

TRIED & TESTED

MCN STAFF RATE THEIR RIDING KIT



Flip the front and feel the sun

650 MILES



Two helmets in one for under £300. Stuart's impressed



HJC i100 Beis MC9SF Brown £299.99

Large, but a great summer helmet



Tested by Stuart Prestidge for five months

The first thing you notice about the HJC i100, the company's first rotational transformation modular helmet, is the size, it's enormous, Spaceballs Dark Helmet-esque size.

To put it into perspective, when measured against my other, regular flip-front modular helmets the i100 has a circumference two inches larger than a Caberg Droid and 3.5 greater than a discontinued Schuberth.

It's also heavy, weighing 1900g. Compare that to rival 180-degree chin bar flipping helmets, such as the LS2 Avant, which tips the scales at 1650g, and the HJC's bulk is clear.

Despite the i100's size and weight - doubtless in part due to being ECE22.06 compliant), overall comfort is good. My only complaint in terms of comfort and fit so far is the chin strap. It has no padding on areas under the chin, just small soft strips covering

the side of the strap. Under the chin the strap can rub a bit during longer rides. Secondly the position of the strap - slightly back, towards the neck - it can at times place uncomfortable pressure upon my Adam's apple.

Although the HJC i100 has only two vents (one on the front under the visor, the other centrally on top) the helmet is very well ventilated. In fact, sometimes too well in cold weather even with both vents shut.

Because the chin has to extend over the visor there is a lot of space at the front of the helmet. But the chin curtain is quite small, so wind finds it too easy to enter here. That said, in the recent hot weather this 'oversight' has actually been a great attribute. It was the warmer weather that brought the i100 to life, as I alternated between full-face configuration on higher speed rides to the cooler open-face position while cruising around town.

The transition between the two configurations is quick and easy. Despite never

having worn an open-face helmet, that orientation quickly became first choice as the sun came out and the rush of warm air offered an extra feeling of freedom.

When getting onto higher speed roads the security of a full face helmet was a real comfort and while I didn't think a dual helmet was really my thing I quickly became a fan.

The large, wide visor gives an excellent field of vision and the internal sun visor is easy to operate, too.

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★
www.oxfordproducts.com

PROS & CONS

- +** **Pros:** Great air flow on hot days; stylish looks and graphics, easy
- **Cons:** It's a large helmet and on the heavy side too.

Up and down at the press of a button - it's easy switching configurations



Engaging the internal sun visor couldn't be easier