

RockShox Lyrik RC2 fork



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Squarely on the top spot of the podium



Overall rating: SCORE 10

RockShox Lyrik RC2 fork

Manufacturer:

RockShox

Price as reviewed:

£989.00

TAGS: MBR Editor's Choice 2019

MBR Editor's Chocie 2019: RockShox Lyrik RC2, £990

The Lyrik RC2 impressed us enough last year to make it into our Editor's Choice with a perfect 10/10. This year RockShox took on board feedback from lighter riders, tweaking the damping tunes to give them a more useable range, as well as working on reducing friction throughout the internals. The result is you can now gain even more support without adding harshness, along with less fatigue on long runs. You still benefit from class-leading sensitivity, excellent reliability and a price that undercuts the closest competition.

RockShox Lyrik RC2 fork review

The latest version of the RockShox Lyrik RC2 gets reduced friction, high-speed compression adjustment and increased negative spring volume.

It's a three-pronged approach to making one of the best enduro forks even better... and it's worked.

By replacing the old plastic seal head in the air spring assembly with a machined alloy one, RockShox is able to control the tolerance of this small part to a much higher degree. As such, it reduces the squeeze on the o-ring so the seal fits better inside the upper tube to reduce friction. This, combined with a sized bushing that the alloy seal head now slides on, offers a whopping 73% reduction in static friction.

RockShox does the math for you

That alone would be a bonus but RockShox has also increased the size of the negative air chamber to achieve more mid-stroke support and give a coil like feel at the beginning of the travel. The really neat part of the new Debonair design is that it uses the hollow space inside the shaft of the air-spring assembly to gain the extra volume.

The RC2 tag on the top-end Lyrik indicates the level of adjustment on the Charger II damper. So in addition to low-speed rebound and compression adjustment, it now has a high-speed compression adjuster within arms reach. We never used the threshold adjuster on the old RCT3 version of the Lyrik so we won't be mourning its loss.

Easy to reach high-speed compression setting

That's not to say we found the 5-position high-speed compression adjuster any more useful. After starting in the mid-setting we backed off the HSC one click at a time before settling on the fully open position. In this setting the fork would still absorb the high-speed hits with ease, but you get much less deflection at the handlebar, which means you don't need to muscle the bike around as much to keep it on line. Handy at the end of a 10min race stage, when your muscles are anything but fresh.

The Lyrik RC2's real strength is its ability to iron out chatter. It's so supple and sensitive that it's one of the very few forks where you actually need to use the low-speed compression adjuster. RockShox has also nailed the range of rebound adjustment, so this fork can easily accommodate all rider weights without needing to be re-tuned.

In back to back testing with the Fox 36 Float Factory Grip2 the Lyrik RC2 offered a noticeable reduction in vibration at the handlebar. They are both great forks but the RockShox Lyrik RC2 allowed us to charge just as hard while taking less of a beating. Which is exactly what you want from a race fork.

Details

Weight:	2,010g (27.5in, 170mm travel, 190mm steerer)
Colours:	Red, black
Offset:	39mm, 46mm