



Ideal for off-road adventures

11 months ON TEST

Does the job in all conditions

Merlin Navar D30 Laminated Jacket £249.99

'Dual-sports perfection'



Tested by Joseph Wright for 11 months

Merlin's Navar is a top pick for dual-sport riders seeking a blend of style, comfort, and protection. I've used this jacket for over 6000 miles and it excels in all conditions. Its lightweight build and breathable design make it ideal for off-road adventures, while the removable

thermal liner ensures versatility in varying temperatures.

The jacket fits snugly around the shoulders, chest, and arms to keep the D30 armour in place, while offering flexibility around the midsection for easy movement. True to Merlin's military aesthetic, the grey and green colour options are understated yet stylish. Premium materials and thoughtful features – like zip/strap connections, a

snap-down collar, and expanding shoulder panels – highlight the jacket's quality and functionality.

With an AA CE certification, the Navar includes D30 armour at the shoulders, elbows, back, and chest. The YKK zippers remain smooth after countless uses. Although pricier than some rivals, it's well worth the investment.

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★
www.merlinbikegear.com

Merlin Solitude D30 £379.99

'Nothing more I could want'



Tested by Steve Herbert-Mattick for 18 months

Everything I said when I first reviewed this jacket (MCN, September 13, 2023) still holds true.

Competitively priced for a laminated jacket, the Solitude has never let me down – even riding for hours in heavy downpours. It's comfortable, has more pockets than I have stuff to put in them, comes with a detachable storm collar, thermal liner and D30 Level 1 armour at the elbows, shoulders and back. And remarkably, it looks and performs exactly as it did when new.

It's the first time I've used anything by Merlin and I'm deeply impressed. It's been entirely fault-free when it's been given plenty of opportunity to leave me cold and wet.

The storm collar sits high (as it's designed to) and has been long-relegated to the back of a cupboard because I don't like the way it



9000 miles and still looking like new

interacts with the bottom of a helmet when I am riding. The cuff openings are narrow too, suggesting they're designed for either short gloves or to be worn inside gauntlets.

I prefer long gloves tucked in so it doesn't quite work for me, but my gloves' wrists are thin enough to tuck in with a bit of effort.

Although doing so packs the sleeves out enough that the hook-and-loop closure doesn't reach to fasten itself.

While I originally said the Level 1 armour felt thin and reduced confidence, it is very comfortable and keeps weight and bulk low. And there are enough adjusters and vents on the Solitude to make it feel secure and be pleasant in hot weather. I've bumped it up one star on quality since my initial review for how well it's lasting.

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★
merlinbikegear.shop

9000+ miles ON TEST

Dane Nimbus 2 £1149.99

'Handled all conditions'



Tested by Justin Hayzelden for eight months

I started wearing the Dane Nimbus 2 in early summer 2024, and combined with the firm's Lyngby pants, it breezed through warmer weather, only stalling on the hottest of days as there's no provision for keeping vents pinned open. Triple layer Gore-Tex Gecko, with built-in stretch, has been effective at wicking away sweat though, and also keeps the rain out – for the most part. A recent ride in torrential winter rain eventually proved too much for the membrane around the elbow on the left arm, but I have no doubt that lesser kit would've sprung leaks everywhere and to be fair, conditions were such that I should've been wearing an

It's seen both summer and winter use



5300 miles ON TEST

oversuit anyway. The thermal liner retains just enough heat to complete my 50-mile commute in single-figure temperatures, aided by an outer shell that's suitably windproof. AA CE certification with Level 2 back, shoulder and elbow armour gives peace of mind, and the smart

look sets it apart from the competition, which includes the likes of Rukka and Rev'it!. The Nimbus 2 is super comfortable, fits well and, day in day out, has handled almost everything I've thrown at it.

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★
dane.eu

Furygan Apalaches Lady Evo £249.90

'All-weather happy'



Tested by Charlotte King for one month and 500 miles

I'm a convert, from a girl who wore leather for everything, I now understand why textiles are king for all-weather riding. I've done my 100-mile round trip commute in these and have been comfortable, warm and dry in the British winter rain and single digit temps. The fit is flattering, the thermal lining is soft and snugly feeling, and the jacket is CE AA-approved so offers reasonable protection, too.

My only tiny nit-pick so far is that the Velcro on the collar is so strong it welds itself to my plaited hair.

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★
www.furygan.com

500 miles ON TEST



Richa Atlantic 2 £849.99

'Expensive but worth the outlay'



Tested by Dan Sutherland for 20,000 miles

I've been using this jacket since late autumn 2023 and it's kept me protected and dry for 20,000 miles. We're on our third winter together, and it's been brilliant – with a five-year warranty to back it up. Achieving CE AA status, the D30 armour fits snug, and all of the zips and stitching are still intact. I'd recommend layering up inside, or wearing a chest and back protector, for a little extra warmth.

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★
www.nevis.uk.com

Two years ON TEST