

REVIEW: Hyosung GT250R



REVIEW BY HEIN JONKER

When it comes to beginner motorcycles, most of them have a general 'look' to them that gives them away as being not as powerful as their 600cc+ cousins. One company that is looking to change that in an amazing way is Hyosung with their sleek and modern looking 125cc and 250cc motorcycles. The Hyosung GT250R looks like the beautiful offspring from Suzuki GSXR and a Ducati 748. The only thing that gives away its displacement is the 250R sticker on the side fairing, and by the styling you may think that's a misprint!!

The GT250R is powered by a strong and powerful two-cylinder, V-twin DOHC eight-valve engine, 249 cc engine. The design of the V-twin means that it will give you more low range torque than you would get with an I-4 engineered engine.

That translates to more usable power for the street, and it also means you don't need to rev to red line before you feel the bike start to pull. This is the IDEAL engine configuration for a new rider to have in my opinion, but I am very partial to V-twins myself, I find them to be very practical.

We can talk about the engine on this bike for a while, but the thing that sets it apart is the styling. This motorcycle has some of the sweetest styling of any motorcycle I've seen, that includes 250's, 500's, 600's, and Litter Bikes!! It almost looks like a cross between a Honda VFR, a Suzuki GSXR and a Ducati; and if you ask me that's a brilliant combination. It even looks exactly the same as its bigger brother, the GT650R. The modern styling doesn't just show itself with the bodywork, the instrument cluster is also full of modern equipment. It's nice to see a 250cc motorcycle with a Digital Speedometer for a change, yet to keep the analogue tachometer which is much easier to read compared to a digital one.

One thing that can't be overlooked is the headlight of this motorcycle. It's reminiscent of recent Ducati street bikes with its vertical lined bulbs, yet it does this while maintaining its own originality. Frankly the GT250R is a breath of fresh air for the 250 class; most motorcycles of this type are hold-overs from the 80's with only slight upgrades to mechanical components. This leaves them to look a little dated to say the least, yet the GT250R is definitely a modern looking bike.

Hyosung is still a relatively new company, and yet have proven themselves in the real world. Hats off to them for committing to the redesign of their motorcycles nearly every year as they get new rider and dealer input. Chances are if you don't like some particular feature of the current crop of GT250R's, in a year or so they will have dramatically changed it to make it an even more capable motorcycle.

My Opinion of the GT250R

- One of the best looking motorcycles in its class.
- V-twin engine delivers usable power for a new rider.
- Modern instrument cluster includes a digital speedometer.
- Value for money.

In summary, I definitely recommend this bike for new riders and also for riders that would like to have a spare bike at home. And in my opinion I think the GT250R is a very viable alternative to some of its competitors out in the market.

PRICE: R29 950.00 - Incl. 14% VAT
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Tel: (031) 312 3990
493 Umgeni Road, Durban
www.tidalmotorcycles.co.za