SUOMY MX TOURER HELMET

CONTACT: *www.suomy.com* or your local MTA dealer
RATING: ★★★★
PRICE: $449, XS–XXL

The Suomy MX Tourer helmet works well for UTV driving and ATV riding, and the retractable shield is thermoformed from a flat polycarbonate sheet to provide great optics and resistance to scratching and fogging. The sun visor is great for blocking sunlight and also retracts when not needed.

WHAT IT IS:

The MX Tourer is a high-quality, Italian-made off-road helmet with a built-in face shield that is designed for the enduro or dual-sport market. This shielded enduro-style helmet has been well-received by the UTV and ATV market, as it provides great protection while eliminating the need for goggles.

FEATURES:

The MX Tourer features a very safe, high-tech, ultra-lightweight carbon/ Kevlar shell. The internal lining comes in two sizes, with a special shape and multi-density construction that increases mechanical resistance in the event of shock. The internal channels have been developed with wind-tunnel technology to flow maximum air through the helmet. The MX Tourer's Peak, or "visor," has also been developed in a wind tunnel to decrease the sail effect by 50 percent. The helmet's shield is designed to be optically correct, as well as anti-fog and anti-scratch. One really cool and unique feature to the MX Tourer is its retractable, internal sun visor that provides protection from the sun and can be pivoted up into the helmet when it isn't as bright out.

WHAT'S IT MADE OF:

The MX Tourer's shell is made of Suomy's Tricarboco material, which is a proprietary mix of Kevlar and carbon fiber that is hand-laid with Aramidic resins. The internal protective lining consists of a comfortable-fitting polystyrene, and internal channels guarantee perfect ventilation. The shield is thermoformed from a flat polycarbonate sheet.

WHO IS IT FOR:

This helmet is obviously designed for the dual-sport market, but we've also found it to be great for just about any UTV or utility ATV application. The average-to-extreme UTV driver and 4x4 ATV rider will really appreciate the ultralight weight, as well as the comfort and convenience of not wearing goggles all day. The front shield works great for roost protection and minimal dust, but it cannot replace the airtight seal of MX goggles in extreme dust.

THE VERDICT:

This is a great helmet. At $450 it's not cheap by any means, but you get what you pay for. It's extremely lightweight; our XL actually weighed just less than 1400 grams (right around 3 pounds), and that's with both the included shield and sun visor. The MX Tourer is also extremely comfortable, but we did find it to run a little small to size. Our tester wears an XL from just about every helmet manufacturer, but the Suomy was extremely snug in the cheeks. While the sizing can easily be figured out by trying one on first, we found it super convenient that Suomy can customize the fit with the replaceable and different-sized cheek pads and comfort liners. These pads and liners are also machine washable. Once we had our helmet fitting perfectly, it proved to be very comfortable and our go-to for just about any ride.

Wind drag has always been a comfort issue when driving a UTV for longer periods of time at higher speeds. In the past it has been a toss-up of whether to run a dirt bike helmet for the visor or the shielded race helmet for the reduced neck discomfort. With the Suomy, you get a quality shield and then reap the glare-blocking benefits of a visor with very minimal buffeting or wind tension on your neck. We also really appreciate the sun visor on those early mornings or late afternoons where the sun can almost be blinding without an alternate tinted pair of goggles.

If you spend a decent amount of time in your UTV, check out one of these helmets and you won't be disappointed. We weren't! ❏

The MX Tourer has two available sizes of internal polystyrene for fitment and inner channels for ventilation. The visor was tested in a wind tunnel to reduce sail effect by 50 percent, so the MX Tourer is comfortable at speed.