



The armour
is CE Level 1

500
miles
ON TEST

Richa Titan 2 £159.99

'Not your usual'



Tested by Steve Herbert-Mattick for three months

"Aren't you going to put a proper jacket on?" my wife asks as I take one of our nippers out for their first pillion ride, "You don't look safe." It's a fair comment when a black hoody is something I often wear during the day. But this is far from riding in boardies and flip-flops in summer. This discrete, vegan-friendly zip-up jumper with its detachable soft shell hood also packs an impressive AA safety rating and D30 Level 1 shoulder, elbow and back protectors into its thick, poly-cotton fabric. As far as riding kit goes, it's the real deal.

Waterproofing? Forget it. And while the fabric is as windproof as a sieve it can get hot on warm days when you're moving slowly in traffic or waiting at lights. The outer pockets are secured by a single popper each so are best not used for carrying phones and keys.

It's as comfortable as the cosiest of casual jumpers but offers decent protection too, making it ideal for shorter rides when – for styling or comfort reasons – you don't want to be stuck with a trad bike jacket all day. But it does take a bit of getting your head around that you're wearing proper kit. A useful addition if you're after something different.

Quality ★★★★★ **Value** ★★★★★

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