

TRIED
& TESTED
REVIEW



It's not a saddle, it's a Throne!

Rick Horvat road tests a Throne — the new Australian-designed saddle made to dutifully serve your royal behind

Cyclists are a typically conservative bunch, with bright colours and flashy products often shunned — unless, of course, they're endorsed by professionals. But a new Australian company is challenging this conservatism with its new range of 'Thrones'.

The basic elements of a bike saddle are quite simple; the front end of the saddle, or the nose, needs to be narrow to prevent chafing on the inner thigh. The rear of the saddle needs to be wide enough to support the rider's 'sit bones' or to be anatomically exact, the 'ischial tuberosities'.

A slight variance of these elements can make your ride very uncomfortable and agonising. As the late Leslie Nielson remarked in the movie *Naked Gun 2 1/2*, "[The] truth hurts. Maybe not as much as jumping on a bicycle with a seat missing, but it hurts".

It was, therefore, with great hesitation that I jumped aboard the 'Throne' for a test ride. This hesitation was compounded by the fact that I was in the midst of a cycling challenge; to complete 500 kilometres of riding between the Christmas and New Year's period.

The first thing I noticed about the Throne was how it looked. I was impressed with the presentation and packaging, along with the background behind the specific Throne I tested — The Daredevil.

"Some say he's crazy. Some say he has no fear. Some say he is Evil's love child. One thing is for sure if he sees a gap he's going to

try and jump across it. He is the daredevil." Whilst the description of the Daredevil doesn't come close to describing me as a rider, it didn't stop me from dreaming that maybe one day it would.

The test ride was to be a 'leisurely' 200 kilometre journey to Sorrento in Victoria taking in some of the most beautiful coastal roads Melbourne's bayside has to offer. Before we even got halfway it was evident that the ride was to be anything but leisurely.

We were made to push hard into a strong headwind, we were confronted with storms and then eventually sunshine. However, despite riding through all that could be thrown at us, not once did I feel uncomfortable on my Throne.

A unique accessory for your bike, no matter what level of cyclist you are, a Throne provides the performance of a high-end saddle whilst adding colour and individuality to your prized possession.

The Throne is nylon based and reinforced with carbon fibre. It has hollow TI rails with a light foam microfiber cover. What does this all mean to the average cyclist? Well, it results in an exceptionally comfortable ride and it also gives the saddle a total weight of 215g, which is comparable to most other top saddles currently on the market.

For those of you who may want to spice up your bike without compromising on performance, then the Throne is for you.

