

PRODUCT REVIEW

British Motorcycle Gear's Discovery Jacket

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B ritish Motorcycle Gear's Discovery jacket has a long and storied history, most famously serving as cameraman Claudio von Planta's gear of choice as he filmed the iconic *Long Way Down* adventure motorcycling series starring Ewan McGregor and Charley Boorman. Although not quite as challenging as Claudio's 19,000-mile sojourn around the world, I did subject the Discovery to general east coast winter riding duty over the 2024-2025 season, and it performed spectacularly well.

The Discovery's ruggedly styled exterior shell consists of 500-denier Cordura with "Duratec" fabric reinforcement patches in the elbow and shoulder areas. A detachable fleece neck warmer further seals out the elements. For safety, Knox armor pads are included for shoulders, elbows, and back. 3M reflective piping on the torso and sleeves provides nighttime conspicuity. Copious storage is made possible by eight pockets and a huge detachable zip-off back pocket.

Beneath the exterior shell, a breathable "Stormshield" layer keeps water out, and a Dupont Thermolite quilted liner keeps warmth in. The liner has two hand pockets and one zippered pocket, is fully detachable, and can be worn on its own. There is also an elastic rain skirt that covers the top of the rider's pants to further protect against inclement weather. Finally, a zipper connects to riding pants, if so inclined.

Out on the road, the Discovery impressed with a winning combination

of functionality and practicality. Fitment ran true to size, with plenty of adjustment available via the integrated waist belt, sleeve cinchers, cuff zips, neck adjuster, and the draw cord around the bottom hem. The two front "poacher style" cargo pockets are cavernous, sealed off from rain with flaps and a zipper for good measure, and easy to access with gloves on. There are underarm and back vents in the jacket's shell, but this garment is definitely more suitable for cold weather riding than for summer. For my testing regimen, I rode down into the high 30s without my heated gear activated, and into single digits with it powered up. There was no drama in the cold, nor when it rained or snowed - as expected for a British design! I did not get a chance to ride in the warmth with it as part of this test, but my guess is anything above ~80 degrees will have a rider searching for something a little lighter to wear. Let's call this a three-season jacket, perfect for late fall, winter, and early spring in these parts!

Bottom line: At \$379, BMG's Discovery jacket boasts the type of operational competence and daily grind durability that I normally associate with much pricier brands. It's ideal for commuters and other serious riders who don't let mother nature dictate when to ride and should definitely be on your short list for foul-weather gear!

britishmotorcyclegear.com Jacket provided to author by British Motorcycle Gear