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# Twisted Throttle
## MRA VarioTouringScreen

*by Bret Tkacs*

The nature of adventure riding requires us to choose between our on-road and off-road needs. Finding a windscreen that offers good protection at speed, without becoming a French guillotine while riding off-road, is usually a compromise. I have wondered about the effectiveness of the spoiler shields for some time, so I ordered three MRA VarioTouringScreens and installed them on three different adventure bikes, a street-biased Triumph Tiger 1050, a gravel-going Suzuki DL1000 V-Strom, and a dirt-worthy BMW F800GS. I've since put several thousand miles on each bike over back roads, freeways and dirt roads.

The MRA VarioTouringScreen has a 7-position adjustable spoiler at the top of the windscreen. It can be used to redirect airflow, without tools, to suit each rider. The windscreens are available in clear or smoke gray and have a black raster conforming to the lower part of the shield. On the Tiger and the V-Strom this was strictly a styling point, but on the F800GS this has the benefit of absorbing the backlight that reflects off of the OEM screen at night.

Installation on all three bikes was as simple as unscrewing the stock shield and bolting on the MRA VarioTouringScreen. Fit and finish was good and everything lined up like it was supposed to. The BMW required two small brackets which were included, but this was simple and painless. The VarioTouringScreen was similar in height and width when compared to OEM screens on all three bikes and gave a clean view over the screen.

I'm six foot and generally find stock screen to be very noisy and turbulent. Getting to the chase on this… these screens work better than expected! On the Tiger and GS, the VarioTouringScreen is awesome at turning the turbulent airspace, where my helmet resides, into a calm steady air stream. If you are looking for a huge screen that will turn the cockpit of your ADV bike into the dead-calm of an RV driver's seat, keep looking. But if you are like me, and feel that a little breeze is good thing, then this may be the perfect shield for you.

The VarioTouringScreen reduces and cleans up the flow of air instead of eliminating it. I can now ride the F800GS while wearing my Shoei Hornet DS without the wind constantly yanking at the visor or ripping the helmet off my head when turning my head at speed. The VarioTouringScreen worked well on the V-Strom, as well, but did not have the dramatic improvement of the others. I suspect this is because the factory Suzuki windscreen already provides relief to calm the low pressure pocket that forms behind most screens. Of all three bikes, the V-Strom is the one I didn't have any strong complaints about the OEM screen.

I highly recommend trying the MRA VarioTouringScreen if you like airflow but not noise and turbulence. MSRP: $149.99–$209.99. **TwistedThrottle.com**

**PROS**

- Clean air flow without buffeting
- Easy installation
- Tinting does not reflect headlight behind the gauges
- Low profile is safer when riding off-road

**CONS**

- Spoiler only adjusts on one axis
- Low profile does not deflect as much air on road as a larger shield