

Kit on test

The gear currently being used by the RiDE team

Pictures **Mark Manning, Matt Hull** and **Jason Critchell**



Alpinestars Toucan Gore-Tex Boots

£330

www.alpinestars.com

Motocross protection, all day comfort

Motocross boots offer massive protection when riding off-road but are uncomfortable when walking around. Road boots are much more comfortable, but don't offer enough protection when you want to wander away from the tarmac.

These new boots from Alpinestars offer comfort and protection – and add a fully waterproof Gore-Tex membrane too. At first they felt quite restrictive thanks to the thick leather and ample armour, meaning I had to adjust the gear lever or my GS to get confident gear changes. But within a couple of days they had bedded in and I've had to move the gear lever back again.

They are easy to get in and out of with just two buckles and a Velcro fastener at the top. There's a substantial range of adjustment so they can be worn either under or over your riding trousers.

So far they have lived up to their 100 per cent waterproof claim and I've spent several long days in them with no complaint. They are too bulky for bikes with high pegs, but for adventure bikes they are perfect. Expensive, but really good.

Matt Hull



Oxford XS2 waist pack

£22

www.oxprod.com

Good value, good size, holds a spare visor

This bumbag will hold a spare visor in its padded sleeve and the main compartment is big enough to hold a day's worth of stuff. There are also two netted, elasticated pockets on the outside for drinks cartons. The waist band is fully adjustable and it's water resistant but not waterproof – I have a plastic bag inside just in case. **Matt Hull**



Weise Victory gloves

£44.99

www.weise-clothing.co.uk

Light protection, uncomfortable armour

These 'Roper' style Victory gloves from Weise have memory foam armour on the knuckles and an adjustable Velcro wrist strap. They're constructed from goat leather with 'chamude' synthetic leather reinforcement on the palm. They may not be the most protective gloves available but they must be some of the coolest. **Adrian Stear**



Shift-It Travel Pack

£17.99

www.tranam.co.uk

Convenient visor-care kit to carry everywhere

In this neat zip-up case you get a 50ml anti-fog spray, a 50ml helmet refresh spray, 50ml helmet and visor cleaner spray (with RiDE Recommended triangle), grime-removing sponge, two polishing cloths and four visor-cleaning wet wipes. The case is just the right size for a hip pocket or tankbag, so you need never be without it. **Colin Overland**