



Deuter Race Back Hydration Pack

Price: £34.99

From: Jim Walker www.i-ride.co.uk

Tested: 4 months

The 'Race' has a comfortable teardrop shape that hugs the body yet doesn't get too hot thanks to its mesh straps and 'airstripes' system - a centre ridge allowing air to flow over your back. There is also a waist and chest strap to stop jiggle. At 10 litres the bag is fairly compact but allows more than you'd think to be stuffed into it. There's a large main compartment where you also keep the bladder (not included), a front pocket - for tools and the like, a top pocket ideal for keys and even your light battery, and elasticated mesh pockets at the sides for stuffing things without having to take the bag off. Stowed away at the bottom is a bright yellow rain cover. There's the odd reflective surface to keep you visible and a loop to attach a light, too.

Overall: The construction quality is very high with robust zips and good attention to detail all round - like the press stud that keeps the main compartment zips together when you've over filled it. My only slight niggle is there's only one hose loop on the right strap - but I'm surviving. Highly recommended.

Tom de Bruin.