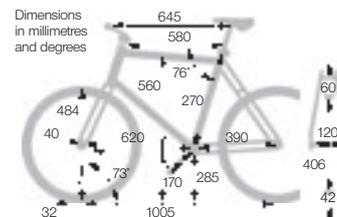




TERN VERGE DUO



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Price: £775

Weight: 11.6kg **Sizes:** one size

Frame and fork: hydroformed 7005 series aluminium, with 'OCL' hinge and fittings for mudguard, rear rack, head-tube 'Luggage Truss', 1×bottle. 6061 series aluminium fork with m/g eyelets

Wheels: 42-406 Schwalbe Marathon Supreme tyres; 406-15 Kinetix Comp rims; p/g 2.0mm spokes (20×2 front, 28×2 rear); Kinetix Neutron front hub; Sram Automatix 2-speed rear hub

Transmission: folding pedals; Kinetix Supra chainset, 170mm, 46T; RustBlock 3/32in chain; Sram Automatix hub, 18T sprocket. 2-speed, 49 & 66in

Braking: Kinetix Tour dual pivot, long-drop sidepull (front); Sram coaster (rear)

Steering and Seating: Kinetix Comp handlebar, 600mm; Physis 2D aluminium folding stem; Biologic Arx grips with T-Tool; Biologic Impel saddle; Biologic PostPump 2.0 seatpost

Accessories: Freedrive chainguard; kickstand; SKS mudguards; rear light

Contact: evanscycles.com and ternbicycles.com

FOLDING BIKE

Tern Verge Duo

Editor **Dan Joyce** reviews a stylish 20-inch wheel folder with an automatic 2-speed hub gear and a coaster brake

▶▶ **THE VERGE** Duo is one of the few folders I've ridden that random passers-by have described as 'cool'. It's made by Tern, a company founded after a schism within Dahon, which perhaps accounts for the passing resemblance to the Dahon Mu. It's a 20-inch wheeled city folder, with a minimalist look courtesy of only one cable: the front brake.

The rear brake is a coaster, while the 2-speed hub changes automatically. There's a spring inside it, which shifts the gearing from direct drive to 1:1.36 when its tension is



1 The seatpost is also a pump with a retractable hose

2 Not super compact, but small enough for a train's luggage rack

overridden by the speed of the hub's rotation. According to my Garmin, that's at about 10.5mph. Drop below that and it shifts back.

It's a neat system for cyclists who pedal slowly and don't want to think about their gearing. For regular cyclists with a faster cadence, it's infuriating. With a 49-inch bottom gear, your cadence will only get into the low 70s before the hub kicks you into high gear... and an even lower cadence! I didn't want it to shift until I was doing 14-15mph or more, and so was in the 'wrong' gear much of the time.

Apart from that, it rides well. The reach is roomy, you feel very little flex through the frame or stem, contact points are comfortable, and 20-inch wheels trump 16 for handling.

Small enough fold

To fold, deploy the kickstand (to make it free-standing) and fully lower the seatpost. Turn the handlebar 180 degrees so the front wheel faces backwards. Undo the main hinge and fold the front half back on itself; the front wheel now points forward and the magnetic catches butt together. Undo the stem hinge and lower that. Clip the rubber strap under the main

Also consider



1) BROMPTON S2L £840

Sporty, flat-bar version of the iconic folder, with a 2-speed derailleurs. Almost a kilo lighter than Verge Duo and folds smaller. brompton.co.uk



2) DAHON MU UNO £480

A sub-10kg singlespeed – until you add mudguards – this 20-inch-wheel folder is like a simpler version of the Verge Duo. dahon.com