

Product review: Circe Atlas Folding Bike Trailer

Published by Lyn on 4 February 2015

Need a lightweight touring trailer? Richard Peace took the Circe Atlas folding trailer out for a spin.



Join us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)

Circe Atlas Trailer
 RRP £199
www.circecycles.com

Cambridge-based Circe make a range of family and utility bikes and accessories and I have just tested their folding trailer, the Atlas.

This flatbed trailer has a neat and clean-looking plywood base with plenty of holes in for bungee hooks and straps. The 12" wheels come off at the push of a button and the metal frame comes apart by via large handscrews, the whole thing folding into a bespoke bag some 76cm x 34cm x12cm.



The trailer folds down into its own carry bag.

The unfolded loadbed size is around 65cm x 58cm with practical sandpaper style grippy finish and once the frame and wheels are off it folds along two sets of hinges to provide a handy 'envelope' for all the parts to sit it in, the wheels cleverly locking into the folded loadbed together for storage and transport.



The trailer is lightweight on and off the road.

The trailer on the road

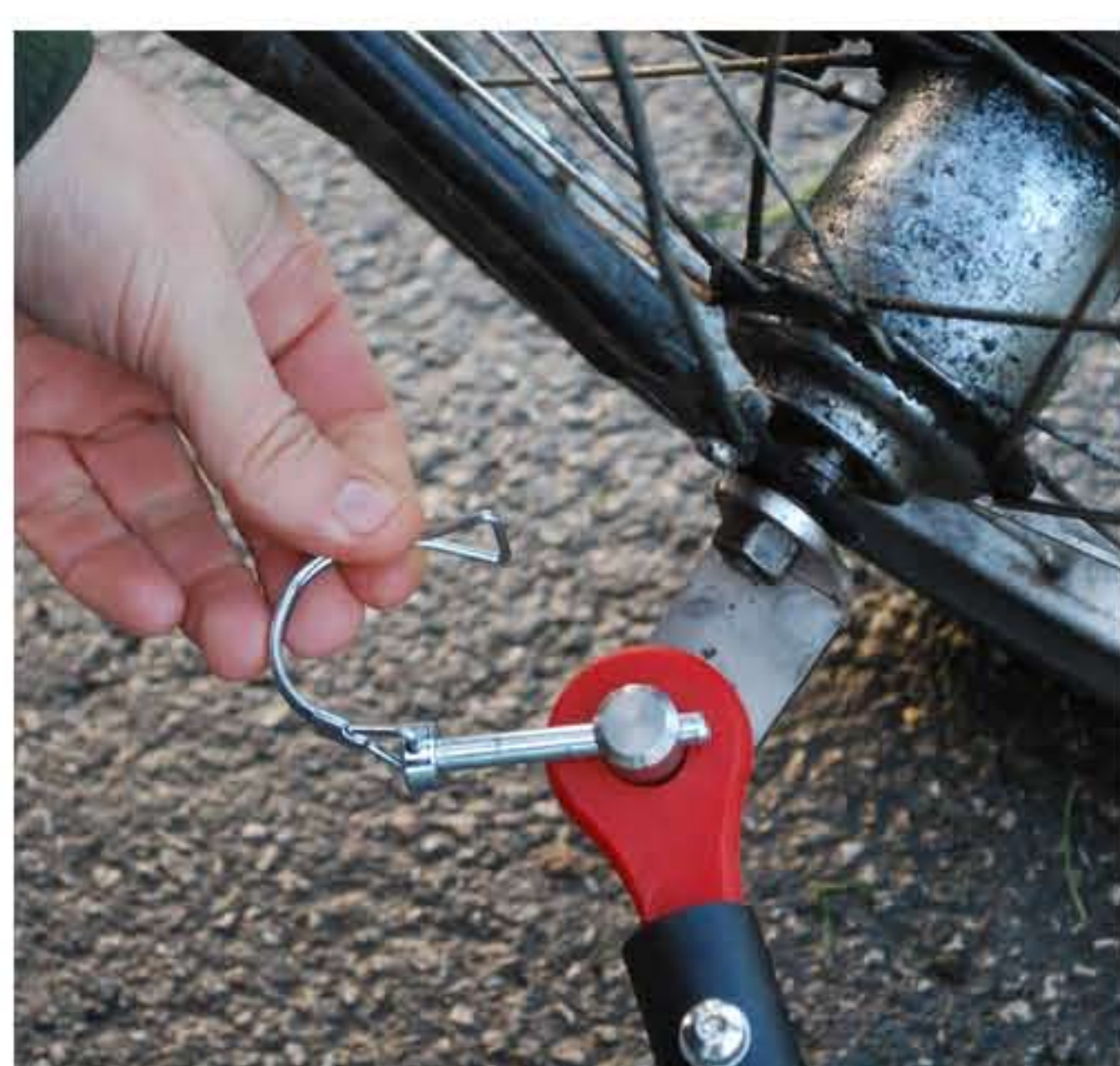
I towed weights up to 30kg on both a 700C-wheeled bike and the 16 inch-wheeled Brompton and the trailer worked very well with both wheel sizes, as the towbar can be rotated to sit at different heights and the red flexible plastic 'lollipop' hitch also allows plenty of angle adjustment.

I found the toolless and very quick fold an ideal complement to the Brompton in particular, and I intend to make an Atlas my main carrying system for longer Brompton tours, as it will accompany the Brompton on [Eurostar](#) and [French and continental trains](#) quite easily and allow me to carry a full camping load.

The width in use is around 78cm; wider than many cargo bikes which will negotiate urban pinch points better (though for touring in France this shouldn't be so much of an issue as their routes are less prone to very narrow 'access controls' on cycle paths than the UK).

The trailer felt smooth and easy to ride; so quiet and easy you just have to remember it is there when you go around corners as you do with any trailer.

My only gripes were lack of an attachment point for a light at the back and some kind of highviz markings on the side plus some rather stiff quickrelease clips (though no doubt these will ease up in time).



Value for money

At a shade under £200, the Atlas is at a similar price to its most direct competitor, the [Corry Freedom](#) (available from [Chain Reaction Cycles](#)). The latter doesn't fold but is rated to take up to 70kg in weight (though the Atlas will no doubt take more than its 30kg rating). Another potential competitor, the [Burley Flatbed](#) trailer will set you back at least £220 and has a less robust-looking construction and doesn't fold. So, the Atlas is right up there with its competitors – and it has the added benefit of folding quickly and easily for 'multimodal' transport.

Circe Atlas Trailer, RRP £199.
 See the [Circe website](#) for dealers.

Richard Peace is founder of [Excellent Books](#), specialists in cycle publishing and has [written several tours of France \(including on electric bikes\)](#). He is author of [Cycling Southern France \(UK, US\)](#), [Cycling Northern France \(UK, US\)](#), and [Electric Bicycles: The Complete Guide \(UK, US\)](#). He is a regular contributor to [A to B magazine](#), [Bike Europe](#) and writes for [Eurobike Show Daily](#).

Cycling in France?

Search for tours & accommodation

What are you looking for?

Where do you want to look?

Submit

Useful articles

- French dictionary for cyclists
- How to get to France
- How to choose a cycle tour
- Travel insurance for cyclists
- Car hire in France
- How to choose a bike route
- Planning a trip to France
- Accommodation in France
- Bike hire delivery services
- Your packing checklist

Share this:

[f](#) [t](#) [p](#) [g+](#) [+](#)

Receive our newsletter

Your details are safe and will not be sold to a 3rd party, we promise.

Follow us

[t](#) [f](#) [p](#) [r](#)

 **Luggage Mule**


FOR ALL YOUR CAMPING GEAR 

The NANTES-BREST CANAL
Brittany guide


Avenue Verte
London to Paris by Bike
The Official Guide to the route between the London Eye and Notre Dame.




Find us on Facebook



You and 727 others like Freewheeling France.



Tweets



Site search

 **Book now**



FOR ALL YOUR CAMPING GEAR
LOWEST ONLINE PRICES

CAMPING WORLD
LEISURE SPECIALISTS



the world's best brands and passionate cyclists in every store

[click here to shop](#)

 **CycleSurgery**

THE CYCLING FRANCE
42

halfords

- Cycling
- Motoring
- Camping & Car Seats
- Sat Nav & Audio

 **click & collect**

 **next day delivery**

 **28 day returns**

subscription save.co.uk

FRENCH MAGAZINES

SAVE UP TO 45%

[VIEW DEALS](#)



Now you see me...

[SHOP NOW >>](#)

Cycle Instructor