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By Hans Knop.

BUYING A VMAX: And What-To-Look-Out-For.

THE VMAX IS A WORLDWIDE LEGENDARY..... MUSCLE BIKE.... CULT BIKE.....ICON AND COLLECTORS ITEM.....

THIS IS WHY THE VMAX MARKET VALUE IS IN GENERAL HIGHER THAN OTHER COMPARABLE MAKES OF MOTORCYCLES

FIRST OF ALL...use your common sense when Buying a motorbike. Do some research and bear in mind that a Vmax is a Brute of a Powerful bike.

If you find the one you like..... unless you think you are qualified enough to check it's condition..... get somebody with the tech-know-how to check the bike for you.

BE CAREFUL when buying a Bike from a second hand bike dealer.

There are rumours going around of some dealers using parts of more than one bike..... and cutting corners..... to assemble a complete one.

This doesn't mean that private sellers aren't using the same practice.

BEWARE OF SELLERS

advertising their Max with KMS instead of Miles on the South African GUMTREE site.

In the mileage Column Sellers only can state the Mileage of their Maxes in KMS.....however.....some Sellers..... if their Max has Miles on the Clock.....unknowingly or intentionally.... don't convert them to KMS and advertise their Max's miles as being KMS.....which unfortunately is Misleading/Fraudulent information.

DATE OF MANUFACTURE

SOME SELLERS state the year of 1st South African registration as the date of Manufacture.

TO CHECK THE DATE OF MANUFACTURE

At the Technical Data & Documentation section of our Technical Tips pages on our **website** you can download the Engine and Frame number Doc to establish the date of Manufacture.

To get an idea if the Max was manufactured before or after 1993.....CHECK THE front brake Piston Calipers.

VMAXES MANUFACTURED BETWEEN 1985 and 1993 have 40 mm wide Fork stanchions with 2 piston Calipers Brakes on each side. As from 1994 they come with 43 mm Stanchions and 4 Piston Calipers.

HERE IN SOUTH AFRICA you will find the following Vmaxes:

- Vmaxes officially imported by the SA Yamaha Distributors have kms on the speedometer and come with the V-Boost
- Vmaxes (2nd hand) imported from the USA and Canada also come with the V-Boost and have Miles on the speedometer and KMS in smaller digits.
- Vmaxes (2nd hand) imported from Japan or Europe don't have V-Boost and have kms on the speedometer.

THE MAXES WITH V-BOOST have 140 BHP, the Maxes without V-Boost have 100 BHP. Otherwise they are all identically the same.

Vmaxes manufactured for the Japanese and European Markets are all without V-Boost.

More technical info can be found in the Technical Tips Pages of our Site.

IN 2005 A LIMITED EDITION of 2000 20 Anniversary Vmax was manufactured with a numbered plaque and a special paint job.

TEN of them were sold here in SA.....

SPARE PARTS

All spare parts are easily obtainable from local Yamaha Dealers.

2ND HAND SPARE PARTS (if available) can be obtained from BikePartsOnline in Midrand, they advertise on our site as well. Member of our Group qualify for a Discount.

FUEL CONSUMPTION

Depending on *your driving style* - the condition of the Max and Carb adjustments most Maxes consume approximately 1ltr/10kms in town and 1ltr/16kms open road.

MAINTENANCE

Regular servicing is inexpensive and can easily be done by any person who can use a spanner to undo bolts and nuts.

GREY IMPORT MAXES

As to the so called Grey import Maxes; most Maxes in SA are grey import, and spares are plentiful obtainable from accredited Yamaha Dealers.

Although some dealers.....with a strange mental attitude aren't so helpful. In that case just send me an email and I will try and help you.

HOW MANY MILES/KMS will the VMAX Engine last.....? ? ?

It all depends how the bike was maintained and handled.....

One Maxer in the USA has got 110 000 miles + on his clock.....HOWEVER he serviced his Max Meticulously as per Handbook Instructions.....

THE LAST 1ST GENERATION VMAX was manufactured in 2008.

VMAXES FOR SALE

CHECK the Vmax Market Place on our site to find Vmaxes for sale with detailed descriptions and Pix.

http://www.awol.co.za/vmax_marketplace.htm

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