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LS2 MX453 Adventure Helmet

by Paul H. Smith

An advantage to working for the media is access to a lot of gear. But, at **ADVMoto** we have a rule—we don't review products that haven't made the grade. That said, when asked to review the *LS2 MX453 Adventure* I didn't know much about the brand at that time, and assumed it was just another ho-hum helmet design.

Well, I couldn't have been more wrong. The *MX453* breaks with pretty much every other visored dual-sport helmet. At a bit over three pounds, it's lightweight, comfortable, unusually aerodynamic, has great visibility, and is very budget-friendly.

Easily the most unique feature is the aerodynamic quality of this helmet's design. *LS2* skeletonizes the peak to allow for much improved airflow while not hindering the sunshade effect. The result is the first peaked helmet that doesn't catch the air and tug (sometimes whip) my head upwards when riding at high speeds. To complement that, the helmet also has a pronounced V-shaped front that contributes to its amazing low drag and stability.

The *MX453's* moisture-wicking liner is cut using 3D laser technology. This results in a liner that better conforms to the head's shape and contributes to the helmet's comfort without the usual annoying hot spots. What's not to like? Due to the wind-cutting V-curved front, there's a compromise in that the visor's shape has a tendency to distort when opened about an inch or more. I'm not a big fan of D-ring straps, either, and would like to see more manufacturers using the new quick-release buckles. But, at this price point, that's digging deep to complain. Perhaps *LS2* will consider manufacturing a higher-end version in the future.

If you're looking for a dual-sport helmet that works well both on- and off-road, check out the *MX453* by *LS2*. Need another reason to look into *LS2*? Last year *LS2* helmets were seen on at least 40 riders in the *Dakar Rally*, including five-time winner Cyril Despres. **MSRP: \$169.95** LS2helmets.us



PROS

- Excellent aerodynamics
- Lightweight
- Ridiculously low price point

CONS

- Could use a modern strap design
- Slight parabolic effect when visor is partially open