

BISTOLI TAKE DOWN GUN CASE

I was going past the ACTA office and called in to see Chris Gibson. During our conversation, he asked 'Can you write?' I replied 'Yes I learnt at High School, [I was a slow learner]'.

'Well look behind you and write me a review on it !!' IT being a magnificent Bistoli Gun case.

I took it home, opened it up in the morning, BIG mistake. At -2°C, it was hard to manipulate key around the solid leather handle and into lock, but I managed. Later in the day when the weather warmed, it was quite easy. I am thinking that it was only the cold weather and newness/stiffness of handle, and old stiff fingers. Once opened I was more than impressed with what lay before me.

This case is made in China, and is of a green covered canvas and wood construction 10mm thick as well as 10mm dividers, with solid leather external end strip and corner protectors. All leather is of generous proportions and hand stitched and rivetted where required. Inside the compartments are covered in green bias felt and padded. All workmanship appears to be of top quality. I was told by the importer that the lid is fitted with a piano type hinge, but could not verify because it is excellently sealed.

The case is fitted with leather straps that are rivetted to the bottom of the case, to hold the barrels and stock in place. The heads of the rivets are covered and fitted with Velcro strips to fasten the barrels and stock in place. Measurement of the case are 865 x 265 x 85mm, which will accommodate most all guns, be they Under and Over or the side x side variety with barrels up to 80cms or 31 inches long. In the barrel section there are

two removable spacers for different length barrels. There is also a good size inlet to house the dolls head or cross bolt lug on the SxS barrels if needed. One thing that did catch my attention was that the solid leather handle is attached to the hinge pieces with a screw instead of a rivet. This would make it easier for replacement or cleaning/dressing.

All leather appears to be oiled as are the straps that go around the entire case at each end. Inside the case there is a generous sized compartment for cleaning gear, etc with a hinged lid, this will stop losing it or dropping/misplacing it. There is also provision for two snap caps. The compartment for the stock should accommodate stocks up to 16" [400mm] L.O.P easily. I can see no reason why this excellent case could not house a 20 or 16 gauge gun for those who need this. A solid, sturdy brass lock keeps the lid secure, with the key kept in its own neat little key fob. Only one key of brass construction, was supplied with review case. Another interesting thing is the Bistoli leather name tag which is attached by a small buckle, it could also be used for an emergency toe rest, when you leave yours at home.

I took this case with me to two different shooting events, one being the local SSAA shotgun event, with a Fabarm Max Luxus, 30" barrel and extended chokes, and also to Barellan Clay Target

club's monthly shoot, with a 30" T1 Perazzi. All shooters were suitably impressed when they seen it and examined it.

As well as this model [SGC 6000CL] case, there is a larger model SGC 5000PU, which is suitable only for Under/Over type shotguns and will accommodate longer barrels. There are also case covers available from the importer/supplier. Case was supplied by TEZNIK Importers of Sydney.



The Gun case reviewed above, has been offered as a prize to CTSN readers. In 25 words or less please tell us why you believe the gun case best suits you. Entries close on February 9th and the winner will be announced in the April CTSN. The gun case was kindly donated by the importers TEZNIK, of Sydney. They can be contacted through the ACTA or on their website, teznik.com.au.