

QUICK KIT TESTS

Dane Nimbus jacket £874.99

<https://daneclothing.uk>

New for 2018, this is the most comprehensively impressive textile jacket I've worn in almost 20 years of riding. It feels reassuringly solid and substantial, with large panels of tough Armacor fabric over the shoulders and forearms, plus Level-2 back, shoulder and elbow armour. All that, yet it's not stiff or heavy either.

The Nimbus has a Gore-Tex Pro laminated outer shell, which means rain runs straight off rather than soaking into the fabric before meeting the waterproof barrier, as in kit with the regular Gore-Tex membrane. Not only do I stay totally dry, but also the jacket never gets heavy, never saps warmth from me and it dries out quickly.

There's loads to adjust: a zip-off rain collar; elasticated bicep and forearm adjusters; internal and external waist adjusters; double cuffs; a removable thermal layer with neat colour-coded clips to help fit it; and large waterproof zipped vents on the arms and chest for summer use.

Gripes? The front pockets are small and the internal lining tore out from one of them – this would be fixed under Dane's two-year warranty. At £875 it's also not cheap – though that's £175 less than Rukka's Arma-T. But for high-mileage, all-year riders, I'm convinced Gore-Tex Pro is an investment worth paying for. **MARTIN FITZ-GIBBONS**

Dane Lyngby Air trousers £529.99

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A match for the Nimbus jacket in fit, function and features. They too use a Gore-Tex Pro laminate for faultless waterproofing, with Armacor panels for durability and abrasion resistance and feature large vents behind weatherproof zips for summer airflow. There's CE level 2 knee armour (hip protectors are a £15.99 extra), an easily removed thermal lining and pockets that are a bit too small. There are small leather patches on the bum and inside of the knees. Two details I love: the brilliant magnetic-hook waist fastening, which almost closes itself; and the slightly stretchy panels behind the knees and below the waist that help give a great fit. These aren't cheap – but are less than Rukka's £750 Arma-T trousers. Together the Nimbus and Lyngby Air are more than £1400 – but ride 5000 miles a year for ten years and that's less than 3p a mile for ultra-premium clothing. **MFG**



Light and supple yet fully waterproof and with high levels of protection



One pocket lining came unstitched



Gore-Tex Pro stops rain soaking into kit



Waterproof zips access air vents



Poppers adjust forearm fit