



ROAD

r e c r e a t i o n a l

\$1,350



- SIZES → 48, 51, 54 (tested), 56, 58, 61cm
- WEIGHT → 19.75 lb. (54cm)
- FRAME → Kinesis 7005 double-butted aluminum mainframe, carbon-fiber monostay
- FORK → Jamis carbon composite w/ forged aluminum dropouts
- COMPONENT HIGHLIGHTS → FSA Vero compact crankset (50/34), PowerDrive bottom bracket; Shimano 105 front and rear derailleurs, shift and brake levers, 5600 cassette (11-25); Tektro dual-pivot brakes; Formula CXR-220 wheelset; Vittoria Zaffiro tires; Easton EA30 road bar and stem; Selle San Marco Monza Power saddle

JAMIS Ventura Race

I asked Steve Fairchild, Jamis's 700c product manager, how the company keeps the Ventura Race's cost so low, and he attributed it to the company's "form follows function" philosophy: Jamis puts performance first, specifying name-brand parts, such as an Easton bar and stem. And other parts, such as the Shimano 105 derailleurs and levers, and 5600 cassette, offer price-conscious yet reliable performance, as do the FSA crankset and PowerDrive bottom bracket.

The frame, aluminum with carbon seatstays, feels pleasantly stiff. Jamis uses Size Specific Tubing (SST), which means the tube's diameters vary with frame size: Smaller frames have smaller tube diameters. I came to the Ventura Race after some time on a women's bike with an upright geometry, and the slightly longer, more aggressive reach made me feel primed for performance. On most roads, the frame felt smooth, but on one pothole-filled surface, I felt enough vibration that

NICE FRAME, GOOD PARTS, GREAT PRICE: WHAT'S NOT TO LOVE?

I lifted my butt off the saddle for a while.

There's nothing to hold you back from loving the Jamis Ventura Race wholeheartedly. One of my friends has logged big miles on a Ventura

Comp for the last few years, and although he's upgraded components, he's sticking with the frame. If you plan to race, you too will find yourself swapping out many of the components. But if your biggest dream involves town-sign sprints or casual racing, the Ventura Race makes a great choice, and the price is tough to beat. —Christine Bucher

For a video review, go to BICYCLING.com/jamisventurace.

Buy it: If you want solid all-around performance but your wallet is kind of light

Forget it: If your soul will shrivel if you don't podium



Shaped seatstays add subtle style and dissipate road chatter (a); a performance saddle is a nice touch (b); the butted aluminum frame maximizes your power (c).