

Sensors check you are warm



7500 miles ON TEST

It'll give four hours of warmth

Alpinestars HT Heated Vest £329.99

'It's pricey – but effective'



Tested by Michael Neeves for two years

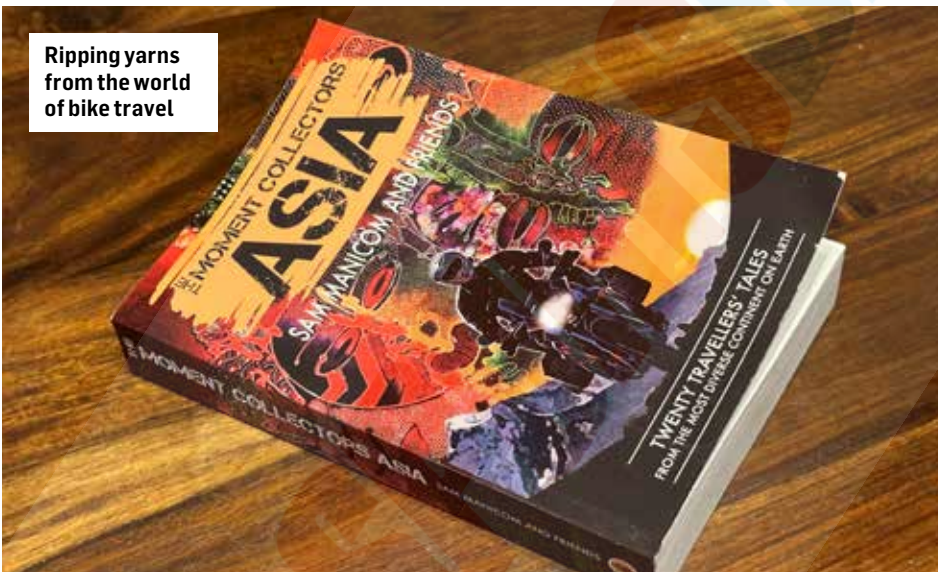
This heated vest may not be the cheapest out there, but it's light, comfortable and does a superb

job of keeping me warm even in the depths of winter. It can either plug into a bike's electrics, or you use the supplied 12v lithium battery, as I do when I'm road-testing different machines. It lasts three to four hours on a low setting and the vest is so efficient that the low and medium settings are all I ever need. Heat panels in the chest, lower back and back of the neck are regulated using sensors to check body temperature and

you can scroll between the three heat levels via an illuminated button on the vest, or via Bluetooth with the Astars app.

Quality ★★★★★ **Value** ★★★★★
www.alpinestars.com

Ripping yarns from the world of bike travel



The Moment Collectors – Asia £14.79

'Twenty reasons to quit your job'



Read by Justin Hayzelden

Inspiration comes in many forms, not least in print, and this book of short stories from the world of motorcycle travel is absolutely loaded with the stuff.

Every chapter left me utterly entranced, and on numerous occasions I was left wondering whether I should pack it all in and head off into the sunset on an adventure of my own. The essence of *The Moment Collectors – Asia* is to capture a snapshot of life on the road from 20 different travellers as they experience the highs and lows of exploring one of the

most geographically fascinating and culturally rich areas of the globe. Lovingly curated by adventure pioneer Sam Manicom, it tells not just the tales, but gives an insight into the people behind the pen and the bikes they ride. It's the perfect antidote to a dark, grey winter, and a wonderful book for dipping into as needed. I carried my copy around for a couple of months, immersing myself into each story as and when I had the time to really drink it all in. But be warned – there's a danger it could change your life!

Quality ★★★★★ **Value** ★★★★★
sam-manicom.com

Heavy rain? Bring it on



Spada Aqua Shield £59.99/£39.99

'Serious weather protection'



Tested by Ben Clarke for six months

This two-piece has kept me dry (and warm) through many a downpour when optimism has tempted me into wearing a jacket and jeans 'one last time' (until the next time). The garments themselves are at the luxurious end of the market and nothing like some of the cheap, plasticky 'boil-in-the-bag' stuff. The outer shell is a breathable fabric that's so soft to the touch it doesn't feel as though it should be waterproof. Everything is lined and sturdily built and it offers an added layer of thermal protection. The only downside is that it's quite bulky and heavy.

Quality ★★★★★ **Value** ★★★★★
spadaclothing.com

500 miles ON TEST