



Pete: "I really like this bike. It looks really smart and the brushed alloy clock surround is gorgeous. More importantly, it's excellent to ride. The engine may be similar to the Tiger's (see p60) but it feels a lot more willing. It handles really nicely too. Going round the same left hand bend again and again for photos it steadied itself as I braked on the way in and just went round with no fuss. The riding position puts you right over the front of the bike, but I felt in control there. Some weight goes on your wrists, but I never found it a problem. And although there's no fairing, I had no difficulties with windblast. I think the clocks do a great job of deflecting the air – I was expecting a blustery ride."

"The engine's lovely too. There's a good spread of power and the gearbox is positive. The brakes were the best of the four bikes although I never had to use them in real anger. Of the four bikes it's the one that's most 'normal' but it's still not an everyday sight."



Tim: "The Speed Triple was a blast. The engine whacks out a very real 96bhp at the back wheel with stacks of torque everywhere and that means it's deceptively quick. Tucking into corners takes a bit of effort because the tyres are wide and the bars quite narrow. Once it's in a bend, it's supremely solid. It feels like you could stand on the seat and the bike would still hold its line."

"At walking speed it feels slightly top-heavy so a bit of care is needed. At any other pace, it can handle pretty much anything – you can't flick it around like the Laverda, but overall handling is safe and swift. The brakes bring more competence to the package; plenty of power and enough communication through the lever and forks to know what's going on."

"All things considered, the Speed Triple was great but while I don't mind a slightly louder than legal end can, this one was taking the piss. Its angry roar was asking for a nicking and you'd certainly need another pipe to get the bike MoT'd."

"Oily liked it. He said: 'I'm not a Triumph man but this feels narrow, goes well and is very appealing.'"

"The Speed Triple whacks out a very real 96bhp."

