



Pros & cons

- + Stable & waterproof
- + No bulging, no knee rub
- Access while riding is tricky

Tailfin

2.7L Wedge Frame Bag

Secure-fitting, waterproof frame bag

£105 tailfin.cc

Frame bags make use of the space within the frame that can't really be used for much else. While a frame bag is a common feature in bikepacking setups, I also find one useful for day-ride spares.

A frame bag has to fit well and still allow you to use your bottles. Tailfin gives you loads of help on its website about how to choose a suitable size and shape from the nine options offered, which range in price from £100 to £135. There are six 'half frame bags' and three 'wedge frame bags'; the wedge style is shorter along the top tube, giving more clearance on the seat tube for bottle manoeuvrability. Dimensions are given on the website. You can

print off templates to hold up to your bike, and there is also a tool whereby you upload a photo of your bike in order to check bag sizing. It feels like Tailfin really does want you to pick something suitable.

I went with a 2.7-litre wedge pack for my 54cm cross/gravel frame, meaning I can run a 500ml bottle in a side-loading cage on the down tube and a 750ml bottle on the seat tube, with good access good to both.

Whereas other bags I have used have attached with Velcro straps, the Tailfin bags have rubberised wedges on the attachment edges and use TPU straps, like Voile straps, to fasten the bag to the frame. This results

Verdict

A really well-designed frame bag that stays in position on the roughest terrain and keeps your kit dry and sorted. Perfect for day rides as well as touring. It's not coming off my bike any time soon.



in a really secure fit – the bag didn't move at all even on the roughest descents. There are carbon stiffeners on both sides of the pack to keep the bag rigid. This helps with the security of the fixing and also means knee rub is eliminated. However, it prevents you stuffing just 'one more thing' in there.

Tailfin claims its bag is waterproof, thanks to welded seams on waterproof Hypalon and ripstop nylon. I can confirm this as I inadvertently left my phone in the bag while washing the bike.

There are organisers inside the bag allowing you to pack stuff neatly; the pump strap and key pocket were two I found particularly useful. There's also a port at the front of the bag, enabling you to run cables or hydration tubes to where you need them. ●

Hannah Collingridge

Other options

RESTRAP FRAME BAG – SMALL £59.99-£84.99

The smallest versions of Restrap's fine frame bags range in size from 2.5 to 4.5 litres, and will allow you to use both bottle cages. They're tough but not waterproof.

restrap.com



ALPKIT GLIDER £84.99

Available in three sizes for road/gravel bikes, this is made from waterproof fabric but is not claimed to be waterproof. Should be small enough to allow the use of both bottle cages. alpkit.com

