

Strap it on and just add air

**250 miles ON TEST**

It's no tourer, but it's better

**Comfortair Cushion £69**

**'No more numb-bum syndrome'**



**Tested by Joseph Wright for two months**

In my quest for comfort during long rides on my Kawasaki ZXR400 sportsbike, I decided to try and alleviate pressure points and numbness on extended journeys with the Comfortair Adventure Sport seat cushion.

This accessory effortlessly attaches to the existing seat using straps, allowing easy inflation of the inner bladder to your desired volume by blowing into the valve. No additional tools or pumps are required, except for removing the seat for fitting purposes.

I've found it particularly valuable after intense rides, pulling it from my backpack for comfortable highway cruising. Despite the initial sensation taking some getting used to, the increased seat height and effective vibration dampening contribute to enhanced comfort. Crafted with top-quality materials, the product is showing no signs of wear. The adventure-sport model, priced at £69, might not be the most stylish modification, but it's a cost-effective solution to discomfort, even if your sportsbike won't magically transform into a GS overnight.

**Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★**  
mycomfortair.co.uk



**Kriega OS Base Combo 36 £389.99**

**'Luggage for the real world'**



**Tested by Michael Guy for four months**

Hard metal panniers have become synonymous with big adventure bikes. For some they finish off the 'round-the-world' look, for others they are perfect for adding serious carrying capacity. But personally, I'm not a fan. First up is the weight; even empty, the panniers and racks easily weigh in at over 10kg. Chuck in another 20 or 30kg of luggage because you can and you've just added on a significant amount of weight to the bike – which even with electronic suspension and 150bhp compromises everything about the way the bike accelerates, stops and handles.

**900 miles ON TEST**

There's also the extra width which reduces the ability to filter. I know this doesn't bother a lot of riders but I have to confess I have some form when it comes to hitting things with metal panniers, so it's definitely a factor when I ride with them.

Another negative is that I like to ride off-road and doing that with metal panniers can be risky and there have been plenty of cases of leg injuries from limbs getting trapped between the solid metal pannier and the ground in a crash.

I first started using the Kriega OS base system and smaller panniers on my KTM 690 Enduro R, which made me want to try them on my KTM 1290 Super Adventure R longterm test bike. Unlike metal panniers there is no need for any racking or permanent changes to the bike. Instead there is an over-seat harness which is secured using straps. The panniers/bags then attach to the harness and can be tightened and secured in seconds.

They are tough, 100% waterproof and come with a 10-year guarantee, which gives an indication of the quality.

The panniers come in three sizes with each side being either 6, 12 or 18 litres. I use the 18-litre system and while that is smaller than most metal panniers, because they are soft and loaded from the top they are very easy to pack and I always manage to squeeze more into them than I expect.

They are also relatively cheap. While metal panniers and racks will cost in excess of £1000 this system is under £400 and can be removed in seconds when not in use.

In fact the only downside I can see is security as being fabric they cannot be locked or secured to the bike like traditional metal panniers.

**Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★**  
www.kriega.com



**Kaja Earbuds £64.99**

**'A very sound investment'**



**Tested by Michael Neeves**

These earbuds aren't bike-specific, but they're perfect for riding and the health and well-being of the squishy bit behind the bars: me. I run and cycle as much as I can, in the never ending-battle to stave off the waist-expanding effects of middle age and listen to music, or podcasts with headphones on the way. These are the best I've owned.

Not only is the sound crisp and bassy, they're easy to use, never fall out and with a 70-hour battery life they last for what seems like forever. I've only charged them three times since I've had them, although being half deaf I only use one. Best of all, they're half the price of their big fruity white rival.

**8 months ON TEST**

**Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★**  
www.kajaudio.com

Minty fresh chain care

**6 months ON TEST**

**Oxford Mint All Weather Lube £8.99**

**'A bit thin, but does the job well'**



**Tested by Ben Clarke for six months**

I've been using Oxford Mint products for a while now and from the chain and bike cleaners to the general protectant, I've been impressed. That is also the case with the All Weather Lube – a product that Oxford say is designed to protect your chain and sprockets for extended periods of riding.

As chain lubes go, the All Weather is quite thin in consistency but that makes it quick and

easy for you to apply a good coating. I usually apply lube after a ride when the chain is still warm and I've seen very little fling on the rear wheel by using this technique, despite how un-sticky the lube seems. In bad weather, the All Weather needs at least a weekly application but you can push this in the dry.

The best thing about this stuff is that it's really easy to wash off when the time comes, ready for a fresh coat.

**Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★**  
oxfordmint.co.uk