

AQUA M3 BIVVY

Marc Coulson says that this is probably the best bivvy he has ever owned. It's a bold statement, but he explains why, right here.

I have had an M3 bivvy for a little over eight months and it is, without exception, the best bivvy I have ever owned. It's dangerous to say that something is absolutely the best on the market but, in terms of bivvies that I have actually owned, this is the daddy.

The versatility of the M3 is unbelievable and the addition of a winter skin offers me half a dozen combinations, from a short-session shelter to a full-blown, two-man-capacity bivvy.

The M3 is a third-generation Armo, which many anglers still regard as the best, most stable bivvy around. How many companies these days offer a pram-hood-style shelter in the mould of the original Armo? Most, such is the effectiveness of the design.

So why do I think that the M3 is better than any of the others on the market? Well, if you can put the price to one side, I believe that the M3 boasts the best features and materials that I want in a bivvy.

What's more, it's made in England at Aqua's northwest factory.

There are three winter skins available, but I plumped for the extended version. There's also the standard, for those that don't need too much extra room, as well as the super-extended for anglers that take everything but the kitchen sink. I've used my M3 in all manner of conditions, from late summer with the front removed, to some horrendous conditions where the skin was added and everything locked down solid. It's never let me down and, while I still use my Fox Evolution for really quick sessions when I might need to move, the M3 is my choice of shelter for everything else. The only downside might be the price tag – it's not the cheapest bivvy, but if you can afford it, an M3 is worth every penny.

DETAILS

AQUA

M3 Bivvy

RRP: £399.99

Contact: Aqua Products on 0845 125 9399

THE VERDICT

Tester: Marc Coulson

Test period: Eight months plus

Likes: It's versatile, rock steady and made in England

Dislikes: May seem a little expensive, but quality is worth those extra few pounds

