

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

27 February 2007

NEW HONDA VARADERO 125 IS IN THE SHOPS!

Honda's new-for-2007 Varadero has just been released and is now in the shops.

The XL125V has been a popular machine since it was first launched in 2001 and has been a firm favourite with learners and commuters ever since. It has also proven to be especially popular among the older more affluent and experienced riders who appreciate its superior value and build quality. The combination of a quiet, efficient 125cc four-stroke V-twin engine mated to a confidence inspiring chassis and big-bike dimensions has, understandably, made it a winner for many riders in the UK.

2007's new model Varadero has a host of new features that will improve upon the original's success. The major modifications include the use of an environment-friendly and frugal fuel-injection system complete with Honda's advanced HECS3 low-emissions system and new styling from wheel-to-wheel. Despite looking smaller in size, the wind-tunnel-derived top-fairing offers even more protection from the elements for riders of any size, while the tapered rear-end is finished off with the high-mounted off-road-styled exhaust.

New design dual headlights add to the sleeker look, as well as offering improved visibility of the road ahead at night. Behind sits an updated dash, featuring a large, fully electronic speedo and rev-counter, while an LCD panel in the centre houses the odometer and dual trip meters, a clock and an analogue temperature gauge.

Carrying capacity is impressive, featuring under-seat storage capable of carrying gloves, tool kit and other items. Meanwhile a U-lock carrier is also under the pillion seat. The spacious rear carrier can be used with the optional 45-litre top-box, while other official Honda optional parts include heated grips, centre-stand, a protective resin engine undercowl, U-lock and waterproof cover.

The latest 2007 Varadero costs £3499 on the road and comes in chevalier silver, pearl concours black and bloom red metallic and is available from Honda dealers now.

For details of your nearest dealer, simply go to www.honda.co.uk/motorcycles/ and hit the dealer search button.

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Notes to editors:

Honda is the only current motorcycle signatory of The Road Safety Charter. The charter was originally discussed in the White Paper on European Transport Policy, approved by the European Commission on 12th September 2001 as part of the major objective to halve the number of road deaths in the European Union by 2010. The Charter is an element of the European Road Safety Action Programme, adopted in June 2003, which encourages road users to drive and ride more responsibly, to make vehicles safer and to improve road infrastructure. Each year nearly 50,000 people are killed on Europe's roads in the 25 Member States and according to CARE (EU Road Accident Database) some 17% of all fatalities are motorcyclists (motorcycles, scooters, mopeds). Honda R&D Europe President, Yasuhisa Maekawa signed the treaty in Dublin on the 6th April 2004 and committed the company to a significant increase in the availability of its Advanced Braking Systems, an important safety development for motorcycles, mopeds and scooters. By 2007, the majority of its products will be equipped with these systems.

Note 2: Honda's commitment to safety includes the use of the new Bike Trainer, which they hope to have in every dealer within the next three years and the fact that Honda aim to have advanced braking systems on ALL their models from 2007. For information on Honda's commitment to both safety and the charter, go to: www.mcvpo.honda-eu.com/en/news/news0000001.jsp

Note 3: In statistics released by the Department of Transport, motorcycle casualties in the UK are at their lowest for seven years. The last year has seen a 10 per cent reduction in the overall number of motorcycle casualties, with a 13 per cent reduction in the number of seriously injured on Britain's roads and a further 16 per cent reduction in the number of fatalities. The number of miles travelled by motorcyclists has increased by 37 per cent since 2003, showing that motorcycling is getting safer mile-by-mile. For more details go to: <http://www.mcia.co.uk>

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