

SOFT LUGGAGE

for the long haul

Spring and summer are on their way, and if you're like us, that means it's time to get out for a good road trip on your favorite mount. But what if your most comfortable bike (or maybe the only one that's reliable enough for a few hundred or a few thousand miles) didn't come equipped with room for your necessary gear? Since we've covered tank bags before (see the May/June 2007 issue), we decided this time we'd highlight some choices for saddlebags and tailbags.

1 Brand new from Willie & Max are the Revolution line of bags. The Revolution series saddlebags come in two sizes, and both throwover styles and hard mount styles. Though shown here on a metric cruiser, we're betting the Belted Large Synthetic Leather Throwover (SBI903) shown here would be perfect for an old Norton, Triumph, BSA or Moto Guzzi. As for the hard mount set-up, it looks to be adjustable in such a way that may allow for mounting the bags on a variety of different bikes, both newer and older, and we're looking forward to testing out the system in the near future, as the bags are so new that, at press time, they were not even being shipped yet. The bags feature reinforced backs, and their powder-coated wire frame and reinforced gussets are sturdy and designed to last. Chrome buckles feature a hidden quick release system for fast access to your goodies inside. Front and rear closure snaps aid in lid security at high speeds. The new Revolution series Tour Pack also comes in two sizes and features a reinforced back, along with a powder coated wire frame and reinforced gussets to retain bag shape and look for the long haul. Large saddlebags measure 20.5in x 11.5in x 6in. Large Tour Pack measures 13.5in x 15.5in x 9.5in. Price: \$189.99 (throwover saddlebags), \$139.99 (Tour Pack). More info:

www.willieandmax.com



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2 Maybe the most versatile bags here, the Tour Master Cortech Tribag Saddlebags and Tailbag make a great combination for helping to turn your commuter bike into a great tourer. They go on easy (yet it's good to spend a bit of extra time making sure they're just as snug as you can get them), mount safely and securely, and fit well. These bags were the most handsome on editor Backus' GPz and looked great on several bikes we tried them on. If you've got a Seventies or Eighties bike that is at all sporting in its design, these are the bags for you. Listed at a capacity of 20ltr per side, with another 30ltr of capacity in the tail bag, there's plenty of space here for a weeklong solo trip with a bit of careful packing. The saddlebags feature a total of three compartments per side, with two zippered side pockets on each bag that are great for smaller items like a wallet, sunglasses, maps, etc. The main storage compartment features a heat shield to protect the bags from pipe burns and also uses a U-shaped zipper that



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