

2006 SCOOTERS

IN 1789, Benjamin Franklin wrote, "In this world nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes." Well, if Ben were around today, he'd amend his proverb to include rising gasoline prices. When will it end? Probably never! How high can it go? Who knows?

We motorcyclists already have an advantage over our four-wheel foes when it comes to fuel economy. But even we look on with envy when we see fellow two-wheel riders on scooters getting nearly twice the miles per gallon that we do. So, in light of the ever-rising pump prices (and recent letters from scooter enthusiasts), we've decided to give some attention to the thrifty scooter family.

RoadBike is about bikes, all kinds, and we've covered the scooter scene mildly in the past. Rest assured, we're not converting the mag to RoadScoot,

but given current economic and environmental concerns in the US, this seems a timely feature. So, we've compiled the vital statistics on the current offerings in the 250cc and up end of the spectrum. While there are many fine machines in the 150 to 250cc range, we felt that a minimum displacement of 250cc is better suited for longer-distance touring and commuting.

Most of the models shown here offer ample storage space, a fuel-efficient four-stroke engine, disc brakes, and larger wheel diameters for better handling and maneuverability. Add to that the ease of power delivery with automatic transmissions, and these rides make more and more sense. Just be sure to check your local municipality regarding registration requirements and appropriate license endorsements.



Displacement	Engine	Fuel System	Driveline	Wheel Diameter	Brakes	Wheelbase	Seat Height	Fuel Capacity	Dry Weight
\$4,699 Piaggio BV250 Has a foldaway waterproof seat cover and optional top case and side bags									
244cc	Liquid-cooled single	N/A	Automatic CVT	16" front & rear	Disc front & rear	57.9"	30.9"	2.6 gallons	328 pounds
\$4,999 Aprilia Scarabeo 250 50-liter top box holds two full-face helmets and has a padded passenger backrest									
244cc	Liquid-cooled single	29mm Keihin carb	Automatic V-belt	16" front & rear	Disc front & rear	55.7"	31.5"	2.5 gallons	365 pounds
\$5,349 2007 Honda Helix Great basic scoot with room and storage space for two									
244cc	Liquid-cooled single	30mm CV carb w/auto-matic choke	Automatic V-Matic	12" front, 10" rear	Disc front, drum rear	63.8"	26.2"	3.2 gallons	349 pounds
\$5,799 Vespa GTS Blends modern performance and styling with classic Vespa design									
244cc	Liquid-cooled single	EFI	Automatic CVT	12" front & rear	Disc front & rear	54.9"	31.1"	2.4 gallons	326 pounds
\$3,990 Daelim S2 250 This economical machine offers updated styling and powerful headlights									
249cc	Liquid-cooled single	N/A	Automatic V-belt	12" front, 13" rear	Disc front & rear	58.3"	29.5"	3 gallons	342 pounds
\$3,999 Kymco People 250 Dual rear shocks, telescoping forks, and larger wheels help smooth out the ride									
249cc	Liquid-cooled single	Carbureted	Automatic CVT	16" front & rear	Disc front & rear	59.6"	30.9"	2.1 gallons	367 pounds

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Displacement	Engine	Fuel System	Driveline	Wheel Diameter	Brakes	Wheelbase	Seat Height	Fuel Capacity	Dry Weight
									
\$3,999									
Kymco Bet & Win 250 Offers sportier, more compact styling and a digital dash									
249cc	Liquid-cooled single	Carbureted	Automatic CVT	12" front & rear	Disc front & rear	57"	32"	2.8 gallons	348 pounds
									
\$4,399									
Kymco Grandvista The fairing, windscreen, and seat are designed for long-range comfort									
249cc	Liquid-cooled single	Carbureted	Automatic CVT	12" front & rear	Disc front & rear	56.4"	30.3"	2.4 gallons	359 pounds
									
\$4,899									
Kymco Xciting 250 Features adjustable rear suspension, brake levers, and backrest									
249cc	Liquid-cooled single	Carbureted	Automatic CVT	15" front, 14" rear	Disc front & rear	62"	30.3"	2.8 gallons	407 pounds
									
\$5,199									
2007 Yamaha Morphous Offers plenty of storage, a digital dash, and zany futuristic styling									
249cc	Liquid-cooled single	EFI	Automatic V-belt with belt drive	13" front & rear	Disc front & rear	63.6"	25.8"	3.7 gallons	408 pounds
									
\$5,499									
Honda Big Ruckus This is an attention-getter, with its unique styling and steel frame									
249cc	Liquid-cooled single	30mm CV carb w/auto-enricher	Automatic V-Matic belt	12" front & rear	Disc front, drum rear	57.3"	28.2-28.7"	3.2 gallons	362 pounds
									
\$5,499/5,999 (ABS)									
Honda Reflex/Sport/ABS Sport model features a shorter windshield and chrome accents									
249cc	Liquid-cooled single	30mm CV carb w/auto-enricher	Automatic V-Matic belt	13" front, 12" rear	Disc front & rear	60.8"	28.3"	3.2 gallons	375/379 pounds
									
\$3,495									
Diamo Tracer Offers racing-oriented suspension, exhaust, and performance tires									
250cc	Liquid-cooled vertical single	Keihin carb	Automatic CVT	13" front & rear	ABS disc front & rear	53"	29"	2 gallons	262 pounds
									
\$4,495									
Diamo Velux Features a retractable top, remote alarm, radio/CD/MP3 player, and much more									
250cc	Liquid-cooled single	Keihin carb	Automatic CVT with belt drive	13" front & rear	ABS disc front & rear	57"	29"	2 gallons	389 pounds
									
\$4,399									
Kymco People S									
251cc	Liquid-cooled single	Carbureted	Automatic CVT	16" front & rear	Disc front & rear	59.6"	30.9"	2.1 gallons	348 pounds

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Displacement	Engine	Fuel System	Driveline	Wheel Diameter	Brakes	Wheelbase	Seat Height	Fuel Capacity	Dry Weight
	\$3,995 Diamo Turista	This Yamaha-built scoot offers ample storage space and touring amenities							
258cc	Liquid-cooled single	N/A	Automatic CVT	12" front & rear	ABS disc front & rear	61"	29"	2.9 gallons	370 pounds
	\$5,799 2007 Yamaha Majesty	Offers plenty of power, storage, and a multifunction LCD instrument display							
395cc	Liquid-cooled single	EFI	Automatic double-cog V-belt with centrifugal clutch	14" front, 13" rear	Disc front & rear	61.6"	29.5"	3.7 gallons	432 pounds
	\$5,899/5,849 2007 Suzuki Burgman 400/Type S	S model has a sportier look, more chrome, and limited-edition black wheels							
400cc	Liquid-cooled single	EFI	Automatic CVT V-belt with shaft drive	14" front, 13" rear	Disc front & rear	62.6"	28"/27.4"	3.7/3.4 gallons	434/405 pounds
	\$6,199 Piaggio BV500	Features integrated brakes, a waterproof seat cover, and anti-theft devices							
460cc	Liquid-cooled single	Magneti-Marelli EFI	Automatic CVT	16" front, 14" rear	Integrated discs front & rear	61"	30.9"	3.5 gallons	437 pounds
	\$6,299 Piaggio X9	Offers linked brakes, an adjustable windshield, and an analog/digital dash							
460cc	Liquid-cooled single	Magneti-Marelli EFI	Automatic CVT	14" front & rear	Linked discs front & rear	60.2"	30.7"	3.9 gallons	469 pounds
	\$7,399 Aprilia Scarabeo 500	Has an adjustable windshield and the most underseat storage of any large scooter							
460cc	Liquid-cooled single	EFI	Automatic V-belt	16" front & rear	Disc front & rear	63.2"	31.5"	4.5 gallons	425 pounds
	\$5,999 Kymco Xciting 500	Offers adjustable rear shocks, brake levers, and backrest, and an LED taillight							
499cc	Liquid-cooled single	Carbureted	Automatic CVT	15" front, 14" rear	Disc front & rear	62"	30.3"	2.8 gallons	473 pounds
	\$7,949/\$8,449 Honda Silver Wing/ABS	Offers luxury touring features and smooth, predictable performance							
582cc	Liquid-cooled parallel twin	PGM-FI w/auto enricher circuit	Automatic V-Matic belt	14" front, 13" rear	Disc front & rear	62.8"	29.7"	4.2 gallons	501/511 pounds
	\$7,799/\$8,799 Suzuki Burgman 650/Executive	Exec model offers ABS, an electric windshield, and a passenger backrest							
638cc	Liquid-cooled twin	EFI	Automatic electronic CVT with gear drive	15" front, 14" rear	Disc front & rear	62.8"	29.5"	4 gallons	518 pounds