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## PRODUCT REVIEW

## SHAD TERRA BAGS • CARRYING YOUR GEAR IN STYLE AND STRENGTH

For the past few years I had been looking for some new luggage for my tried and true Triumph 800 Tiger. I have gone through a few different soft bags and soft tail bags, but wanted and needed something more substantial

Last season I learned that SHAD Luggage was releasing four new panniers with different capacities (37 or 48 liters in the top case and 36 or 47 liters on the side cases). Like all SHAD luggage, these were cases designed, engineered, and manufactured 100% in Barcelona, Spain – but distributed through SHAD USA and available from dealers or SHAD USA themselves.

The media information I got on them was impressive and soon I had placed an order for a set of Terra Bags – two side cases and the big top case.

In a few weeks, UPS rolled up the drive, and four huge boxes were left on my doorstep; three cases and all the hardware to go with the installation on

the Tiger. With a normal set of tools, the installation had no surprises; a perfect project for a warm Indian Summer afternoon. I just took my sweet time with my favorite IPA at hand and the bike was transformed!

I had to admit they looked fantastic, complimenting the lines of the bike and looking like they came with the bike as it rolled off the assembly line in Hinkley.



The bags themselves were formidable; created out of 100% forged aluminum alloy. These aerodynamic bags are stronger and lighter than those of their competitors and features a reduced cross-section of 1.2mm to give them minimum weight with maximum resistance. After the install was complete the rock-like solidity of these mounted bags was impressive.

SHAD's Terra Bags all use one key, making it easy to get in and out of the bags when needed. The top case came delivered with a second key and lock cylinder but again, their great instructions made it simple to swap out with the third identical key and cylinder that came with the order. As an added bonus, SHAD also has soft inner liners as well as a back pad for the top case which also has convenient, mounting points to lash additional gear if needed.

Committing to buy hard luggage for your bike, espe-



cially my aging Tiger, was a big leap and not an inexpensive one either - but one I am glad I took the plunge.

The SHAD Terra Bags have worked brilliantly

- and have turned my machine from a weekend warrior into a serious, comfortable, and most excellent long-term hauler.

The bags cost about \$470 each, plus the mounting kits. For more information and to see if they have a system for you log onto www.SHADusa.com

~ Michael Bellantone





