

Electric Bicycles for Today's Students

By Douglas Schwartz

From the beginning of the last century until the mid 1960's bicycles was the main source of transportation for people under 21 years old. In the 1960's and until recently once a person turned 16 and got a driver's license, these former riders changed their perception of bikes from being used for transportation to being only good for use to exercise or for recreation.



While teens in the US were making the transition from bicycles to cars, the rest of the world still considers bicycles for transportation as well as for exercise and recreation.

With the increase in the cost of; gas, insurance premiums for drivers under 21, auto registration fees, and parking restrictions or limited or no parking at many schools and colleges, students and parents of students exploring other transportation options.

With the dawn of the 21 century one mode of transportation has grown faster than any other group; the electric bicycle. Last year alone 25 million electric bicycles we sold in China. In the Netherlands in 2010 electric bicycles outsold bicycles and



cars combined.

Here are 10 reasons why the modern electric bicycle is the perfect vehicle for 16-21 year olds.

1. Low cost to purchase, operation and maintain
2. No license, registration, or insurance required
3. Parking is not an issue
4. Many electric bikes can be used in conjunction with other forms of transportation such as busses or trains
5. Electric bikes can also be peddled like a standard bike so the rider can get as much or as little exercise as desired and they will never get stranded if they run out of battery charge
6. Modern electric bikes are stylish and are fun to ride
7. With the addition of racks and panniers, electric bikes can carry everything from lap tops to laundry and groceries with little effort
8. Electric bike riders can wear street clothes instead of exercise clothes since they will arrive at their destination fresh even with hills and headwinds to overcome
9. Most students today are deeply concerned with protecting the enviroment. Few modes of transportation are cleaner or greener than electric bicycles
10. Riding an electric bicycle is safer than driving a car for teens.



Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for US teens, accounting for more than one in three deaths in the 16-19 age groups. In 2009 3,000 teens 15-19 were killed in motor vehicle accidents and more than 350,000 suffered injuries. Per mile driven teen drivers are four times more likely to crash than older drivers.* In the same year for all ages from 6 to 80 years old, only 630 bicyclists died and 51,000 were injured. **

Like cars, electric bicycles come in all shapes and sizes. Some are designed for folding to take on mass transit, fit into car trunks or into dorm rooms, others are built for commuting and cruising and still others are designed for rugged use and power to climb hills.

Electric bicycles range from \$450 at the low end with sealed lead acid batteries and big box store quality components to \$3,500 for electric bicycles with Lithium-ion batteries, powerful motors and top bicycle components.

The best way to select the right electric bicycle is to go to a store that specializes in electric bicycles and that offers a variety of bicycles to test ride.



Electric bicycles are also perfect for the parents of students and seniors. They are a great way to spend time together while getting fresh air and exercise.

For more information on electric bicycles visit:

www.elvmotors.com

*Center for Disease Control **
National Highway Traffic Safety
administration

Always wear a helmet when riding. Riders in photos above

are models riding in controlled areas for photographs.



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