• Northeast 24 Hour Challenge
• NETRA Rock Crusher
• Vintage Scramble
• FMF J Day Offroad Weekend
• Vintage Resurrection
• 1986 KX125
TM 250FI

Northeast 24 Hour Challenge Race Test

By Jeremy Follno

The TM is one of the most exotic bikes I have ever ridden. Handcrafted in Italy, this bike is really something to take in! From the incredibly well-made, all-aluminum frame to the fuel cap located on the right side number plate, this bike will keep you looking. As far as performance goes, what else would you expect from a Italian race machine? This thing rips! The fuel injection is right on — super crispy, yet smooth and manageable. You can easily ride a gear too high and lug for traction. Up top is where it really shines. This 250 revs to the moon. It continues to pull as far as you want to rev it and redline seems like it's somewhere on top of Mount Everest.

Handling is great. The fuel tank is located under the seat and gives the bike a very low center of gravity and stable feel. The frame and swing arm geometry have a very "Monza-like" look and the bike has a Japanese feel to it. The suspension was set for the woods and worked great — plush in the beginning of the stroke with great bottoming resistance. Another unique feature of the TM is the location of the air filter. It's where the fuel tank traditionally is. This would be great for deeper water crossings.

I've read a couple other reviews on these bikes and the riders complained about the noise from the intake. One even said you need ear plugs while riding. This is not the case. It's noticeable but definitely not a distraction by any means. And who doesn't have a microphone with E-start? The button worked flawlessly even when in gear. The TM is a well-made, quality bike that can be very competitive and is a really fun ride.