

Islabikes eJoni

The electric version of Islabikes' sit-up-and-beg step-through is ideally suited to riders with less strength or stiffer joints. **Dan Joyce** test rode it and polled other riders' opinions

ike the eJimi (cyclinguk.org/ cycle-magazine/ bike-test-islabikesejimi), the eJoni is the electric version of a bike built for older or less able riders. The step-through frame, upright riding position, low gears, and easy-tyre-change rims remain. A 250W Mahle hub motor adds power for easier pedalling.

This adds weight but not so much that it's hard to manhandle. At 15.5kg (size M) the eJoni is no heavier than many unpowered city bikes, and light enough to be lifted up a few steps or onto a towbar mounted bike rack by most owners.

Mounting and dismounting is easy thanks to the low-step aluminium frame. If you needed it to be easier still, you could fit an externally-cabled dropper seatpost. The bottom bracket isn't too



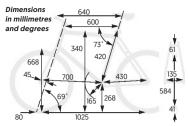
Above: The PulsarOne display shows assistance mode and charge remaining much more clearly than the iWoc controller

high, however, so it's not hard to get a foot down without a dropper. Pedalling is nicely ergonomic thanks to shorter cranks with a narrower pedal tread.

The 250Wh battery in the down tube isn't meant to be removed until it needs replacing (after about 15,000 miles, at a cost of £599.99), so you must park the eJoni near a socket for

recharging. It should do 30-40 miles per charge. As ever, range is hammered by very steep climbs (I took it up a 25% hill).

Standard fittings include mudguards, a rear rack, and high-quality Supernova lights wired to the main battery. You can't fit bottle cages except to the carbon fork or a stem-top mount (£13). A propstand (£23) is another extra. Get one - and the optional, wireless PulsarOne display (£100) that the test bike came with.



Tech Spec **ISLABIKES EJONI**

- Price: £2,699.99 as tested (from £2,599)
- Sizes: XS, S, M (tested), L
- Weight: 15.58kg
- (34.28lb) as shown
- Frame & fork: 6061 aluminium frame with internal battery, 68mm BSA BB, 135mm dropouts. fittings for rack. mudguard, and external dropper cable. Islabikes carbon fork with straight steerer, 100mm QR dropouts, fittings for mudguard and two luggage/
- bottle cages. • Wheels: 41-584 Islabikes Mixte tyres, Islahikes 584x19 Fasy Tyre Change rims. Front: 28×2 spokes, QR hub. Rear: 32×2 spokes, Mahle X35+ motor rear hub.
- Transmission: Wellgo pedals. 165mm Islabikes low Q-factor cranks, 32t

- chainring, square taper BB, KMC Z Narrow chain. Sunrace 8-speed 11-40t cassette, SRAM 3.0 Comp 8-speed Gripshift, SRAM X4 rear derailleur, 8 ratios, 21-77in.
- Electronics: Mahle X35+ 250W hub motor (40Nm torque), 250Wh Mahle/ Panasonic battery. iWoc Trio controller. PulsarOne display.
- Braking: Tektro HD-M276 hvdraulic discs with 160mm rotors.
- Steering & seating: Ergo lock-on grips, 660×31.8mm bar, 60mm×17° stem. integrated headset. Islabikes saddle, 27.2×350mm seatpost.
- Equipment:
- Supernova Mini 2 Headlight & E3 Tail Light 2, mudguards, aluminium rear rack. islabikes.co.uk

The eJoni rides as breezily as you'd expect when power-assisted and isn't bad without the motor. Neither I nor my main tester liked the saddle: such an upright position demands a wider, more padded and perhaps sprung seat. I'd change the tyres as well, to 40-584 Schwalbe Marathon Plus. For although the Islabikes tyres are easy to get on and off the rims, removing and refitting the motor-equipped rear wheel is fiddly.

RIBBLE URBAN AL E

£2,499 Lightweight e-bike with a Mahle hub motor (X35), iWoc controller, 1× drivetrain (11-speed Apex), hydraulic discs, and lights. ribblecycles.co.uk



CUBE COMPACT **HYBRID 500**

£2,899

Low-step urban e-bike with 20in wheels, a 5-speed hub gear, and a torquier (65Nm) Bosch mid-drive, Much heavier at 23.8kg. cube.e



Verdict

Arguably the pinnacle of the whole, keep-youriding Islabikes Icons and e-Icons ranges. It's super easy to mount and dismount, easy to ride, and easy to live with. Next time someone says e-bikes are "cheating", show them this.