

REVIEW: '09 BMW F1200GS Adventure

REVIEW BY HEIN JONKER

Heat, cold, drought, wind and rain - it all quickens your heartbeat, because it lets you know you are on the road. If you see yourself in all this, this motorcycle is the right companion for you. The BMW R 1200 GS Adventure defines the standards for the ultimate indestructible adventure motorcycle. It is a perfect synthesis of agility, touring suitability and off-road capability - as standard!

Here, the popular strengths of the R 1200 GS Adventure have been combined with true endurance qualities: an increased range thanks to the 33-litre fuel tank, even more effective wind production due to a newly designed, robust windshield, stable cross-spoke wheels, a raised chassis for the best possible combination of powerful off-road qualities and dynamic touring capabilities, a more off-road oriented seat and extensive protection for greater robustness.



Like the basic R 1200 GS version, the R 1200 GS Adventure places its trust in a completely reworked 6-speed transmission which, with its shortened transmission ratios and a shorter secondary ratio, provides clearly improved traction and acceleration. Combined with the reworked engine, the R 1200 GS Adventure is much more lively and dynamic in the upper half of the engine speed range, while still providing more traction in the lower ranges.

Power and sportiness, dynamics and technical elegance in equal measures characterize the R 1200 GS Adventure through a deliberate contrast between black components and two new colour variants.

Its 33 litre tank, for example, allows the rider to ride for much longer stages. At a constant speed of 90 km/h, the theoretical range is around 750 kilometres. In this way, the new R 1200 GS Adventure can cover far greater distances than any of its competitors.

On fast stretches, the windscreen of the new R 1200 GS Adventure deflects air flow past the rider largely without any turbulence, thus effectively reducing the burden on the head and upper body at high speeds in particular. The angle of the windscreen can be adjusted, providing outstanding wind and weather protection for riders of all sizes. Wide enduro footrests and adjustable levers for the foot brake and gear shift lever take account of the often changing requirements in off-road use in particular and can be adjusted both to personal riding styles and habits and to different styles of shoes. The rough conditions on long-distance trips and over extreme terrain away from surfaced roads are taken into consideration by the new, double-butted handlebar in aluminium, which can be mounted in two positions, depending on the intended purpose, and new hand protectors, now mounted directly on the handlebar.

As previously, a stable, sturdy tube structure made from high-grade steel protects the tank and frame effectively from the consequences of accidental contact, especially over land. In addition, high-quality aluminium covers protect the valve covers against tough impacts. As in the predecessor model, tough, practical luggage fixing devices are provided by the spacious, stable luggage bridge, made from high-grade steel, which will also take the aluminium top case, available on request. The two-part bench seat, which can be adjusted to two heights in the rider section, gives an optimum seat position, as previously. In the upper position, at 915 mm seat height, it offers the rider the comfort of a continuous seat surface without level changes and allows the necessary freedom of movement over land too. In the lower position, the seat height of 895 mm gives good ground reach and a stable position.

Bottom-line is; Live your dream of freedom and infinity - take a ride on the R 1200 GS Adventure!

PRICE: Basic Spec @ R145 500.00 or Full Spec @ R159 500.00 (ESA, H GRIPS, ABS, ASC, TPC) - Incl. 14% VAT



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