

Other options



**OXFORD BIKE
WORKS MODEL 1**
£1,729+

A more traditional-style British tourer with triple chainrings, a Reynolds steel frame, V-brakes and a lovely finish.
oxfordbikeworks.co.uk



**ROCKRIDER TRAVEL
BIKE ADVT 900**
£1,799

Similar-looking, well-equipped 1x machine from Decathlon that's even weightier – but it does have a mighty 170kg maximum load.
decathlon.co.uk



Above: Other bikes in the same range have a belt drive, which is why the seatstay is separable
Left: Comfy grips but no bar-ends

planning a fully laden tour, I'd like a smaller chainring, such as a 38 or 36, to get the bottom gear nearer to 20in.

Braking comes courtesy of Magura four-piston hydraulic brakes. I can't say I noticed any extra power over a dual-piston design, but the action was light and smooth, and the 180mm rotors make the most of the power.

The 32-spoke wheels and high-end Schwalbe tyres major on toughness and durability. I'm a big fan of the tyres' reflective strips, which are very effective at night.

Ride

The Mahon World delivers a regal and imperious ride. You're in a nicely upright position that puts little strain on your body, and the slack head angle makes for relaxed handling.

You notice the bike's weight when climbing but it's very stable, thanks to its long wheelbase (1,117mm) and high trail figure (95mm). The gearing and braking deliver consistent control at all times, and it's a confidence-inspiring descender once you've crested a hill; you've got to love hydraulic disc brakes!

Long, leisurely days out are this bike's forte. The tread of the 50mm tyres copes well with broken roads, light gravel and unsurfaced canal towpaths, so you're not restricted to the tarmac touring. ●

Verdict

Straight out of the box, the Diamant Mahon World has everything you need for composed, everyday rides. A lot of care has clearly been put into its design and execution. With racks and guards, it's ideal for commuting, big days out and leisure riding. The wide tyres and – to my surprise – Brooks B17 saddle keep it comfortable.

I'd ride it exactly as it is for day-to-day use, only switching to a smaller chainring for a fully laden tour. Overall, though, it's a very good trekking bike that's well priced, given the quality of the components and equipment.