



e-bike gearing solution. And with a 52-tooth bottom rear sprocket, you'll struggle to find a hill too steep to climb.

Well-integrated electronics

The motor is more clearly visible than the smaller rear hub motors often used on road and gravel e-bikes (Mahle being the best known). However, it's significantly more powerful in the upper levels, and in the lower levels is subtle and responsive. Best of all, it pedals you like you are actively riding the bike as the torque sensing is so natural feeling.

It feels fast and sporty on road, even with those 45mm knobbly (well, pimply) Schwalbe G-One Bite tyres. Head off road and there's good traction, while the relaxed riding position and carbon frame help soak up the bumps in moderately challenging off-road conditions.

Changing power levels is easily accomplished using the wireless remote on the handlebars. This links to the system controller mounted on the top tube, which gives you a simple display consisting of battery bars and a coloured light showing your power level (Eco, Tour+, Sprint or Turbo). It's all very minimalist and lets you concentrate on riding rather than data.

If you want more information you can install the Bosch eBike Flow app on your smartphone, using that as a display (third-party bar mount required) or slipping it in your pocket. With the app you get an accurate percentage of battery capacity remaining, route finding and navigation software (compatible with Strava and



52-tooth big sprocket for hills



Komoot), plus electronic locking. You can also customise riding modes to make the motor performance more or less aggressive.

Different options

There are mounts for mudguards, a rear rack and kickstand. But if you want these, the FE (fully equipped) version comes fitted with them, as well as hardwired lights.

There are several other variants of the Cube NuRoad Hybrid C:62. All share the same carbon frame and forks. The SLT 400X (£6,499) is the premium-spec, lightweight model (12.9kg); like the SLX, it also has an FE version. The mechanical-shifting Race versions are £3,599 and £3,799 (FE), with quoted weights of 14.3kg and 15.7kg respectively. ●

Verdict

If you're used to road or gravel bikes without electric assistance but want a bit of extra help, the NuRoad Hybrid is a great choice. At 14.4kg it's a lightweight machine (in mid-drive e-bike terms) that blends human and electric power superbly, and the geometry gives a comfortable yet sporty ride. It would be great for club rides pretty much as it is but can also be fully equipped for commuting or touring. And as an e-gravel bike it's a fine off-road performer, too.

Tech spec

CUBE NUROAD HYBRID C:62 SLX 400X

- Price:** £4,499.
- Sizes:** XS, S, M (tested), L, XL.
- Weight:** 14.4kg (35.4lb) as shown.
- Frame & fork:** Cube C:62 carbon frame with 148mm thru-axle and fittings for rack, mudguard, kickstand and two bottles. Cube C:62 carbon fork with tapered steerer, 100mm thru-axle, fittings for rack, mudguard and bikepacking cages.
- Wheels:** 45-622 Schwalbe G-One Bite Evo tyres, Newmen Evolution SL X.R. 25 wheels.
- Transmission:** e*thirteen Helix Race Alloy cranks with 42t chainring, SRAM GX Eagle chain, SRAM XS-1275 10-52t cassette. SRAM Rival eTap AXS shifter, SRAM GX Eagle 12-speed rear derailleur. 12 ratios,
- 23-118in.
- Electronics:** Bosch Performance Line SX mid-drive motor with 55Nm torque, 400Wh frame-enclosed battery with 21700-format cells (removable for replacement only). Smart System (wireless smartphone/Bosch eFlow app integration).
- Braking:** SRAM Rival eTap AXS levers, SRAM Rival HRD callipers, 180mm rotors.
- Steering & seating:** Cube Acid CC bar tape, 44cm Easton EX70 AX Gravel carbon handlebar, 90mm Cube CIS stem. Natural Fit Nuance saddle, 27.2x350mm Newman Advanced carbon seatpost.
- Equipment:** Reverse Flip-Guide E-Chain guide

cube.eu/uk-en

Other options

CAIRN E-ADVENTURE 1.0 RIVAL £3,489

Despite its alloy frame Cairn's e-gravel bike is only 14.3kg, thanks in part to the lightweight Fazua Ride 50 mid-drive. cairncycles.com



RIBBLE CGR ALE SPORT £2,799

At 13.6kg, this is one of the lighter e-gravel offerings. Provides more subtle power than the Cube via the well-reviewed Mahle rear hub-drive system. ribblecycles.co.uk

