

RCZ Race 27.5 wheels

Straight from the online shop, RCZ introduces the evolution of their wheels for XC, with an excellent value for money, as it is for all RCZ products. This best-seller, the RCZ Race 27.5", are a leader in this segment. With 199.99 Euros we received a pair of hand-mounted wheels compatible with all hubs and forks available on the market, with a total weight of 1580 gr, 10 gr less than the 1590g they announced. This model has been improved in comparison to the 2015 model with new 2RS sealed bearings which work very smooth with a long life-cycle.

The rim is standard for XC use, 23mm external width, 17mm internal. We would have preferred a larger internal width as tires are more and more wide. The front hub has 24 spokes and the rear has 28 with a variable thickness (2/1.8/2).

We have to take into consideration that the rims are for Schrader valve, meaning that if we want to install tubeless tires, we have to find compatible valves. The hubs and the free-wheel are in aluminium, the free-wheel body is compatible with 8/9/10 speed cassettes. If we want to mount a SRAM 11 speed cassette we can buy the compatible hub (39.99 Euros). This hub is only available for 6 holes brake discs (the usual standard). The wheels are sold without the rim tape and without quick releases, and they are not recommended to riders over 85 kg.

The wheels we have tested were white with red hubs, but they are also available in black with red or black hubs.

EXPERIENCE ON TRACK:

First of all, we adapted the wheels to our test bike, it was very easy to install the 15mm adaptor, you just need to release the nuts from the 9mm axle and to screw the ones from the 15mm axle. The rear axle is a little bit more complicated to disassemble, you have to use two Allen keys to do that. Then you have to mount the 12x142 axle, to tighten it, and there it is. Everything is easy and fast. After the test, they turned out to be an excellent choice for those who are looking for an acceptable and affordable XC wheelset. The wheels are not very rigid, we could feel a light flexion in extreme curves. But they are very smooth and you can hardly hear their noise.

During the test we did not broke any spoke, but we had troubles with the hubs, better to do frequent maintenance in order to avoid problems.

In general, they are a very good choice to lighten our XC bike.

What we like:

Value for money, colours choice, bearings

What could be improved:

Weight, Schrader valves, internal width.