

VERY year camping is rising in popularity and some believe the exchange rate is helping make it a more attractive and affordable option than going abroad. The choice of camping gear is huge and becoming evermore diversified. Take tents for example; you can choose anything from a bivvy to a bungalow for almost any type of camping you pursue. So with the choice and quality of tents increasing and with tent prices fairly stable, as far as the camper is concerned, you could argue that we've never had it so good.

## **Mart's impressions**

Sunncamp specialise in medium to large family tents, but having already diversified as far as the Angler Plus bivvy, they have now brought out the MX Tourer Plus, a dome/tunnel hybrid

aimed at touring motorcyclists and with an integral garage that will house your bike under cover and keep it out of sight.

The MX comes in a generous bag which aids packing and is designed with short section fibreglass poles to keep the pack length down to 58cm. The tent consists of a two-berth sleeping compartment (or three at a push), a generous living area and the garage (I'll call it a garage), with internal access through a large door.

Both the living area and the garage have external access too. Erecting the flysheet-first MX is straight forward, as the main tent is a three pole dome and the garage is an elongated tunnel. The guy ropes are preattached and are essential for maintaining the shape of the tunnel section and keeping the

You even get a skylight with the MX Tourer whole structure stable.

Internal features include ventilation to all three compartments, storage pockets along both sides of the sleeping compartment and a bathtub groundsheet. The living area also has a groundsheet, three roof windows and a side mesh window. There is even a base plate supplied to support the motorcycle side stand, but it isn't really up to the job and I would take a stronger piece of wood instead.

## **INFORMATION**

## SUNNCAMP MX TOURER PLUS

Price: Typically around £125
Colour: Steel/Grey Bedrooms: 1

Berths: 2/3

No. Of Bedrooms: 1 (max berths 3)

Doors: 2

Pitching: Flysheet First

Height at highest point: 210cm

Pack weight: 15.9kg Hydrostatic Head: 2,000mm Pitching Area: 717x270cm Pack size: 62x29x29cm

Plus: Extremely versatile, easy to erect

and keenly priced.

Minus: Pack is too heavy and bulky to be

carried on one motorcycle.



All zipped up against the elements, with no sign that your motorcycle is hidden inside





Windows for light and ventilation, or simply to see what's going on

Your bike in the living room - if only you could do this at home

The MX may only be a three-berth tent but it's very spacious and cable of housing all the usual luxuries such as table, chairs, cooker, and camp beds. Although, it's very unlikely a motorcyclist could every carry all this gear, which leads me to consider its application further. In reality motorcyclists need to keep every bit of kit to minimum and this usually includes the tent. Some bikers utilise a trailer, but as the garage can swallow two bikes it would be wise to break the tent components down and spread the bulk across both bikes as the MX Tourer pack weighs 16kg, making it too heavy and bulky to be carried on one bike alone. Perhaps this is something Sunncamp could think about and devise a pack which

could be split into two separate holdalls, enabling the load to be shared easily between two bikes if required.

Where I feel the MX will be superb, is when a couple wish to head off to their destination, one taking the car along with all the obligatory luxuries, perhaps even with a couple of mountain bikes and the other on the motorcycle.

Once on site, they can then use the bike to tour the area, but maintain the choice of transport depending on the weather, also having somewhere to keep the bike and mountain bikes undercover overnight. You can easily imagine a multitude of possibilities with this versatile, three-sectioned tent. If you

don't have a bike, the extension is equally as useful for storing any items that might be wet or muddy, but which you prefer to keep out of sight. With no groundsheet to worry about it is also ideal to use as a safe and sheltered cooking area.

## Mart's verdict

The MX is keenly priced, good looking, good quality, spacious and it's not just for motorcyclists either. All manner of outdoor activities can take advantage of the MX Tourer's qualities; cyclists, remote control car/plane enthusiasts, fishermen, water sportsmen, the list could go on – just use your imagination!