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MOD F800GS/F700GS Skid Plate

by Bret Tkacs

Always in search of companies out of the mainstream, we picked up and tried a *Motorcycle Overland Development (MOD)* V2 skid plate for the *F800GS/F700GS*. This small company based out of British Columbia engineers and builds their products locally and only manufactures protection products for the *BMW F800GS/F700GS*.

Although simple in design, the *MOD* skid plate is well constructed with nice details. The mounting bolts are recessed to avoid damage and use OEM *BMW* mounting hardware. The front support bracket is a milled piece of aluminum and fits perfectly.

I mounted the *MOD* skid plate and took it out to put it to the ultimate test—racing the *Desert 100* (a 100-mile single-track desert race held in Washington State) where only 17% of the bikes in the ADV class ever see the finish line. Not only did my *F800GS* roll across the finish line with the top riders, but the skid plate made it through in surprisingly good condition. Given the full weight and number of hits this skid plate took, I was impressed that it even resembled its original shape.

With all of the important bits on the bike still in good shape and only a minor dent in the header, thanks to the well built *MOD* protection, it was time to straighten out the plate for the next adventure. It came off with ease and, with a little motivation from a large hammer, looked good as new, and bolted right back on as if it had never been used.

This skid plate drives home the point that sometimes simple is better. I like the lightweight and simple construction and will be keeping it on the bike for my next big trip. As a traveler I have acquired an appreciation for products that fall on the side of simplicity. Fewer moving parts often mean fewer potential fail points. Thumbs up for this one.

MSRP: \$250 MotoOverland.com



PROS

- Lightweight and made in North America
- Full coverage to include the catalytic converter
- Takes abuse and still mounts up easily
- Not the same skid plate as everyone else

CONS

- Boxy appearance with little flair for style
- Can flex into header on right side if hit hard enough
- Not compatible with all crash bars (list is provided by manufacturer)



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