



Tifosi Ventoux £42.99

ANOTHER GRILAMID TR-90 frame from Tifosi with hydrophilic rubber temples and nose piece, three polycarbonate lenses (Clear, Smoke and Red), a micro-fibre cleaning bag and case. The Ventoux, unlike the Dolomite, features an adjustable nose bridge, which along with the thinner frame make these better suited to riding duties. It takes just a second to pinch the bridge in to

make them sit higher on your face for riding, or widen to lower them for when you're off the bike. Fit is great and quality and performance for the money is almost unbeatable. www.tifosiopticsuk.com

One of the best balances between all out race style and leisure looks **8**



Briko Endure Pro Solo £54.99

THE THRAMA ACTIVE Plus AF lens that comes with the Endure Solo is a great all-rounder. Offering 30% light transmission it's ideally suited to Britain's changeable weather. The minimalist frame is a great fit, and the Syncro nose bridge adjustment worked well. The slender arms don't feel fragile, and fit around helmets and straps easily while still gripping the sides of the

skull snugly. Compared to the Briko Nitrospeed, the Endure Pro Solo is closer to what we'd expect from Briko: great shades that perform well and don't cost the earth. www.wiggle.co.uk

Light, excellent fit, great overall performance and a very attractive price **8**



Giro Havik £124.99

WE REVIEWED THESE in issue 209 and were impressed. They're cycling-specific, designed to fit around the straps of Giro's Ionos helmets. Their selling point is the Zeiss True Sight lens, and Zeiss's reputation for quality shows, with no distortion and impressive clarity. The Haviks have a compact, fitted frame, a tight curve, and arms that are shorter than most. They sit

quite close to the brow and so can catch sweat, depending on your head shape, but air flow is channelled behind the lenses to stop them steaming up, and helps to dry sweat. www.ultimatepursuits.co.uk

Impressive lens quality and ideal if you have a Giro Ionos helmet **8**



Oakley Radar from £119

THE RADAR IS a development of the classic M-Frame – they're more casual in appearance, but still very obviously a sport shade. It's hard to fault the fit – two different width nose bridges are supplied and you can pick from three sizes of lens – and Oakley's hydrophobic lenses are nigh-on unbreakable, offer excellent coverage and no distortion. Our pictured pair look

odd because they have prescription lenses bonded to them (prescription Radars start at £225). While expensive, Oakley prescription sports shades are probably the best you can get. www.oakley.com

A great shade, and if you need prescription lenses well worth the cost **8**

THE VERDICT

WINNER



WE ALL KNOW that looking good in a pair of shades is important, but when it comes to riding bikes then protecting your eyesight has to be more important than fashion. Whatever you choose, fit and performance should be your

primary concern. And make sure that that you try sunglasses on with your helmet!

If you're looking for a race style pair of shades then the **Rudy Project Sportmask** should be at the top of your list, closely followed

by the **Giro Havik** and **Oakley Radar**. They're all excellent, and considering the protection offered and the quality of performance, they all represent pretty good value for money too.

The more recreational riders out there might want to pay attention to the **Oakley Flak Jacket** and the two models tested here from **Tifosi**. The Tifosi shades represent fantastic value for money, with excellent performance and quality at amazing prices. At the budget end of the spectrum, if their frame was a little more thought out then the DHBs would be a clear winner,

but as it is the **Endura Spectrums** are great and take the win easily.

If you want prescription shades, and you have plenty of spare cash, then upgrading any **Oakley** sunglasses to correct your dodgy eyesight is well worth the expense. The **Optilabs** prescription deal is tempting, but we feel that the overall performance of the shades only makes them a compelling choice if you don't get on with inserts – some feel they sit too close to the eyes. These inserts – offered by **adidas** and **Rudy Project** among others – are the best value option for spec wearers.