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TRIATHLON
BEST ON
TEST

ZUUS XCR CARBON 60/88MM

£799.99 ▶ *Speed is nothing without control*

These XCR Carbon wheels are listed as £799.99 but they actually sell for £599.99. And the price isn't the only attractive thing about Zuus's 'TT Combo' – it has some impressive specs, too. The front is 60mm-deep while the rear drops to 88mm and both use a subtly bulged profile that swells out to 25mm at its widest point. On the scales the pair weighs in at 1,730g (758g for the front, 972g for the rear), which makes them 190g lighter than the Revolver pairing and puts them within 10g of Enve's outstanding SES 7.8 wheelset. On paper, then, the XCR Carbon clinchers make a strong case for themselves. On the road, it's weakened because the control they offer isn't enough to match their speed. Over the course of an 80km test route with 690m of climbing spread through it, the XCR Carbon pairing managed a time of 2:56hrs for an average speed of 27.2km/h. Thanks to the vague braking and unstable front wheel, it's a wide-eyed, white-knuckle ride. Sketchy braking can happen with carbon rims but the XCR Carbons' pulsing and whistling was a surprise. And what really raised eyebrows was how easily the front wheel is shoved offline by the slightest breeze. **RB** www.zuus.co.uk

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VERDICT YOU'LL SAVE A BUNDLE OF CASH BUYING THESE BUT END UP A BUNDLE OF NERVES

REVOLVER KRONOSTOK 6/9

£924 ▶ *Does a higher price equal higher speeds?*

Although cheaper than a lot of shallower clinchers from the big-name brands, the Kronostok 6/9 pairing is more expensive than the Zuus set. It's heavier too: 1,920g (814g for the front, 1,106g for rear, with rim tape). And, according to Revolver's founder Harry Walker, it's also slower than Zipp's 2016 NSW wheelset in tests the company has undertaken. That's not what you expect to hear from aero wheel makers who, as a rule, only tend to discuss their products in terms of how fast they are. But as Walker says, "We're not trying to fool anyone." How much slower than the Zips exactly? "Six seconds over 40km at 40km/h, which is a relevant tri speed." So they're not the fastest in controlled conditions but how do they fare in the real world? Very well. The Kronostocks posted 2:52hrs for the 80km test route with an average speed of 27.9km/h. And there's greater front wheel stability; it's a calmer and smoothly-paced ride with the Kronostoks as you don't have to back off to wrestle the front wheel back into line. The wind still affects the front but rather than being barged about, the Kronostok 6 brushes off the breeze better than the Zuus. Braking is more assured too. **RB** www.revolverwheels.co.uk

HEAD
TO HEAD

89
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VERDICT A CALMER, MORE STABLE RIDE THAT MAKES FOR A QUICKER TIME