**

LOTS OF SIZES

Available in 30in to 42in waist, they are available in short, regular and long cuts and every colour you want, as long as it is black.

‘GREEN’ ARMOUR

Designed and developed in the UK, RE ZRO is the world’s first CE armour that’s biodegradable in landfill. Level 1 protection rating.

