

If you're actually in the market for a Yamaha Ténéré, read this before you buy.

Here's what most buyers don't realize until it's too late:

- Not every Ténéré 700 model year is equipped the same
- Suspension setup can make a huge difference depending on your riding style
- Factory accessories add value—but some don't
- A well-maintained bike with higher miles is often a smarter buy than a neglected low-mile example
- Knowing what to inspect before you buy could save you thousands in repairs and upgrades

Our FREE Yamaha Ténéré Buyer's Guide breaks down:

- The differences between every model year
- The most common issues owners report
- Which upgrades are worth paying for—and which aren't
- What to inspect before you buy
- Which bikes tend to hold their value best
- How to avoid buying someone else's expensive problem

A few minutes of reading now could save you thousands later.

Complete the form below and we'll send you your FREE Yamaha Ténéré Buyer's Guide.

The Ultimate Yamaha Ténéré 700 Buyer's Guide

What Every Adventure Rider Should Know Before Buying

Introduction

The Yamaha Ténéré 700 has become one of the most respected adventure motorcycles on the market. It's known for its reliability, lightweight chassis, excellent off-road capability, and legendary CP2 engine. But not every Ténéré is the right Ténéré.

Whether you're buying new or used, understanding the differences between model years, factory options, accessories, and maintenance history can save you thousands of dollars while ensuring you end up with the motorcycle that best fits your riding style.

This guide walks you through exactly what to look for.

1. Understanding the Different Model Years

Although the Ténéré 700 has remained mechanically similar since its introduction, Yamaha has made numerous improvements over the years.

Depending on the year, changes include:

- TFT display upgrades
- Ride modes
- ABS settings
- Updated switchgear
- Suspension revisions
- Electronics
- Lighting improvements
- Emissions updates
- Color options

If you're comparing two motorcycles that appear identical, the newer one may have several improvements that justify the additional cost.

2. Which Model Is Right For You?

Not every Ténéré buyer rides the same way.

Mostly Highway Touring

You'll likely appreciate having:

- Comfortable seating
- Taller windscreen
- Heated grips
- Cruise-friendly ergonomics
- Aluminum luggage

Mostly Off-Road

Prioritize:

- Suspension quality

- Skid plate
- Crash protection
- Aggressive tires
- Lower overall weight

Around-the-World Travel

Look for:

- Complete service history
- Quality luggage systems
- Auxiliary lighting
- Larger foot pegs
- GPS mounts
- Upgraded protection

3. Common Issues to Inspect

Fortunately, the Ténéré has an excellent reliability record.

Still, every used motorcycle deserves careful inspection.

Pay special attention to:

Crash Damage

Look for:

- Bent handlebars
- Scratched engine cases
- Damaged foot pegs
- Cracked plastics
- Hand guard damage
- Bent brake pedals
- Bent shift levers

Adventure bikes often spend time on the ground.

Minor scratches aren't necessarily bad.

Poor repairs are.

Wheels

Inspect:

- Bent rims
- Loose spokes
- Tire condition
- Wheel bearings

Hard off-road riding can damage wheels without obvious signs.

Suspension

Check for:

- Oil leaks
- Scratched fork tubes
- Smooth fork action
- Rear shock leakage
- Proper damping
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Chain & Sprockets

Excessive wear often indicates poor maintenance.

Look for:

- Tight spots
- Hooked sprocket teeth
- Rust
- Excessive slack

Brakes

Inspect:

- Rotor wear
- Pad thickness
- Brake fluid condition
- ABS operation

4. The CP2 Engine

The parallel twin CP2 engine has earned one of the best reputations in motorcycling.

Owners regularly report:

- Excellent reliability
- Long engine life
- Low maintenance costs
- Smooth power delivery
- Outstanding fuel economy

Still inspect for:

- Oil leaks
- Coolant leaks
- Abnormal noises
- Excessive smoke
- Evidence of poor maintenance

5. Service History Matters More Than Mileage

Many buyers become obsessed with mileage.

That's often a mistake.

A Ténéré with: 25,000 well-maintained miles may be a far better purchase than one with:

- 6,000 neglected miles.

Always ask for:

- Service records

- Oil changes
- Valve inspections
- Air filter service
- Brake fluid changes
- Coolant replacement

Documentation adds confidence—and resale value.

6. Factory Accessories Worth Paying For

Certain accessories increase value.

Examples include:

- Yamaha hard luggage
- Center stand
- Heated grips
- Rally seat
- OEM skid plate
- Crash bars
- Auxiliary lighting
- Quick-release panniers

These accessories can save thousands versus adding them later.

7. Accessories That Don't Add Much Value

Many owners spend thousands customizing their motorcycles.

Unfortunately, buyers rarely recover that investment.

Examples include:

- Decorative graphics
- Cheap LED lighting
- Loud exhausts
- Budget luggage
- Cosmetic bolt kits

- Cheap windshields

Buy quality—not quantity.

8. Aftermarket Upgrades Worth Having

Some modifications genuinely improve the motorcycle.

Examples:

- Premium suspension
- Better skid plates
- High-quality hand guards
- Steering stabilizers
- Upgraded foot pegs
- Better seats
- Quality luggage systems

These upgrades often improve both riding experience and resale value.

9. What Hurts Resale?

These items commonly reduce resale value:

- Missing service records
- Poor maintenance
- Low-quality modifications
- Crash damage
- Rust
- Worn tires
- Damaged wheels
- Excessive corrosion
- Missing factory parts

10. Buying Used vs Buying New

Buying Used

Pros:

- Lower purchase price
- Already equipped with accessories
- Lower depreciation

Cons:

- Unknown riding history
- Potential hidden damage
- Limited warranty

Buying New

Pros:

- Factory warranty
- Latest updates
- No previous owner concerns
- Better financing

Cons:

- Higher initial price
- Depreciation
- Accessories still need to be added

11. Questions Every Buyer Should Ask

Before purchasing, ask:

- Why are you selling?
- Has it ever been crashed?
- Has it been ridden off-road?
- Do you have service records?
- Has the suspension been modified?

- Is the title clear?
- Are all factory keys included?
- Have the valves been inspected?
- Have any warranty repairs been completed?

12. Your Test Ride Checklist

During your ride, pay attention to:

- ✓ Smooth clutch engagement
- ✓ Smooth shifting
- ✓ Stable steering
- ✓ Straight braking
- ✓ Engine vibration
- ✓ Suspension performance
- ✓ ABS operation
- ✓ Electronics
- ✓ Strange noises
- ✓ Comfortable riding position

13. Should You Finance or Pay Cash?

If financing:

Compare:

- Interest rates
- Loan length
- Down payment
- Monthly payment
- Total interest paid

Sometimes paying a little more monthly saves thousands over the life of the loan.

Final Thoughts

The Yamaha Ténéré 700 has earned its reputation as one of the finest middleweight adventure motorcycles ever built.

Take your time.

Research the model years.

Inspect carefully.

Don't focus solely on mileage.

Buy the motorcycle that has been cared for—not simply the one with the lowest odometer.

A smart purchase today will reward you with years of reliable adventures and stronger resale value when it's time for your next motorcycle.

Need Help Finding the Right Ténéré?

[Follow this link](#) or send me an email. I can help you find a new Tenere, a World Raid edition, or even a used one.

Whether you're shopping for a brand-new Yamaha Ténéré or comparing pre-owned models, I'll answer your questions, explain the differences between model years, review available accessories, and help you choose the motorcycle that fits your riding style and budget.

Tommy (760)330-5882 That's my direct number.

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