

BZ Optics

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BZ Optics Go Big

STILL NOT QUITE THE GARGANTUAN SIZE OF THE BIG BRANDS SUCH AS SUNGOD, KOO OR 100%, THESE LATEST MODELS FROM BZ OPTICS STILL PACK PLENTY OF REAL ESTATE.

LARGER, WIDER LENSES HAVE been a popular trend in cycling eyewear over the past 6 to 12 months with many manufacturers offering more real estate so far as their sunglasses go.

Aussie based cycling eyewear company BZ Optics have expanded the range to follow this trend, a coming of age for the relatively small outlet that has experienced considerable growth over the past 12 months.

The company is best known for their PHO range: photochromic cycling glasses with an integrated reader option—+1 to +3 magnifiers incorporated into the lower section of the lenses.

These remain available with a company rep telling us "it was time for BZ Optics to expand into the more fashionable side of the market."

We heartily agree, and for the past few weeks have had the pleasure of wearing and riding two new styles, the Crit and RST models.

The Crit is available in white and features a red plastic temple insert. This is a comfortable fitting frame and features BZ's new HD road lenses.

It comes in three 'Revo' colours: rose that we've been riding, and also HD violet and orange lenses.

Revo, BZ Optics told us, was a brand of glasses that were



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the first to use the companies mirrored lenses way back in the the 1980s. They brought out the mirror that changes colours depending on the angle of view—i.e. it will change through yellow into orange and into red.

Even though the lens has a Cat 3 rating (normal sunglass) the High Definition lens really brightens vision and the outlook is clearer and crisper.

A handy inclusion of the Crit frame is this: they can also be converted by removing the red temple insert. This will allow more air flow on those hot and humid days. Fogging wasn't an issue during the test period and, overall, the Crits proved to be incredibly comfortable and very impressive daily sunglasses.

Like all of the BZ range, the Crit feature dual moulded non-slip temples and a non-slip adjustable nose piece. They sat

well on the face, didn't require too much of that annoying 'one finger push up', and were, overall, very impressive sunglasses.

The recommended retail price is \$169 and the Crit model are available now, here in Australia and overseas as well.

The RST model—pictured in gloss black with red temples and nose piece, feature BZ Optic's blue / grey lens with a red / orange Revo coating.

While the RST also features a single wrap lens, designers have added a subtle bar behind the lens to offer extra protection in case of a frontal impact.

The RST features a ratchet system within the temples—it allows the wear to raise or lower the temples by 15 degrees to achieve optimum fit at any riding position.


Somewhat of a cycling sunglasses tragic, we have

quite the collection here at Bicycling Australia. Despite the many alternate options from all around the world, the RST model from this small time Aussie brand have quickly cemented themselves as our go-to favourites.

One aspect that shone through was the bold yet subtle design. You can get away with wearing these while off the bike as well, they really are quite stylish.

Currently this model are only available in black but we are told new colours will be released closer to summer.

Again, these were comfortable and felt a quality pair of sunglasses. Style and the overall look of cycling eyewear is subjective and very personal. The RST model was our fave, with the Crit a close second.

The RRP for the RST is a very respectable \$149. 

For more visit www.bzoptics.com



CLOCKWISE FROM OPPOSITE:
The RST model is somewhat of a coming of age for Aussie-based BZ Optics, it's a major change from their traditional lineup of Pho eyewear.

The RST's follow the trend of larger lenses, without being too OTT.

BZ Optics new Crit model.

