



Reviewed by: roadbike.de  
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## ROADBIKE CHECK: SCOPE R4D CARBON WHEELS

*Young Dutch brand Scope offers high-end carbon wheels for a reasonable price. RoadBIKE has taken the R4d model to the laboratory and has also tested it intensively on the road.*

In 2013, Nieck Busser and Rik Kusters, two young Dutchmen with roots in cycling, founded Scope Cycling. Their goal was, and still is, to develop carbon wheels that meet the highest standards, with the development process being based on a scientific approach. All wheels are available online and sold worldwide at a fair price. The brand's range includes four wheelsets. All models, three road wheelsets (both

rim and disc brakes) and one off-road disc brake wheelset, have the same price: 1398,00 EUR.

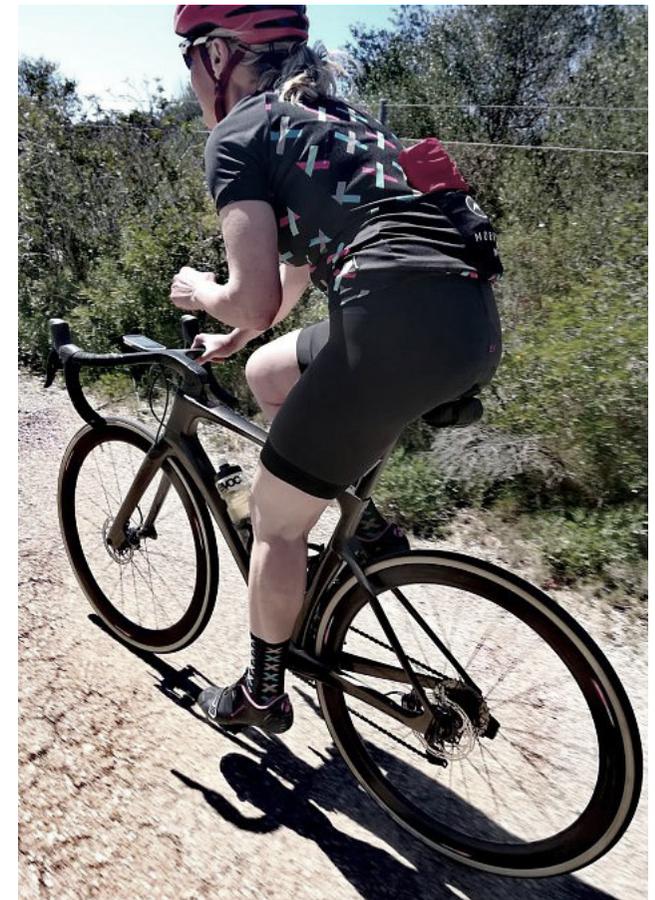
All Scope wheelsets are developed in close cooperation with the Eindhoven University of Technology and the Delft University of Technology, with a special focus on optimizing the aerodynamics and the carbon lay-ups. The development process starts with CFD simulations to define how rim profiles that are insensitive to crosswinds. Based on their findings, Scope then produces prototypes to verify the findings in the nearby Flanders Bike Valley wind-tunnel. The main goal of this development process is to find the most optimal rim shapes for aerodynamic advantages and to build wheels that perform well in any condition, even in crosswinds. Further, Scope aims to combine these features with the lowest possible weight and a high lateral stiffness.

Their success proves Busser and Kusters right: After growing their network in the Benelux, Scope wheels are now available in over 30 countries. Reason enough for RoadBIKE to put one of the brand's models through its paces.

### TESTING THE SCOPE R4D

The disc brake model of the R4 is equipped with a 45 millimeter deep and 26 millimeter wide rim. The rim bed measures 19 millimeters. The front wheel is

laced up with 21 Sapim CX-Sprint spokes, while the rear wheel uses 24 spokes of the same model and a 2:1 spoke pattern. Like all Scope wheels the R4 are tubeless-ready. On the brand's website one can find an overview of a variety of tubeless tires Scope





has tested its wheels with. Besides information on mounting, tire pressures etc. the brand also mentions Schwalbe's Pro One as recommended tire for its wheels. Continental's new GP 5000 TL is not yet listed on the website.

In the RoadBIKE laboratory, the R4d incl. tubeless rimtape weighed 1.653 grams (FW 755 grams, RW 898 grams). The built is neat and impeccable. Both front and rear wheel are perfectly centered. The front wheel offers 85 Nm/°, the rear wheel 81 Nm/° of lateral stiffness.

In our comparison review from September 2018 (RoadBIKE 09/2018) this would have given the Scope wheels a spot right next to models from DT Swiss and Mavic, ahead of models from Enve, Reynolds, and Zipp.

Our impression on the road is in line with our laboratory results. We have been using the R4d wheelset for a mere 2.000 kilometers so far. Our art director Dagmar Behringer has used them the most, both during the winter months in Germany and during a recent training camp in Mallorca. Problems or malfunctions: none. Instead, the wheelset performs flawlessly. The wheels are easy to accelerate and once brought up to speed, they easily keep you going; also with the standard SKF bearings (Scope offers CeramicSpeed bearings as an upgrade option). Behringer was especially impressed by the handling of the R4d: *"In the past, there have been a fair share of aero wheelsets that have let me down in crosswinds. Not so the Scope wheels. Cornering on them feels like riding in rails, and, so far, crosswinds have not been an issue at all."*

## VERDICT

The lab results and riding impressions are convincing. Furthermore, the wheels impress with their appearance (especially since Scope offers custom decals on their website). Altogether, the wheels leave a great impression, a promising debut from the young Dutch brand. RoadBIKE will continue to test the R4d and keep you up-to-date with how they perform.

The original review was published in German.

Weight (RoadBIKE check)	1.653 g
Centered	yes
Lateral runout FW	0,18 mm*
Lateral runout RW	0,14 mm*
Lateral stiffness FW	85 Nm/°
Lateral stiffness RW	81 Nm/°
Rim depth	45 mm
Rim width	26 mm
Rimbed width	19 mm
Tubeless	yes
Freehub	Shimano/Sram or Campagnolo
Bearings	SKF (Ceramic Speed upgrade for 500 EUR)
Price:	1.398 EUR