

TRIED & TESTED

MCN STAFF RATE THEIR RIDING KIT



5000 miles ON TEST

Concrete Grey paint is cheaper than other finishes



Quick-release buckle with soft strap underneath



Schubert E2 helmet £564.99

'Not perfect, but close'



Tested by Gareth Evans for 12 months

I've been testing the Schubert E2 adventure touring helmet in all conditions over thousands of miles. It's the only flip-front at this price with an adventure-style peak, but also comes with an integrated flip-down sun visor and preparation for an optional £325 comms system, which I've also been evaluating and found functions amazingly well.

The lid is very comfortable. There are no pressure points for my shape of head and the chin strap has Velcro-secured padding.

My only negative point here is the microphone used with the comms system, because I found this either prevented the front from folding down properly or pressed against my face, which was annoying. While a snug fit, this became annoying enough for me to leave the mic in the garage for most rides.

The main visor has Class 1 optics, which

means minimum distortion, and it comes with a Pinlock 120 anti-fog lens pre-installed and some tabs for pushing the visor open on either side. There's a very wide aperture, meaning a vast field of vision.

I think in this Concrete Grey shade, it's a pretty unassuming design that masks some of the more interesting aspects of the helmet. Look closer and you realise there are plenty of clever features. That will suit some, but not others, so pick your colour carefully – there are eight finishes to choose from, although six of them push the price to £614.99.

For me, value for money is where the E2 falls down ever-so slightly. Sure, it's rammed with features and indeed the lining is very comfortable, but when you're manhandling it, I don't think it feels of a particularly high quality given the price.

Specifically, I think the peak is too bendy and the visor fittings feel flimsy; I've found it very easy to scratch the paint on the shell, too.

Furthermore, the shell and drop-down elements together don't feel particularly robust, although I will caveat this with the fact that after 5000 miles everything still works flawlessly. It's also worth mentioning here that the E2 comes with a five-year warranty against manufacturing defects.

This is a quality proposition. It isn't perfect and I'd like slightly higher-quality feeling materials for the money, but overall I don't think you'll be disappointed.

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★
www.bikerheadz.co.uk

PROS & CONS

- +** Comfortable, ready for impressive comms system, five-year warranty
- Quality of some materials leaves a little to be desired

Solid-feeling vents have insect filters to keep out unwanted visitors



Integrated comms are seriously slick