



Audax Mk3

Please read and note.
Prices are rising all the time and we do not wish to waste resources; consequently the prices printed in this brochure may no longer be correct.
The current prices, given in the on line brochure, are correct and will always be honoured.

A superb derailleur geared, lightweight, 700c Audax bike, from £1239

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Also excels at ultra-light weight to medium weight touring, serious hard training, fast commuting and fast day rides

**Many different Audax Mk3 specs are available.
The bike shown here is
the
THORN SPECIAL
at**

£1299



Style police please note: -
A long steerer is supplied, you may cut to suit, when you've achieved the position that you need, or we'll cut it to your instructions.

The THORN Mk3 30 Speed Special, in this size, weighs Only 10.9Kg

THORN SPECIAL
What you see is what you get!
(Bike shown is SIZE 600 with TIAGRA STI Shifters and 30 Speed ULTRA WIDE GEARING)



**The best Audax bike ever?
Most of our customers tell us that it is!**

To ORDER

Phone 01278 441505
email sales@thorncycles.co.uk

Or complete an order form - this can be found in part 2 of the THORN MEGA BROCHURE

CLICK HERE For **THORN MEGA BROCHURE PARTS 1, 2 and 3**
This is a very large file; it may take considerable time for it to open, please be patient.



UNIQUE to THORN
Lifetime Warranty on FRAME and FORK
14 day money back guarantee on complete bikes.
See page 59 of the MEGA BROCHURE



Thorn Audax Mk3

By Andy Blance
Sept 2014

FINISH 2014 COLOURS

(Subject to availability)

Please read this before you buy an Audax Mk3

Whilst having significantly more clearance than a "racing" bicycle, the Audax Mk3 has less clearance than many traditional touring bikes, including our own Club Tour. Mk3 owners should expect to wear "proper SPD type shoes", or "traditional cycling shoes, with steel toe clips and straps". Either type of pedal must be set to allow clearance, when riding a Mk3. Failure to cycle with appropriate footwear, could lead to contact between the rider's shoe and mudguard - which could precipitate loss of control.

High quality steel is the best possible material for a strong, comfortable, well equipped, long lasting frame - all our bikes are high quality **heat treated steel** - we wouldn't wish to build our bikes with anything else and we would not wish to use anything else for our own cycling!

Heat treatment is expensive - if a frame doesn't say "heat treated", you can be certain that the tubes won't be.

Steel is real



The best Audax frame ever?

For the majority of cyclists, our Thorn Audax Mk 3 is the perfect 700c, derailleur geared, lightweight Audax frame. It's strong enough for ultra-lightweight to medium weight touring - a Mk3 is seriously good for hard training - it's also superb for fast commuting or fast day riding.

A huge amount of detailed information, which may help you is available online. See the link to the MEGA BROCHURE On page 1 (the cover)

The Audax Mk3 has the levels of comfort expected from a premium steel lightweight frame. It has quick - yet stable handling. These frames have all the brazed-on features that you'd expect to find on a Thorn frame:- direct-fit mudguard bosses, carrier bosses, cable guides and stops for brake and gears.

The extra bonus is, apart from the stunning price, all the Mk3's fittings are stainless steel!

Versatility

Whilst the Mk3 Audax excels at light weight touring (less than 8Kg), the frame is strong enough to cope with medium weight touring.

If necessary, it could occasionally carry up to 31Kg of luggage.

It will carry 20Kg on a suitable rear carrier - if you need it to!

It will carry 5Kg on the forks .

It will carry 3Kg in the bottle cages and it will carry a 3Kg bar bag.

The Mk3 is supplied with a pair of high quality, competition weight Cro-Mo forks, with cast crown, complete with stainless bosses for mudguards and lo-loader carrier.

These forks are designed for comfort, with narrow tyres, at high pressures, therefore it's important that you don't treat them as "full-blown touring forks", they have a maximum luggage limit of 2.5Kg (per side).

Note, for medium weight touring, due to the fairly short wheelbase, if more than 10kg is carried at the rear, the bike will handle better, when some weight is carried in front lo loader panniers.

Geometry.

Please note, the Mk3 frame and its steel forks will accept tyres which measure 28mm (Some tyres labelled as 700 x 32c actually only measure 28mm wide) with sufficient clearance for mudguards - the carbon forks will accept 28mm tyres - but not with mudguards. **The carbon forks will only accept tyres which measure 25mm, with mudguard clearance.**

Compatibility.

The Mk3 frames are deliberately supplied with the rear ends set 133mm apart. Road hubs are spaced 130mm and MTB hubs are spaced 135mm, therefore 133 will suit either. Springing a frame by a few mm each time you remove, or replace the wheel isn't a big issue but you can permanently set the frame to 130mm or 135mm, if you wish. (Before you do this, please note that, once re-set, it's not permitted to "re-re-set" 135mm frames to 130mm or vice-versa)

We've long favoured the advantages of 135mm - you get a wheel with less dish and MTB hubs have better seals than road hubs - there are no team cars in Audax events! We do acknowledge that all the really trick road wheels are only available in 130mm - which is why we've given you the choice!

All sizes of the Mk3 are offered in a choice of 5 colours; blood red, cobalt blue, fuchsia or matt black powder and also in gunmetal "Imron" with black decals.

Our powder coated frames are treated internally with a rust inhibitor; the outside surfaces are sprayed with a rust-inhibiting primer.



**Mk3 Audax - 20sp Tlagra - weight 10Kg
Size shown is SIZE 525**

The frames are then coated with highly-durable powder coat paint; all the decals are applied and sealed into the finish with a clear powder lacquer.

The metallic pearl cobalt blue is lush, rich, classical Italian Blue.

The blood red is simply the reddest red we've ever seen - and of course, as many people know, red bikes are always the fastest!

The fuchsia is not just bright - it's completely "in your face".

The matt black looks very unassuming.

We have a new colour Audax - Gunmetal. Gunmetal "Imron", is a twin pack polyester paint. I expect it to be very popular - it not only looks quietly sophisticated and low key - it's also very tough.

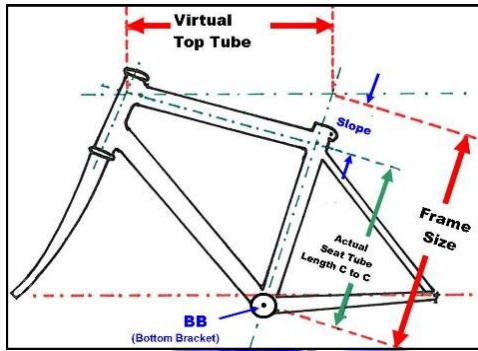
Thorn Audax Mk3 frames and steel forks are guaranteed for the lifetime of the original owner.

See page 59 of the Mega Brochure



Size 525, shown with optional carbon fork

Look at the quality of the welding and paint finish



THORN AUDAX Mk3 SIZE MATRIX								
[1] Size (Virtual seat tube length C to C)	[2] Actual Seat tube length (C to C)	Slope [1] - [2]	Virtual Top tube (C to C)	BB Drop	Seat Angle	Chain Stay length	Mid tube S/O (stand over height)	Height of top tube at Head Tube
495S (Small) Short top tube	375	120	518	72	74	425	701	761
525 (Small/Med)	425	100	550	72	73.5	430	738	788
550 (Medium)	480	70	565	72	73	430	772	807
555S (medium) Short top tube	415	140	530	72	74	430	742	812
570 (Med/Large)	510	60	575	67	72.5	430	801	831
600 (Large)	545	50	595	67	72	435	833	863

In a nutshell

The Thorn Audax Mk3 Special offers exceptional value for money - and gives exceptional, real-world performance.

The Mk3 has a THORN frame of the highest pedigree - which not only handles perfectly and can carry a light load efficiently but is also built for a long service life. It has an honest pair of wheels, hand-built and superbly tensioned, by a genuine master wheel builder. It has a high quality 100% Shimano transmission. It also has good quality finishing kit.

Thorn Audax Mk3 THORN Special

Thorn Special Spec

The "Thorn Special" 30 speed Spec is designed to both enhance and showcase the Mk3's multi-faceted nature. This spec would be our No1 choice for a mix of Audax riding and light touring in hilly areas - the spread of gears is greater than anything offered by any other manufacturer - we've had to "think outside the box" because we know how useful it is to have really low gears in severe terrain - especially when you're really tired! We also fit genuine Shimano deep drop calliper brakes, to make sure you can stop safely when required.

TRANSMISSION CHOICES.

We offer many different options, the 3 most popular options are:-

[1] 30Sp ULTRA WIDE range gearing

The transmission we've selected really is very special - we've used a Shimano Deore equivalent 10 speed 26/36/48 chain set and a 11-36 10sp MTB cassette - this gives an absolutely awesome range of gears - 19" to 117" We use a Shimano Deore 9" speed rear MTB mech - this isn't a typo - it needs to be a 9sp MTB to work properly with 10sp road STI.

We use a 10sp Shimano Tiagra road triple front mech and Tiagra 10sp STI levers.

This 100% Shimano transmission works really well and should give most people a gear for every situation likely to be encountered on the Mk3.

[2] 30Sp WIDE range gearing

If you want a tighter spread of gears, we can substitute a Shimano Tiagra 12-28 cassette with a medium cage Tiagra mech. This gives gears from 25" to 107".

[3] 20Sp COMPACT DOUBLE gearing

We also offer a Compact Double 20sp full Tiagra spec with 34/50 rings and a 12-30 cassette. This gives gears from 30" to 112".

Wheels and tyres.

During our time in the trade, you can imagine that we've learned a thing or two. We know that wheels and tyres make more of a difference to the performance of a bike than anything else can - to some people performance equates to absolute speed. Whilst we appreciate a quick bike, we're convinced that, when contemplating the true meaning of "performance", reliability and durability should be major considerations - particularly on a lightweight touring bike!

We equip the "Thorn Special" with a set of "proper", hand built wheels - black Mavic Open Sport rims, with top quality DB stainless spokes on the front wheel and on the LHS rear, plain gauge are used on RHS rear, to allow sufficient tension of LHS spokes to prevent them from unwinding. We use enough spokes to promise long-term reliability - 32 in fact!

We've specified the very durable and reliable Shimano Deore sealed MTB hubs with 135mm axle spacing - to reduce wheel dish. These wheels will certainly not be the fastest wheels you could obtain, neither will they be the most durable, the most expensive or the cheapest but we believe that they'll be the best possible compromise of speed, durability, affordability and comfort.

If you can afford to upgrade to DT Swiss rims and Hope hubs you'll have the ultimate in sport touring/Audax wheels.

28mm Panaracer Pasela tyres have a great reputation for grip, reliability, long life and, most importantly, comfort! The 28mm Pasela is one of the quickest 28mm, puncture-resisting, non folding tyre ever made. Having sold literally thousands; we know this 315g tyre is exceptionally reliable.

The Mk3 frame can easily accommodate 28mm tyres and mudguards, with enough clearance for them to be an asset, rather than a liability; therefore it makes great sense for us to fit them as original equipment.

Finishing Kits

Our price includes silver or black SKS mudguards - the best available. Mk3 frames and forks have bosses for the "direct fitting of mudguards" - this method totally eliminates rattles and enables the 'guards to stay true indefinitely.

We've chosen a Thorn Velo saddle as the standard equipment, this is a well made lightweight saddle with a thin layer of high density foam. It's available in men's or women's widths.

We've chosen **Anatomical alloy handlebars** and a front loading, threadless, 1.125" forged stem.

We've also specified a reasonably light weight, micro adjustable alloy seat post and black cork tape to complete the package.



Check out the SUPER LOW gearing on the 30 Speed ULTRA WIDE RANGE OPTION



Size 495S **Extra small**

This is our smallest size, it has an exceptionally short top tube but our clever geometry provides adequate toe clearance and the bike handles superbly! 2012 spec, with XT/Dura Ace bar end shifter and derailleur options. The colour shown is BRG, which is no longer current or available.



Size 525 **Small**

This bike was built to the customer's own choice of spec. The colour shown is matt black



Size 550

The small side of medium.

2012 spec but with optional supplementary brake levers. The colour shown is Tonka Yellow, which is no longer current or available.



Size 555S - a size that's unique to us.

It's a medium size - with a short top tube.

If you're between 5' 3" and 5' 8" tall and you need drop bars that are higher than the saddle and/or a fairly short reach, this is probably the size for you.

Our clever geometry provides superb handling and proper toe clearance!

The slope of the top tube gives generous clearance, whilst the long head tube reduces the quantity of spacers required to obtain the desired bar height.

The bike shown isn't a standard spec.

The colour shown is Fuchsia.



size 570

The large side of medium.

The colour shown is blood red.



size 600 **Large**

This is the largest size of Mk3 that we make. This particular bike has many expensive upgrades. The colour shown is cobalt blue.

6 sizes are available in a choice of colours.

Please check availability of a specific colour.

Please see the MEGA BROCHURE for more information.

Blood Red
Powder coat finish

Cobalt Blue
Powder coat finish

Matt Black
Powder coat finish

Fuchsia
Powder coat finish

GUNMETAL
Iron twin pack polyester paint.

