



Verdict

Overall, the Madison Stellar FiftyFifty is the best jacket here for commuting. It's well thought out, and its features are useful and will keep you warm, dry and seen. If you know you won't be using a hood, then the Altura Nightvision Storm is well worth considering. Both of these jackets feel like they will give years of service.

If it fits you, then the Endura Xtract II jacket is great as a lighter-weight option, especially for faster commuters. The BTwin is the cheapest jacket here, even before your Cycling UK discount, and it does the job well enough. If you're happy with the way it hangs, it doesn't scream 'cycling jacket' as much as the others.



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1 **Altura Nightvision Storm** £100 altura.co.uk

THIS COMES IN several colourways, with plenty of reflective detailing on the arms although not all the way across the back. While there is no hood, there is a cinch at the neck and the sleeve cuffs have Velcro for easy adjustment. There are two decent-sized hip pockets with zips, a zipped chest pocket that won't take a phone, plus a rear pocket that will. There's a vent across the back and some strangely short pit zips. The bottom of the jacket has a slightly dropped tail and another cinch. Fit was pretty true to size, with the arms a decent length for cycling. It feels substantial enough to last. Sizes: 8-18. Waterproofing & breathability: 10k/10k.

▼ **A durable jacket with vents, pockets and decent reflectivity**

2 **BTwin Women's City Cycling Night Visibility Rain Jacket** £69.99 decathlon.co.uk

I FOUND THIS jacket very baggy. There is a waist cinch, but even using that it's voluminous and it filled with wind while riding. There is a hood, with adjusters, which will fit under or over a helmet. Good-length pit zips help with ventilation, and there are two reasonably sized, zipped hip pockets. The reflective bands go round the hem, the waist and the wrists so visibility isn't quite as good as the other jackets, but the key areas are covered. The wrists are loosely elasticated so let water creep up your arms more than the others on test. Sizes 6-16/18. Waterproofing & breathability: 15k/not quoted.

▼ **Unusually loose cut but it's good value and not too 'bikey'**

3 **Endura Women's Xtract Jacket II** £84.99 endurasport.com

SIZING WAS AN issue with this jacket – even the XXL came up snug on me. It's an issue Endura is aware of and is tackling, and it's worth noting that not all Endura jackets have this fit. This is the lightest jacket on test and it folds away into a handy stuff-sack. It has reflective detailing on the wrists, neck and tail rather than masses of hi-vis. There's a tiny pocket in the rear that won't fit a phone. The wrists are elasticated rather than adjustable, and the neckline is also slightly stretchy; water may seep in here after a while. A vent across the shoulders helps with air circulation. Sizes XS-XXL. Waterproofing & breathability: 5k/5k.

▼ **A lightweight, very packable waterproof that sizes up small**

4 **Madison Stellar FiftyFifty Reflective Women's Waterproof Jacket** £99.99 freewheel.co.uk

THIS IS A really well-designed waterproof jacket for commuting. The fit is true to size and there are cinches on the hem and hood. The hood fits over or under a helmet, and there's a strap to hold it neatly in place when not in use. The FiftyFifty name refers to the amount of hi-vis panelling – there are big blocks of reflective material where they are likely to be caught by headlights. It's decently waterproof in use and feels robust. There are pit zips but no back vent, along with two decent-sized pockets on the hips. It is quite a warm jacket so it's not ideal for summer. Sizes 8-16. Waterproofing & breathability: 10k/10k.

▼ **Well made, weatherproof, super hi-vis and has a handy hood**