1 Rebelhorn Hiker IV £229.95 (jacket), £199.95 (trousers)

Great, but you'll need to wear thermals in winter

www.sportsbikeshop.co.uk

The Hiker IV is AA certified and each garment has a waterproof removable liner; however, it has no thermal properties. The jacket's liner can be worn zipped inside or over the top.

Level-2 armour is used at the shoulders, elbows, knees and hips, with a pocket for a back protector. The trousers have four pockets, two of which vent to the body, and six direct-to-body vents. The jacket has several pockets and six direct-to-body vents.

The trousers and jacket are a nice fit but work better when not zipped together; doing so causes the liner to ruck up. Both are lightweight and flexible but the jacket feels long, folding under the front vent flaps. The legs and arms are the right length and adjusting the knee armour position was straightforward.

On the bike, they are not particularly warm. But the cover flap over the chest vents seals well, as does the collar, so there are few draughts. With the liners removed, the fit doesn't change noticeably but with all the vents open, airflow is huge – it would be very cool in hot climates.

We conducted the wet test with the waterproof linings inside the garments – no water found its way to the body but a couple of pockets were damp. Wearing the liners inside means a lot of water ran out from between the liner and outer when taking off the trousers.

'Not particularly warm – but few draughts'

VERDICT

Well-designed, but best suited to warmer climates. We'd suggest a mid-layer or heated vest on colder rides.

THE FACTS

Material	450D/1000D polyester
Removable lining	✔
Membrane	HydraShield
CE certification	AA
Armour rating	L2 (elbows, shoulders, hips, knees)
Back protector included?	✖, £19.99 (L2)
Chest armour provision?	✖
Vents, jacket	4 front, 2 rear
Vents, trousers	2 front, 2 rear, 2 side
Pockets, jacket	4 external, 1 internal
Pockets, trousers	4 external
Sizes	XS-5XL (jkt), XS-5XL (trsrs)
Size tested	L (jacket), M (trousers)

BENCH TEST

Weight, dry	**5020g**
Weight, wet	**5670g**
Water volume retained	**650ml**
Time to water ingress	**N/A**

THE SCORES

Fit

Comfort

Warmth

Venting

Waterproofing

Total 41/50

▶ Chest vents flow a lot of air

▲ Waterproof lining can be worn inside or outside of jacket

POCKETS

The Hiker IV has lots of pockets – including one on the sleeve, one behind a waterproof zip on the lower chest and two on the front, one protected by a waterproof zip.

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