

"I WANT A BIKE I CAN RIDE YEAR ROUND..."

KINESIS RTD £2550

A PERFECT BLEND OF SPEED, PRACTICALITY AND COMFORT

Even the day after a hard race, with tired legs, the new Kinesis RTD feels fast. This perhaps isn't so surprising once you realise that RTD stands for 'race the distance', and the bike's inspired by the ethos of long-distance riding.

At £850, the frameset isn't that cheap, but scandium is a rare beast. When alloyed with aluminium, it's around twice as strong as the 6061 or 7005 grades of aluminium, more corrosion resistant and around 10-15 per cent lighter. A 51cm RTD frame is claimed to weigh 1400g and our 57cm model weighed in at a little over 9kg.

The classy Ritchey WCS finishing kit sets the tone for a bike with epic ride pretensions, and they're ably backed up by Shimano's sublime Ultegra disc groupset. Its excellent hydraulic levers operate reassuringly powerful disc brakes and, with its 52/36 chainset and 11-28 cassette, a road-focused drivetrain.

Completing the build are Kinesis Racelight 700 Disc wheels with 30mm Challenge Strada Bianca tyres.

The 71° head angle provides a relaxed and stable front end and, along with the 1032.5mm wheelbase of our 57cm frame, makes the RTD ideal for riding with luggage. But unladen, it flies – there's enough lateral stiffness to give it true race bike speed, but sufficient compliance to keep you sitting comfortably. Kinesis has nailed it here, producing a great bike that will get you to your destination swiftly, and in style, however far away it may be.

THE VERDICT
KINESIS HAS REACHED NEW
ALUMINIUM ALLOY HEIGHTS
★★★★★

WE SAY...
THE NEW RTD WILL
MAKE YOU RE-EVALUATE
YOUR ALUMINIUM
FRAME PERFORMANCE
EXPECTATIONS

THE TYRE'S FINE
HERRINGBONE
PATTERN ROLLS FAST

"THERE'S ENOUGH STIFFNESS TO GIVE THE RTD TRUE RACE BIKE SPEED AND RESPONSIVE HANDLING"

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KINESIS/FOCUS/FACTOR

SPECIFICATIONS
WEIGHT 9.15kg (57cm)
FRAME Scandium
FORK Carbon
GEARS Shimano Ultegra (52/36, 11-28)
BRAKES Shimano Ultegra hydraulic disc, 160mm/140mm rotors
WHEELS Kinesis Racelight 700 Disc
FINISHING KIT Ritchey stem, bar, seatpost and saddle, Challenge Strada Bianca 30mm tyres, Kinesis Fend Off mudguards

ALSO CONSIDER...



FOCUS PARALANE 8.9 GC £2459
SUPERB COMFORT PAIRED WITH SINGLE-RING SIMPLICITY
★★★★★

Focus' Paralane has good endurance road bike speed on flat and rolling terrain. As specced, it makes for a great all-rounder with few performance compromises. If you're looking for a quick commuter or a training bike with a feel that's not that far removed from your favourite road bike, this is a well-sorted, comfortable and weatherproof option.



FACTOR VISTA CHAPTER 3 £6500
A GREAT BALANCE OF CONTROL AND COMFORT
★★★★★

This is Factor's take on an all-road machine and it's impressive. Responsive steering and the bike's stiffness mean it tracks brilliantly. A combination of clever material choice and even smarter lay-up patterning means the OTIS-AR fork does a remarkable job of killing vibrations. Clever, cool, comfortable and quick – all the makings of a top-rated machine.