

World's Leading Bike Magazine

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# Bicycling®

*The 2010  
Buyer's Guide*



## Road

enthusiast

↑  
ATTACK  
ANYTHING  
FROM CLUB  
RIDES TO  
WEEKEND  
RACING

**SIZES:** 52, 54 (tested), 56, 57, 58.5cm **WEIGHT:** 15.75 lb. (54cm) **FRAME:** Mitsubishi and Toray carbon fiber **FORK:** Edge Composites carbon fiber **COMPONENT HIGHLIGHTS:** Shimano Ultegra brake/shift levers, derailleurs, crankset (50/34), brakes; SRAM cassette (11-26); FSA OS 99 stem and Wing Pro Compact handlebar; Mavic Ksyrium Elite wheels; Vittoria Rubino Pro tires



BUY IT:

IF YOU  
SEEK HIGH  
PERFORMANCE,  
A REFINED RIDE  
AND GOOD  
VALUE IN EQUAL  
MEASURE



FORGET IT:

IF YOU  
THINK OF  
YOURSELF AS A  
SPECIALIST—  
A BEEFY  
SPRINTER OR  
LITHE CLIMBER

**BH G5 ULTEGRA → \$4,599**

Racers might describe this bike—BH's top G5 frame with new Shimano Ultegra and tried-and-true Mavic Ksyrium Elite wheels—as a workhorse. The rest of us, who don't race but like to push ourselves on rides of various terrain and length, would say the G5 Ultegra is a thoroughbred. Depending on your perspective, this bike is a racy workhorse or a durable thoroughbred.

The G5 frame debuted last summer with the AG2R team in the Tour de France. Remember the young Italian, Rinaldo Nocentini, climbing his way into the yellow jersey, then keeping it for eight days until relinquishing it for good to Alberto Contador? The shapely G5 frame is yellow-jersey good, with stiffness in all the right places so it leaps forward under power, a light weight (BH claims 810 grams for a 54cm) and rider position that help you soar up climbs. It has the kind of balanced mien that enabled us to aggressively maneuver through a pack, but also holds a line well and never beat us up with road buzz, even on three-plus-hour rides.

BH, which stands for Beistegui hermanos (brothers) and has been a bike company in Spain's Basque region since 1909, also offers higher-end build kits for the G5—with SRAM Red up to Shimano Di2 electric, for \$6,599 to \$9,699. The Ultegra build is enticing not just for the price but for the high performance-per-dollar it delivers. Even in a pack full of bikes with top-end components, we don't feel outmatched on the excellent 2010 Ultegra. And we have an old set of Mavic Ksyrium Elite wheels that have gone more than 5,000 hard miles and never needed truing. For hard-riding, nonracing enthusiasts this level of spec is ideal for its reliability and durability, and when paired with a frame and fork this good creates a winning package.—Loren Mooney

**A HORSE  
WORTH  
BETTING ON**