



## Verdict

The image capture of the updated Varia is better than expected but it's still only adequate, and sifting through its individual files and downloading them is appallingly slow. The footage from the Cycliq can only be downloaded to a PC rather than viewed through the app, and it's at best adequate even in good conditions.

The GoPro 10 and Insta 360 GO 2 are leagues ahead in terms of app functionality, footage download, ease of use, range of mounts/mounting positions and camera/capture options. They're reliable and weather/impact resilience so for 'non-safety' use, it's just a case of picking which of those two suits your needs in terms of size, runtime and screen/no screen features.



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[cyclinguk.org/advice](http://cyclinguk.org/advice)

## 1 GoPro Hero 10

£349.99 [gopro.com](http://gopro.com)

**THE HERO 10 HAS** been superseded by the 11 now but it remains available and the main points haven't changed. It's tough, with a waterproof design, excellent image stabilisation and simple menus. Image quality is very good, and front and rear screens make composition and playback easy. The GoPro Quick app lets you edit easily on your phone. Its 80-minute 'Enduro' battery life is reasonable, and it uses standard Micro SD cards for storage. The three tab 'GoPro mount' has become an industry standard. Wind noise can be an issue, which is why my personal example has foam mufflers over the microphones. There's no specific 'safety mode' for crash detection. Weight: 164g. Size: 70×50×32mm.

Super tough, easy-to-use action camera benchmark

## 2 Insta360 GO 2 32GB

£294.99 [insta360.com](http://insta360.com)

**THE BIG ADVANTAGE** of the GO 2 is its small size and low weight. A reasonably secure magnetic mounting system, plus a huge range of bike options, makes it easy to stick anywhere on your bike, helmet, bags or clothing; there's also a pendant option. Despite its size the camera's 1080p footage is very good, with outstanding image stabilisation. The clamshell case for the camera acts as a recharge battery, basic control screen and flip-out mini tripod. Battery life is short, which rules it out as a 'safety cam', and wind noise is hard to muffle. There's no way of seeing what the GO 2 sees without connecting to the Insta 360 app on your phone via built-in wi-fi. Weight: 45g (inc mount). Size: 50×20×22mm.

Ingenious, ultra-compact quality but short battery life

## 3 Garmin Varia RCT715

£299.99 [garmin.com](http://garmin.com)

**GARMIN'S TOP-OF-the-range** Varia RCT715 combines a warning radar, 65-lumen rear light and 1080p safety camera in a single package. The radar provides visual and audio alerts of traffic approaching behind on a Garmin head unit, and the rear light shines brighter as cars approach. Recent updates have solved some of the image stability issues so the 1080p footage will capture close number plates cleanly enough at medium speeds. Runtime is less than 90 minutes in constant mode. The footage handling is poor – finding and downloading the footage you want via the Varia phone app is awkward and slow. Its seatpost-only mount may rule out use of a saddlebag. Weight: 218g (inc mount). Size: 107×42×32mm.

Camera is the weakest part of this expensive combo unit

## 4 Cycliq Fly 12 CE

£279 [cycliq.com](http://cycliq.com)

**THE FLY 12 CE** is a front light/safety camera with a 600-lumen max output, plus flash and pulse modes. (Cycliq also makes a 400-lumen Fly 12 Sport, which is lighter, and a Fly 6 rear light/camera similar to the Garmin Varia.) Runtime is around two hours in the max power/constant camera setting, but the phone and desktop apps let you select lower power settings for longer life. The 1080p camera has decent image stability for bumpier roads but it's not as sharp as the updated Varia so you'll be squinting and zooming to decipher number plates even five metres away. It's not good enough for enjoyable action footage. You can only view the videos by downloading to a PC. Weight: 214g (inc mount). Size: 85×53×31mm.

Adequate but pricy safety camera and front light combo