



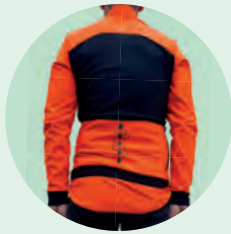
In the frame



Lusso Perform Winter Jacket 2.0

£170, lusso.bike

Reduced to £119.99 at the time of writing, this 2.0 version is an update of what is still sold as the Perform Winter Jacket 2023. The stretch fabric is waterproof as well as breathable, with ratings of 10k and 15k respectively. While the seams aren't sealed, I never got properly wet.



Size M fitted me well, aside from being very slightly short at the front. At the rear, the dropped tail is long enough to cover your bum. The neck is high and fleece lined – lovely. There are three elasticated rear pockets, plus one zipped. Options: men's S-XXXL (M tested), orange only; women's (2023 version only) XS-XL.

★ **For me, this was the best-fitting jacket, and it offered the best balance between warmth, rain resistance and breathability**



Altura Endurance Men's Softshell Waterproof Jacket

£145, altura.co.uk

Altura's jacket is described as semi-fitted. There's less stretch in the fabric and it has a looser cut – too loose for me. Size S was so baggy I could've worn a CamelBak underneath.



However, it keeps out cold wind and rain exceptionally well; it has taped seams and is rated 15k/10k for waterproofness and breathability. I wore this over just a base layer in a blizzard. I'm not a fan of ninja-black for road use but this jacket is highly reflective at night. There are two elasticated pockets and one zipped. Options: men's S-XXXL (S tested), black only. No women's version.

★ **Baggy cut is out of place on a road bike but it works well as a deep-winter jacket for mountain biking. Sometimes it was too warm**



Rapha Men's Core Winter Jacket

£150, rapha.cc

Reduced to £105 in navy and earth tones at time of writing, it remained £150 in black. It's a thermal jacket that keeps you warm but not necessarily dry. While its front uses wind-blocking fabric with a DWR coating, that won't deal with much more than road spray.



The fit is tailored. Size M fitted me well – apart from the sleeves, which were too long. The Rapha armband is reflective and there are small reflective details. It has three rear pockets and a small zipped pocket. Options: men's XS-XXL (M tested) in paprika, forest green, navy, black, orange, dark khaki; women's XS-XXL (similar colour options).

★ **An effective windproof that's durably made but that, given the lack of rain resistance, feels pricy**

★ Verdict

Emma's verdict: Performance is similar across all three jackets, with Gorewear's Tempest edging out the other two in the coldest conditions. My advice would be to consider exactly what kind of fit you want and what the primary use of the jacket will be. Both the Gorewear and Van Rysel work brilliantly for traditional road

riding, while Endura's might appeal to those looking for a relaxed-fitting jacket to wear for a variety of rides.

Dan's verdict: The three men's jackets are quite different. Rapha's is a traditional jersey-style windproof that does a good job on cold, dry days. Just remember to put a rain jacket in your pocket. The Altura

Endurance has a weirdly baggy cut for road use but works well off road, especially in atrocious conditions. Lusso's jacket, meanwhile, ticks all the boxes for off-season riding, offering good rain and wind resistance, warmth, decent visibility and a snug but non-restrictive fit. If you can get it for £120, it's the obvious winner.