

Terra Nova Laser Competition 1

£330

www.terra-nova.co.uk

0.93kg

The Terra Nova Laser Competition 1 is to many people synonymous with the lightweight one-man tent, and we can see why. Every part of the tent is dedicated to saving weight, from the bin-bag thin material to the micro-thin pegs, the string-like guy ropes and the minimalist (yet effective) tensioners on the guys.

The Laser Competition 1 is fairly easy to put up, with one centre pole and two built-in 40cm poles at each end. You need to peg out the inner groundsheet and outer tent together which is a little tricky at first but simple once you've got the hang of it.

The tent comes with an optional 'pole hood' – a protective, water-proof cover that ties on over the centre pole. This is because the material used to make the tent is so light that the seams can't be taped in the conventional way, but once the pole hood is on (easy to do as long as your hands aren't cold) the tent is fully waterproof, as the other seams are positioned so they aren't over the inner tent. And if you know the weather isn't going to be too appalling, it's another few grammes you can leave behind.

All this weight saving hasn't come at the expense of space. There's just about room to sit up in the Laser Competition 1, and there was good head and foot clearance even for our 6ft 2" tester when lying down with some extra space at the sides too; we reckon you'll only start to be cramped if you're 6ft 4" or taller. And there is enough room in the porch for a 75-litre rucksack, or to cook

some food if you had to. Another thing that makes the tent feel roomy is its colour – a bright yellow on the inside which stops it feeling too cramped and claustrophobic. Terra Nova claims the tent is suitable for one or two people – we'd only advise two if you know the other

person exceedingly well.

The tent has good ventilation, something that Terra Nova improved on it in 2011. You can ventilate by rolling up the flysheet at either end; the inner door is also about half mesh.

The tent is pretty sturdy and there's a good gap between the outer and the inner tents. The groundsheet doesn't come that far up the sides of the tent, but far enough. There are no pockets or hanging loops, but that's to be expected from a tent this light, and if there's only one of you there's a limit to how far your stuff can go anyway. We would like to have seen a pole repair kit included though.

In conclusion this is an impressively light

AT
RATING:
9 OUT OF 10

BEST
IN
TEST

tent that will stand up to all but the most serious conditions; whatever the weather we'd feel happier swapping the pin-like pegs for some studier options though.

In a line: A seriously light weight tent with a surprising amount of space

Features

Weight:	10
Pack size:	10
Space:	8
Ease of pitching:	7
Value for money:	8
Overall	9



Lots of room when you're lying down



Terrifyingly small pegs



Good ventilation point