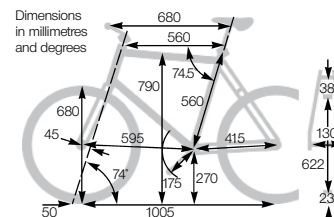




TIFOSI CK CORSA

**TIFOSI CK CORSA****Price:** £1,929.99**Weight:** 9.0kg (19.8lb), size 56cm**Sizes:** XS (49cm), S (52cm), M (54cm), L (56cm, tested) XL (58cm)

Frame and fork: Tifosi Toray unidirectional carbon-fibre, Tifosi Carbon Tech fork with carbon-fibre legs and alloy steerer, removable mudguard/rack mounts on the rear dropout, mudguard eyelets on the fork, fittings for two bottle cages.

Wheels: 23-622 Vittoria Rubino Pro tyres, Campagnolo Khamsin CX, 20 radially laced spokes at the front, 27 at the rear laced according to Campag's G3 system (18 to the driveside, 9 to the non-driveside).

Transmission: Campagnolo Veloce Compact (50-34T) chainset (175mm), 13-26T cassette, 10-speed shifters, mechs and Power Torque system bottom bracket, KMC chain.

Braking: Campagnolo Veloce brakes (both dual pivot).

Steering and seating: Deda RHM 01 double-butted 6061 alloy handlebar (440mm) and Zero 1 6061-alloy stem (120mm), cork handlebar tape, 1 1/8in Tifosi threadless headset, Deda RS 01 6061-alloy seatpost (31.6mm×350mm), Selle Italia SL saddle.

Accessories: SKS mudguards

Contact: chickencycles.co.uk

ROAD BIKE

Tifosi CK Corsa

Cycling journalist **Mat Brett** reviews a carbon road bike with a difference: full-length mudguards

» **WHEN IT** comes to road bikes, you generally have the choice of either a sensible, practical option or a fast, sporty machine. The Tifosi CK2 Corsa is both. With a lightweight carbon-fibre frame, a Campagnolo Veloce groupset, plus a set of full mudguards ready fitted, this is a do-it-all road bike that's as happy racking up the winter miles as it is mixing it up on a summer sportive.

The Corsa's frame is made from Toray unidirectional carbon, while the fork is carbon too with an alloy steerer. It's built to a racy geometry with steep



The groupset is Campagnolo Veloce throughout. If you want lower gears, you could fit a 13-29 cassette instead, even with this short-cage derailleur

frame angles and a mid-length head tube that puts you into a low and efficient – although not extreme – ride position. It's a neat, well-made frame which, unusually for a carbon model, has removable mudguard/rack mounts above the rear dropouts and eyelets on the fork.

As with any bike that specifies short-reach brakes (Campagnolo don't make anything else), it lacks clearance. I was nevertheless quite happy with the amount of space under the SKS Chromoplastic mudguards, and found they did a great job of keeping road spray off without any rattles. Anyone who wants to use larger than 23mm tyres with mudguards, or who dislikes toe overlap, might not be so happy.

All-day comfort

Take the mudguards off for a sportive or any other summer outing and the Corsa is an even livelier performance machine. Weighing in at 9.0kg (19.8lb), it isn't the lightest bike out there at this price, but it's still quick and responsive and there's no notable flex in the frame when you get out of the saddle and jump on the pedals.

It's comfortable too, without much road buzz getting through to you.

Campagnolo's Vari-Cushion silicone hoods certainly help on that score and so does the Selle Italia SL saddle. Of course, we all have different saddle preferences but with a decent amount of padding and a cutaway centre, this is a popular choice.

The compact (50-34T) Veloce chainset and 13-26 cassette got me up most climbs without too much huffing and puffing (your mileage may vary), while the dual-pivot brakes provided all the power and control I wanted to get down the other side confidently.

The Khamsin CX wheels are a shrewd selection too. Although really designed for cyclo-cross, excellent sealing means they're well equipped to handle year-round road use with minimal maintenance.

Also consider

1) Kinesis Racelight T2 Tiagra
£999.99

7005 alloy frame, 10-spd Shimano Tiagra groupset, 57mm-drop brakes, and full mudguards. It's versatile and durable. kinesisbikes.co.uk



2) Pearson Carbon Audax
£2,499.99

A carbon bike with mudguards that's adaptable enough for commuting, big weekend rides and audax. pearsoncycles.co.uk