

RNI NO. MPENG/2016/70361

Bikesvecia

Everything About Two Wheelers

Volume 2 Issue 4 November 2017

₹60

2017 Road Test Review

Marc Marques

pounces on

Petrucci

for a win

in last lap

2017 San Marino GP Race Report

Triumph STREET SCRAMBLER

All You Need To Know

SHOOT

BENELLI TORNADO 302R VALLENTE DO

YAMAHA YZF R3

BikesMedia

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PUBLISHER

Farhan Kashif Siddiqui

Published by Farhan Kashif Siddiqui, 372, Kaptan sahab ki bagiya, Ginnori, Bhopal - 462001. Printed by Farhan Kashif Siddiqui, 372, Kaptan sahab ki bagiya, Ginnori, Bhopal - 462001. Printed at Lucky Offset, 267, Pragati nagar, Shahansha Garden, Bhopal - 462001. Published at 372, Kaptan sahab ki bagiya, Ginnori, Bhopal - 462001.

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pecifications

GENERAL:

Price Rs. 1,73,000 (ex-showroom, Delhi)
Launched Feb, 2017

ENGINE:

Engine Displacement 248.76 CC

Engine Type Liquid cooled, 4 stroke

Number Of Cylinders 1

Valves Per Cylinder 4

May Power 20

Max Power 30.0 PS @9000 rpm

Max Torque 24.0 Nm @7500 rpm

Bore x Stroke 72.0 x 61.1 mm

Fuel Type Petrol

Electric

TRANSMISSION:

Starter

Transmission Type Manual
Number Of Gears 6
Final Drive Chain

WHEELS & TYRES:

Front Tyre (Full Spec) 110/70 - ZR 17 Rear Tyre (Full Spec) 150/60 - ZR 17

BRAKES:

Front Brake Type 300 mm Disc Rear Brake Type 230 mm Disc

SUSPENSION:

Suspension Front WP USD Forks
Suspension Rear WP Monoshock

DIMENSIONS:

Wheelbase 1357 mm

Ground Clearance 175 mm

Kerb Weight 161 kg

Fuel Capacity 13.5 Litres

Pros-

- * Comfortable riding position.
- * A very lovable and peppy engine.
- * Larger fuel tank capacity.
- * Easy to handle in the traffic.

Cons-

- * Engine on the left side heats up too much.
- * Lack of TFT display.
- * Brakes should be improved.

he Duke 250 gets a 300mm disc upfront and a 230mm disc at the rear. It is the same braking system used in the Duke 200. They lack out on the sintered pads that are offered on the Duke 390. The Front brakes do a pretty good job, but the rear brakes need a static improvement, they tend to lock up too much under aggressive braking. The Duke 250 gets the MRF REVz-C1 tires, which does a

fair job as far as the road grip is concerned. KTM could have

offered ABS and Metzeler tires at least as an optional variant.

The suspension

quality was pretty impressive for both the rider and the pillion. The monoshock used for the rear felt a bit towards the stiffer side. The front gets a 43mm WP Upside Down Forks, to be honest, I did like the front suspension a lot. Both the suspensions have a travel length of 150mm. The suspensions happily dampened out the pot holes without any hassle.



Engine and Performance

Before I begin writing about the engine, I highly recommend you to wear a pant if you ever ride this motorcycle. I thought I'll take the Duke 250 out on a dinner date, and I was wearing shorts, it was the biggest mistake of my life, the left side alone heats up so much, like so much, I had to ride the motorcycle on dirty rain water to keep my left leg cool, I didn't care even if my leg got dirty, I couldn't just resist the left side heat in spite of the radiator fan running.

Alright coming to the engine specs, the Duke 250 is powered by a 249cc single cylinder, four stroke, liquid cooled engine that produces 29.60 bhp at 9,000 rpm and a peak torque of 24Nm at 7,500 rpm. The engine is mated to a 6-speed gearbox which is assisted by a slipper clutch. The 6th gear does not do much of a job but has been used for a better cruising experience.

The torque in the Duke 250 kicks in a little earlier than the Duke 200, so after 60kmph, the motorcycle picks up in a smoother and faster fashion. Overall, if you give it a gentle and a smooth acceleration, the .motorcycle feels like a charm to ride. If the throttle is twisted without a linear fashion, it feels jerky for the rider as well as the pillion. The motorcycle misses out on the 'Ride By Wire' technology from the Duke 390. The vibrations begin to creep in from 6500-7500rpm and then slowly dampen out.

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Conclusion

he new KTM Duke 250 without a doubt is an exceptional motorcycle, a few changes like inclusion of ABS or even better brakes can make it a far worthy motorcycle.

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fter the Ducati Scrambler, here's yet another addition for Scrambler type motorcycles. Triumph launched their all new Street Scrambler which is heavily based on the underpinnings of their highly successful Bonneville range. The motorcycle is retro designed and has all those unique characteristics of a Scrambler. Here's a detailed overview of the all new motorcycle. 2017 Tilliniph street scrambler All You Need To Know





Looks and Design

The Triumph Street Scrambler is very much similar to a

Bonneville, but there are subtle changes in the overall design. The foremost thing everyone notices is the exhaust which is highly mounted on the side just below the seat. Next up is the tall suspension setup coupled with wide spoked wheels on both the ends. This would make sure the motorcycle would handle the toughest of terrains with ease. The fuel tank, headlight assembly and engine is similar to that of a standard Bonneville. The exhausts get heavy heat shielding as they sit just below the right thigh and could potentially be a tandoor if there is no proper shielding. The auxiliary seat is a single seater unit, though there is an option to attach or remove the pillion seat. The tail lamp is a full LED unit and sits right below the rear seat of the motorcycle.



he motorcycle gets Antilock Braking System (ABS) as standard which is switchable via the instrument cluster. The motorcycle also incorporates traction control system that keeps you on check, while also being switchable to have fun in off-road conditions. There is an engine immobilizer on the ignition system so that the bike is safe and doesn't start with an inappropriate key. You also get an USB charging socket to power your devices on the go.

Electronic Package



Brakes, Chassis And Suspension

he Street Scrambler has a tubular steel cradle frame coupled with a twin sided tubular steel swingarm. The stopping power comes from a single 310 mm disc with Nissin 2 piston floating caliper upfront and a 255 mm disc with Nissin 2 piston floating caliper at the rear. The suspension duties are carried out by long wel 41 mm KYB forks in the front along with KYB twin shocks with adjustable preload at the rear. The wh and large enough with tyre dimensions of " and 150/70 R17 respectively.

Specifications

8,10,000

Aug, 2017

900 CC

Petrol

Electric

(ex-showroom, Delhi)

Liquid cooled, 4 stroke

55.1 PS @6000 rpm

80.0 Nm @2850 rpm

GENE	RAL:
------	------

Price Launched

ENGINE:

Engine Displacement Engine Type Number Of Cylinders Valves Per Cylinder Max Power

Max Torque Fuel Type Starter

TRANSMISSION:

Transmission Type Manual Number Of Gears Final Drive Chain

WHEELS & TYRES:

Front Tyre (Full Spec)

BRAKES:

SUSPENSION:

DIMENSIONS:

Overall Height Wheelbase Kerb Weight Fuel Capacity

Rear Tyre (Full Spec)

Front Brake Type Rear Brake Type

Suspension Front Suspension Rear

Overall Width

100/90-19 150/70 R17

310 mm Double Disc

255 mm Disc

KYB 41mm cartidge fork Adjsutable KYB twin shocks

831 mm 1120 mm 1446 mm 216 kg

12.11 Litres

Final Impression

ith this addition of Triumph Street Scrambler, there is an addition to the short list of retro looking modern cruisers on sale in India. Though the motorcycle shares its underpinnings with the Bonneville and Street Twin, the Street Scrambler is still a unique one of its kind motorcycle for the Indian market. Triumph also has around 150 accessories for the bike which can be purchased right at their showrooms. The motorcycle is priced at Rs. 8,10,000 INR (ex showroom, Pan India).

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TRIUMPH



Looks and design

he motorcycle looks similar to the Super Duke 1290, with a stunning predator look. The first thing you notice are the orange colored wheel rims, man that distinguishes the Duke 390 totally from the Duke 250. The tri color paint scheme has black, white and orange colors that make the motorcycle look appealing and colorful from every angle. The headlamps have a full LED system that provide amazing visibility with a good throw at night times.

Look into the headlamps you find a sequential arrangement of the reflectors that help the LED lights achieve a great visibility power. The DRL's too do a great job. The 390 gets the handlebar protectors which makes it look good, but is not very helpful if you want to have your own adjustments for the clutch and brake levers, by that I mean the levers don't move for a longer reach setting, because the length of the handlebar protectors from the levers is short. The indicators are compact and do their work fine.

The side profile remains similar to all the other Duke motorcycles with the exposed trellis frame and with the main frame in orange and sub frame in white color. The tail lamps too have a full LED unit and is much similar to the one seen in the Duke 250. The side mounted exhaust also makes it a stand apart from the old Duke 390.

Instrument panel and switchgear

he motorcycle gets a fully digital 5inch instrument panel that is loaded with features. The instrument panel also gets an ambient sensor on the top right corner which helps the rider to have white background during the mornings and blueish black color for the nights for a pleasant reading experience. It gets tons of sensors and indicators like multiple options for ABS, trip meters, Bluetooth connectivity, low oil indicator which the old 390 lacked, distance to empty, voltmeter for battery, options to change music, receive calls and so much more. The quality of the switches feel top notch, the motorcycle also gets a one touch ignition, joy stick controls for the instrument panel, pass light control with the high beam feature too integrated along with it.



Engine and performance

he Duke 390 is powered by a 373cc, four stroke, liquid cooled engine that churns out 43.5bhp at 9000RPM and 37Nm of torque at 7000RPM. The engine is mated to a six speed gearbox, that gets the assist Slipper Clutch to avoid wheel lockups under aggressive downshifts. The motorcycle also gets an EVAP System. We took the motorcycle for a good 200km long ride and was something really impressive to ride, the torque didn't kick in like it used to on the old 390 but was still a fun motorcycle to ride.

Ride the motorcycle smoothly, trust me it will make you fall in love with it every second you ride it. The smoother you accelerate and the smoother you shift, the more you will want to ride it. The heating is lesser compared to the old 390, but the radiator fans keep running almost all the time. The gearing is a bit tall, so it knocks at higher gears in lower speeds. The engine feels far more refined than the old Duke 390. The shifts also feel smoother. The motorcycle feels comfortable to cruise from 100-120kmph, after which the engine starts to strain a little bit. Vibrations are felt post 7500 rpm but dampen out soon. The vibrations are most felt on the mirrors and the foot pegs.

ERGONOMICS

he motorcycle is well designed when it comes to the aerodynamics, it would have been better if KTM had included a small windshield for a better wind resistance. The footpegs are well integrated and have a rubber cushioning on them too. The nice and wide handlebar gives a sporty position which is comfortable even for long rides and traffic roads. The motorcycle brings the rider to an aggressive seating position when he bursts open the throttle.

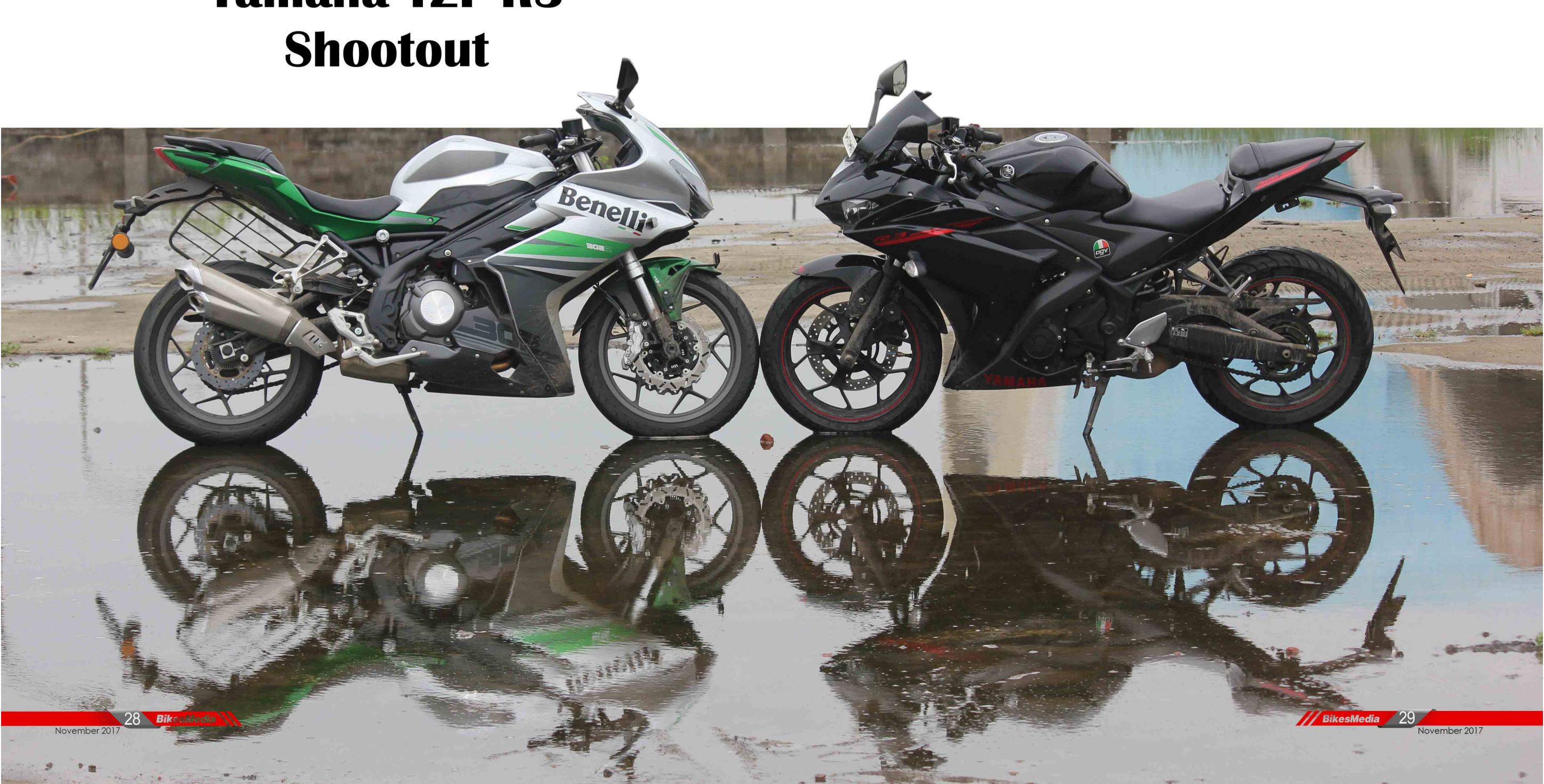
The Duke 390 finally gets a metal tank with an increased fuel capacity of 13.5 liters, enabling it to have a better fuel range. The mirrors are not very great, but offer decent visibility. The motorcycle weighs 149kgs dry and flickers beautifully in the traffic roads. I would appreciate if KTM had provided a softer grip for the hands.



Braking and suspension The first and most important point is that the Duke 390 gets a switchable ABS, with three modes. The motorcycle gets a huge 320mm disc in the front and a 230mm disc in the rear and the best part is that they get sinted pads. The brakes are just perfect to stop the motorcycle without any lockups when the ABS is on. Even under rainy conditions when it is braked hard, it smoothly stops the motorcycle without any hassle. The suspension feels plush for the rider but does not work similarly with the pillion rider. The front end gets a 43mm WP USD fork with 142mm travel and the rear gets a WP monoshock with 150mm travel. I was very impressed with the seat quality of the motorcycle, it feels far far better to the one that was there on the old Duke 390. Conclusion onfident that you can handle the torque and power? Just close your eyes and go for the 2017 Duke 390. BikesMedia 27 26 BikesMedia

Benelli Tornado 302R Vs Yamaha YZF R3

I'm a huge fan of WWE, and I would like to relate this match to a match that happened at Wrestlemania 33, Undertaker vs Bray Wyatt, where the R3 is Undertaker and the Tornado 302R is Bray the new person in the lot competing against the legend of the segment. So like how the Undertaker defeated Bray in Wrestlemania let us see if R3 can beat the Tornado 302R. Even though the Undertaker and R3 have retired for a while, they both are still spoken about in the market.



Looks and design

I must say both the motorcycles look very appealing from almost every angle, and is very hard to pick a winner in terms of design and style.

The Yamaha R3 has a more predator like look where the Tornado has a peppy look. Both the motorcycles get a dual split headlamp but the Tornado gets a slight edge over the R3 because of its LED DRLs. The indicators on the R3 are bulky where they are very compact and sleek on the Tornado. The rear view mirrors are far better on the R3 when it comes to the visibility factor. The Tornado has its trellis frame exposed on the side profile, but I personally feel that the R3 has a more appealing side profile compared to the Tornado 302R.

The R3 has a sharper design which would let it cut through the air resistance a little more easier than the Tornado 302R. The Tornado 302R gets an exhaust with two outlet ports and sounds out of the world when you ride it. The Tornado 302R also gets a grab rail for the pillion which the R3 lacks. The overall fit and finish is better on the YZF-R3.





Engine and specification

The Yamaha YZF-R3 is powered by a 321cc, four stroke twin cylinder engine that produces 42 BHP at 10,750 RPM and a maximum torque of 29.6 Nm at 9,000 RPM. Whereas the Tornado 302R is powered by a 300cc four stroke twin cylinder mill that produces 38.26 BHP at 11,000 RPM and a maximum torque of 26.56 Nm at 10,000 RPM. I don't think the Tornado can get anywhere close to the initial power, agility and quickness of the R3. Open the throttle and you feel that the R3 has juice in almost every powerband.

It just pulls so much more seemingly and effortlessly, while the Tornado 302R feels like a sloth upto the 8000RPM. But I am sure that the Tornado will catch up with the R3 on a long run basis and not on a short one.

Both the machines did not show much signs of heating, it was a bit lesser on the Tornado though. The gearing was far better on the R3, they felt more apt and precise, something that I love about Yamaha is the quality of engine braking it has during down-shifts, the motorcycle actually learns the way you down shift very quickly. The Tornado did have throttle lag at many places. Both the motorcycles produced vibrations but were minimal and negligible. The R3 deserves a hard off for the ride quality it provides.

Instrument cluster and Switchgear

Oth the motorcycles get a very dated Digit-analogue instrument cluster. Both of them lack the features the motorcycles like the KTM Duke 390 has on offer. I feel the Tacho needle on the Tornado has a small lag to it, maybe it was a defect with the bike that we received. Both the motorcycles get 2 Trip meters, Speedometer, Tell tale lights and gear position indicator. The Tornado comes featured with hazard lights on it. Both the motorcycles have premium quality materials used on the switchgear. The buttons feel nice and soft.

Ergonomics

Doth the motorcycles are designed to solve the purpose of a sports tourer. The R3 offers a little more sporty riding position, where as the Benelli 302R gets a little more relaxed position. The seats on the Tornado felt extremely soft when it was compared to the R3. I felt the 302R was easier to ride on the city roads. The comfort for the pillion especially was really good on the Tornado. But once you wanna burst open the throttle, you will feel that the Tornado is no where close to ergonomics that the R3 offers. You will feel a lot of difference in the riding position when you crouch down. But the R3 wouldn't be a very pleasant bike to ride in the city.





his is the major department where the R3 loses out on, it lacks the ABS and the suspension that the Tornado 302 offers. The Tornado gets a dual floating disc up front and a single disc at the rear, the Tornado gets ABS with a button so that it can be switched on or off. The R3 gets only a single 298mm disc in the front and a 220mm disc at the rear.

The brakes on the R3 lock up often, especially the rear brakes. The brakes on the Tornado might be a little slower to hold but do not lock up when the ABS is turned on. Both the motorcycles must improve on the braking department. As I already mentioned, the suspension for both the pillion and rider are far more comfortable on the Tornado, it easily absorbs the pot holes. While the suspension on the R3 feels a little stiff and feels a little more track focused.



Top 10 Expected Motorcycles At Auto Expo 2018

he 2-year wait is soon coming to an end, February is fast approaching and if you are a gearhead like everyone of us at BikesMedia then you know that I am talking about- The Auto-Expo 2018. This event attracts rev-heads from not just India but all over the world. Triumph, Indian, Harley-Davidson are just a few of the big names which have been attending Auto-Expo regularly for many years now and this year is no exception either.

Though there are a huge number of launches scheduled this time too, so to easily keep track of the most awaited motorcycles, we have made this list. These top 10 bikes are our predictions of the scheduled launches for the Auto-Expo 2018. The power and torque figure may vary upon launch so best to consider the given numbers as an estimated figure and the price indicated is the ex-showroom price.

1: Yamaha YZF-R15 V3

Already launched in Indonesia, the third iteration of the most popular entry level sports bike is very much likely to be showcased at the 2018 Auto-Expo. The new bike will come with an all new R1 inspired design, more comfortable seats than R15 V2 and an all new 155 cc engine producing a maximum power of 19.04 BHP @ 10000 RPM and 14.7 NM of torque @ 8500 RPM.



Power and torque: 19.04 BHP @ 10000 RPM, 14.7 NM OF TORQUE @ 8500 RPM Expected price: Rs 1,40,000

2: Pulsar 200NS Fi + ABS

This version of Pulsar 200 NS is already on sale in the international market and the 2018 Auto-Expo is bound to be the platform for its Indian debut. This version is identical to the carburetted version in terms of design but the power generated is 24.5 PS of power @9,750 RPM. Torque remains same. The ABS may be a Dual channel same as in the international version of the bike but to keep the cost down it is more likely to be a single channel unit from RS 200.

Power and torque: 24.5 PS @ 9750 RPM, 18.3 @ 8000 RPM Expected price: Rs 1,25,000

3: TVS Apache RTR 160

The new model of the performance oriented, torque filled 160 cc bike is expected to be showcased at the expo. This bike has already been spotted testing near the TVS testing facility in Hosur. Design wise the bike will be featuring a lot of components from its bigger capacity sibling the Apache RTR 200 4v, like the exhaust, tank, engine cowl, monoshock etc. This version of the smaller capacity Apache is expected to get rid of the infamous vibrations which in my opinion, is the only reason holding it down.

4: Suzuki GSX-R 250

The flagship bike from Suzuki in the 250-300 segment sports a 2 cylinder engine and supersport ergonomics. Suzuki is the only player yet to take a market share in the 200 cc segment in India. But still, it's a bit unlikely that Suzuki will launch this bike in India. Because the pricing of this bike sits alongside the range of Yamaha R3 and Benelli tornado 302, despite having way less performance than those two. If not this then we will see another India specific product from Suzuki because company's entry in this segment is bound to happen.



Power and torque: 24.7 BHP @8000 RPM,

23.3 NM @6500 RPM

Expected price: Rs 2,80,000



TVS Himalayan Highs Season 3 Concludes Successfully

Commenting on the occasion, Aniruddha Haldar, Vice President (Marketing) Commuter Motorcycles, Scooters and Corporate Brand, TVS Motor Company said,

TVS Zest 110 Himalayan Highs has completed its 3rd season which has been unequivocally a resounding success. #FEELTHEPOWER has been its credo and we have seen this in the way that the 12 riders have performed and how

the TVS Zest 110 has responded yet again to the challenges of the Himalayas. It has celebrated the human spirit

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and prowess of the TVS Zest 110. We thank the vast numbers of the brand lovers who encouraged us through their support on social media. TVS Zest 110 has clearly shown that it has what it takes to take on any challenge,

even a Himalayan challenge.

oday TVS Motor Company announced the successful completion of 'Himalayan Highs Season 3' which witnessed twelve riders riding to the mighty Himalayas on their TVS Zest 110. The adventure on two wheels, in its third edition, saw 10 women and 2 men riders participating from different parts of the country. The riders on the TVS Zest 110 have gone through some of the world's most treacherous roads peaking over 18,000 feet. The riders covered a total distance of over 970 km in a span of 11 days.

The entourage started on September 1, 2017 from Mandi, in Himachal Pradesh, the group of young men and women successfully concluded the ride on September 11, 2017 after scaling the Khardung La pass as the final summit. The 12 riders, which were selected through multiple rounds of evaluation, which included physical test and psychological resilience, were Ashwini Pawar (Mumbai), Anjali Chaudhary (Uttar Pradesh), Aashraya Suresh (Karnataka), Shagufta Khan (Mumbai), Vineeta Lohchab (Delhi), Riya Roy (West Bengal), Baishali Nath (Assam), Devaki P (Telangana), Milam Shah (Uttar Pradesh), Mohit Bhardwaj (Delhi), Andre Camara (Goa) and Anjali Manoharan (Kerala).



