



BMW *F 650 GS Dakar*

2003



**BMW
MOTORRAD**



The first look

Despite being an “old lady,” she has a unique beauty and does not go unnoticed. Her rounded lines and blue color leave a lasting impression wherever she goes. I never expected to experience such joy and fun when I let myself be carried away by this “muse”.

I think it is an appropriate motorcycle for anyone starting out in Moto-Camping, Adventure Travel, or Off Road.



Driving behavior

Alone

With its slender and light design, it becomes much more agile and easy to handle, especially in city traffic. These characteristics enable it to excel in more difficult terrain, or off-road conditions.

I can surely say that since the seat height is only 87cm, this is a bike that will suit all types of riders.



Photo: [motobanda](#)



With pillion

Pillion seats are slightly elevated, wide, and incredibly comfortable. Maintaining a posture that does little or nothing to affect a pilot's driving.

Making it a comfortable bike for two people on long trips.



Photo: [lifewelove](#)

Loaded with luggage

My title "Luggage/Soft" indicated that this model had multiple attach points. As a result of this point and the well-packaged load, there is no strange behavior either on road or offroad.



Photo: [lifewelove](#)

Luggage



Soft

There is no doubt that we can find a wide variety of soft luggage on the market.

In my case, I used the “Rhino-walk” Multifunctional Motorcycle Bag model, which has a capacity of 10/20/30 L.

There are several points where the bags can be attached, which makes packing the bike easier.

Rigid

On this motorbike there are already racks for rigid luggage, which is a positive feature. Fortunately, we don't have to look far to be able to find several brands, sizes and prices on the market. The best-selling brands are [Touratech](#), [SW-Motech](#) and [Givi](#).

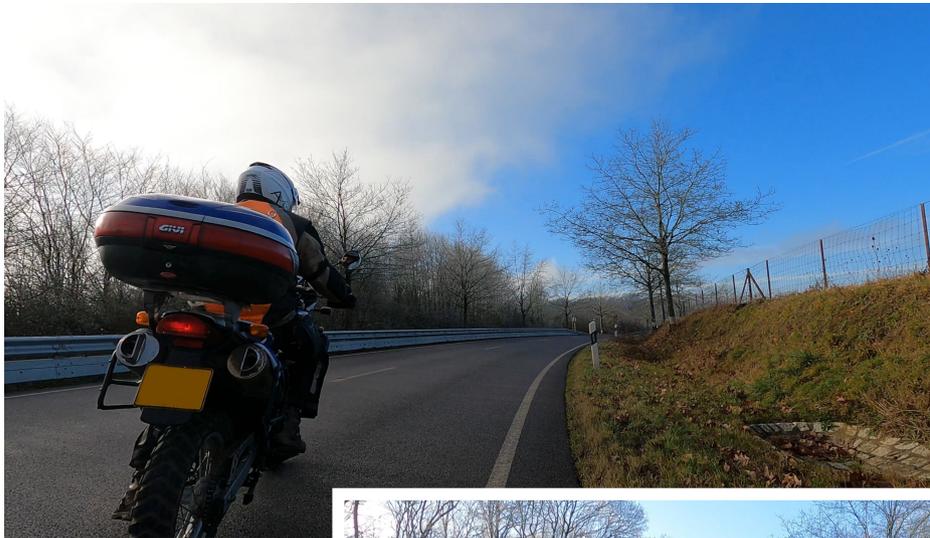


Types of tracks

Road

The model is designated GS, which stands for Gelände/Straße (German for off-road/road). The motobike, it is prepared for all types of terrain, and of course, it also performs very well on roads. The motobike has no trouble entering curves, without wallowing inside them.

Even though it is not a very nervous bike, it has the necessary power to accelerate.



Off-road

The right tires allow us to let our imagination run wild. Destiny is not our final destination.

Because the motorbike is light and agile, we are able to easily maneuver in the toughest of terrain conditions.



Technical sheet

Make Model	BMW F 650GS Dakar
Year	2003
Engine	Four stroke, single cylinder, DOHC, 4 valves per cylinder
Capacity	652 cc / 39.8 cub. in.
Bore x Stroke	100 x 83mm
Compression Ratio	11.5:1
Cooling	Liquid cooled
Induction	Fuel induction
Throttle	Cable operated
Lubrication	Wet sump
Ignition	Capacitor Discharge Ignition system
Alternator	Three-phase alternator 400W
Battery	12V / 12Ah
Starting	Electric
Max Power	37.3 kW / 50 hp @ 6800 rpm
Max Torque	60 Nm / 6.12 kgf-m / 44.25 lb-ft. @ 5200 rpm
Clutch	Multiple-disc clutch in oil bath, mechanically operated
Transmission	5 Speed
Final Drive	Chain
Frame	Bridge-type steel section frame with bolted-on rear section
Front Suspension	41mm Telescopic fork with stabilizer bridge

Front Wheel Travel	210 mm / 8.3 in.
Rear Suspension	Spring setting and rebound stage damping continuously adjustable
Rear Wheel Travel	210 mm / 8.3 in.
Front Brakes	Single 300mm disc, 2 piston caliper
Rear Brakes	Single 240mm disc, 1 piston caliper
Wheels	Wire spoke wheels
Rims, front	1.60 x 21
Rims, rear	3.00 x 17
Front Tyre	90/90 S21
Rear Tyre	130/80-17
Castor	123 mm / 4.8 in.
Steering Head Angle	60.8°
Dimensions	<i>Length:</i> 2189 mm / 86.2 in. <i>Width:</i> (incl. mirrors) 910 mm / 35.8 in.
Wheelbase	1479 mm / 58.2 in.
Seat Height	870 mm / 34.3 in
Dry Weight	176 kg / 388 lbs.
Wet Weight	191 kg / 421.1 lbs.
Fuel Capacity	17.3 Litres / 4.6 US gal.
Reserve Approx.	4.5 Litres / 1.2 US gal.
Consumption Average	4.7 l/100 km / 60.5 mph
Tank Range	370.2 kms / 230 miles
Standing ¼ Mile	14.4 sec
Top Speed	172 km/h / 106.9 US mpg



MotoCamping Luxembourg



(click here)

Motorbike: [David's garage](#)

Text: *Padilha Fernandes*

Photographer: *Padilha Fernandes*

Image: *IStock*