

TRIED & TESTED

MCN STAFF RATE THEIR RIDING KIT



Great quality and smart looks

3350 miles ON TEST



Impressive vents and the peak is removable



NEXX X.WED3 £509.99

'Feature packed – but heavy'



Tested by Justin Hayzelden for four months

It's taken seven years for the latest version of NEXX's adventure lid to reach the shelves and I was really keen to find out if the wait for the X.WED3 had been worth it.

Well, first off, fit is absolutely bang on. I take a medium and it slipped comfortably onto my noggin without any need for adjustment. The padding is soft to the touch and has a plush, cushioned feel to it, with plenty of spring in the foam to keep it snug without undue pressure.

I've spent many a full day riding around the back roads of Norfolk, and it's barely been off my head for more than the few minutes it takes to scoff a snack. I've not once felt the need to remove it to give my skull a break.

The visor mechanism deserves a special mention, in particular the way it locks in the fully open and closed positions. Springs at either side pull its locator lugs firmly into deep

detents, which in the open position prevents it from shutting unexpectedly; very handy if you're on rough terrain and want to maintain maximum airflow, and when closed it increases pressure on the weather seal, effectively rendering it watertight. Despite riding regularly in near monsoon conditions on the A47 (such are the joys of a UK spring) it hasn't sprung a leak anywhere.

If there's one thing the X.WED3 is not short of, it's ventilation. The frontal area has seven separate adjustable vents, and when you have them all open at once, you can literally feel the wind in your hair. The top three have a tendency to whistle, but the intensity varies depending on screen and riding position.

Patagonian pan pipes aside, it is quiet in general use. It includes a gasket between the EPS and outer shell designed to soak up vibrations from turbulent air, and it certainly seems to work. The peak also has rubber mounts to prevent resonance from buffeting.

My only real issue is the weight. It tips our scales at 1.92 kg and that's a lot of bulk. It's biased towards the front too, causing it to pull your chin down before lift from the peak takes over. Oh, and the chin strap is way too long. This can easily get twisted and cause the padded outer sheath to bunch up.

Build quality is high, and it does feel like a lot of helmet for the money, especially as it comes with goodies such as GoPro mounts and a spare smoked visor.

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★
nexx-helmet.co.uk

PROS & CONS

- + Quiet with or without peak, well integrated comms, airflow
- Chin strap too long, bit heavy, ventilation ports can whistle

Plush lining makes for all-day comfort with no pressure points



Visor locks in both the up and down position