

# **1996 Yamaha Trailway Tw200 Model Years 1987 1999**

## **1996 Yamaha Trailway TW200: A Deep Dive into the 1987-1999 Model Years**

The Yamaha TW200, a dual-sport motorcycle known for its unique fat-tire design and reliable engine, enjoyed a long and successful production run from 1987 to 1999. This article delves into the nuances of this iconic model, specifically focusing on the 1996 Yamaha Trailway TW200 and its place within the broader context of the model's history, encompassing key features, modifications across

the years, and common maintenance considerations. Understanding the differences across these thirteen years of production is crucial for prospective buyers and seasoned owners alike.

## **Understanding the Yamaha TW200's Legacy (1987-1999)**

The Yamaha TW200, often referred to as the "Trailway" in some markets, isn't your typical dirt bike or street bike. Its distinctive wide, low-pressure tires give it unparalleled traction on various terrains, from loose sand and mud to paved roads. This versatility made it a popular choice among commuters, recreational riders, and off-road enthusiasts. The model's simplicity and reliability, particularly in models like the 1996 Yamaha Trailway TW200, further cemented its reputation. The consistent air-cooled, single-cylinder engine proved incredibly durable, requiring minimal maintenance for many years.

Throughout its production run (1987-1999), the TW200 underwent subtle but significant changes. These changes often focused on minor upgrades to

the carburetor, suspension, and aesthetics. While the core design remained consistent, understanding these year-to-year variations is essential for assessing a specific model's features and potential needs. For instance, the later models, such as the 1996 Yamaha Trailway TW200, often benefited from refinements that improved handling and rider comfort.

### **The 1996 Yamaha TW200: A Mid-Production Highlight**

The 1996 Yamaha TW200 represents a mature point in the model's evolution. By this point, Yamaha had addressed many of the early model's quirks, resulting in a refined and reliable motorcycle. This model year often benefits from improved carburetor settings leading to better throttle response and fuel efficiency compared to its earlier counterparts. Furthermore, the 1996 model often showcases improved suspension components leading to better stability and comfort on varied terrains. The 1996 model year thus frequently appears on "best of" lists for used TW200s. This is partially due to its refinement and partly due to the availability of parts.

### **Key Features of the 1996 TW200:**

- Reliable air-cooled, single-cylinder engine – This workhorse engine is known for its longevity and ease of maintenance.
- Unique fat-tire design – Offering superior traction on diverse surfaces.
- Lightweight chassis – Making it nimble and easy to handle.
- Simple design – Minimizing complexity and enhancing reliability. This simplicity also translates to easier maintenance and repairs, reducing the overall cost of ownership.

## **Maintenance and Common Issues: Yamaha TW200 (All Years)**

Like any motorcycle, regular maintenance is crucial for extending the life of your Yamaha TW200, regardless of model year. Regular oil changes, air filter replacements, and carburetor cleaning are paramount to keeping the engine running smoothly. A common issue across all years is carburetor tuning – this is often affected by altitude and

temperature – so learning how to properly adjust your carburetor can significantly improve performance and fuel economy. Tire maintenance is also particularly important due to the unique wide tires.

Regular inspection of the chain and sprockets is essential to prevent premature wear and tear. Addressing these aspects of maintenance proactively will significantly extend the life and reliability of your TW200. Many online forums and communities dedicated to the TW200 offer valuable insights and troubleshooting advice from experienced owners.

## **Yamaha TW200 Modifications and Upgrades: Unleashing its Potential**

The Yamaha TW200's simplicity makes it an excellent platform for modifications and upgrades. Owners often customize their bikes to enhance performance, comfort, or aesthetics. Popular upgrades include aftermarket exhaust systems for improved sound and potentially slight performance

gains, upgraded suspension components for enhanced handling, and various aesthetic modifications, such as different seats or handlebars, to improve rider comfort and style. These modifications allow owners to tailor their TW200 to their specific riding style and preferences, transforming a simple commuter into a personalized adventure machine.

### **Conclusion: The Enduring Appeal of the Yamaha TW200**

The Yamaha TW200, spanning its production years from 1987 to 1999, stands as a testament to simple, reliable design. While subtle changes occurred across the model years, the core concept of a versatile, durable, and easy-to-maintain motorcycle remained consistent. The 1996 Yamaha Trailway TW200, in particular, represents a refined version of this iconic machine, combining the best aspects of its predecessors with improvements in handling and performance. Whether you're a seasoned rider or a novice looking for an affordable and reliable motorcycle, the Yamaha TW200 remains a compelling choice, offering a unique riding

experience for years to come.

## **FAQ: Yamaha TW200 (1987-1999)**

### **Q1: What is the average lifespan of a Yamaha TW200 engine?**

A1: With proper maintenance, a Yamaha TW200 engine can easily last for many tens of thousands of miles. Many examples have well over 50,000 miles on their original engines. Neglecting regular oil changes and air filter maintenance will drastically reduce engine lifespan.

### **Q2: Are parts readily available for older TW200 models like the 1987 or 1996 versions?**

A2: While some parts for the older models may be harder to find than for more recent motorcycles, many parts are still readily available through online retailers, motorcycle salvage yards, and specialized Yamaha parts suppliers. Many parts are also interchangeable across various model years.

**Q3: How does the 1996 TW200 compare to later models (1997-1999)?**

A3: The differences between the 1996 and later models are relatively minor. Later models may have subtle suspension or carburetor adjustments. However, the core functionality and design remain largely the same, with the 1996 model being a reliable and highly sought-after variant.

**Q4: What are the common problems associated with the TW200?**

A4: Common issues include carburetor problems (requiring cleaning or adjustment), chain and sprocket wear, and occasional electrical issues. Regular maintenance can significantly mitigate these problems.

**Q5: Is the Yamaha TW200 a good motorcycle for beginners?**

A5: Yes, the TW200's lightweight design, manageable power, and forgiving nature make it an excellent choice for beginners. Its simple mechanics also make it easy to learn basic motorcycle maintenance.

**Q6: What type of riding is the TW200 best suited for?**

A6: The TW200 excels in a variety of settings, from commuting on paved roads to light off-road riding on trails and unpaved paths. Its versatility makes it an ideal choice for those who seek a balance between on and off-road riding capabilities.

**Q7: What is the fuel efficiency of a Yamaha TW200?**

A7: The TW200 is known for its excellent fuel economy, typically achieving over 70 miles per gallon, making it a cost-effective option for both short and long journeys.

**Q8: How much does a used 1996 Yamaha TW200 typically cost?**

A8: The price of a used 1996 Yamaha TW200 varies greatly depending on condition, mileage, and modifications. Expect to pay anywhere from \$1500 to \$3500, with well-maintained examples at the higher end of that range. Always thoroughly inspect any used motorcycle before purchasing.

## **Riding the Trail: A Deep Dive into the Yamaha TW200 (1987-1999)**

The Yamaha TW200, a legendary motorcycle produced from 1987 to 1999, holds a unique place in the minds of many riders. This durable dual-sport machine, often depicted as a versatile workhorse, carved a position for itself in the world unlike any other. This article will delve into the development of the TW200 across its production run, emphasizing its main features and assessing its enduring appeal.

The TW200's distinctive design, characterized by its fat, wide tires, instantly differentiates it from other motorcycles of its era. This non-traditional choice wasn't merely an aesthetic decision ; it provided remarkable traction on different terrains, from hard roads to rough trails. This potential to smoothly switch between paved and trail riding was a considerable selling point for many potential buyers. Imagine it as a shapeshifter of the motorcycle world, adjusting seamlessly to whatever task the road or trail presented .

The heart of the TW200, a dependable air-cooled single-cylinder engine, is an example to Yamaha's engineering prowess. Its straightforwardness of design translated into outstanding reliability and straightforwardness of maintenance. Unlike more intricate engines, the TW200's motor was comparatively straightforward to repair, making it a favored choice for economical riders and those who appreciated practical maintenance. This characteristic contributed significantly to its longevity in the motorcycle world.

While the specific details varied slightly across the years (1987-1999), the fundamental blueprint remained consistent. The year in question, for instance, represented a refined iteration of the TW200, profiting from years of improvement. It kept the essential strengths of its antecedents while including subtle enhancements. This consistent design approach contributed to its enduring allure.

One of the highly praised aspects of the TW200 was its capacity to navigate an extensive range of situations. Its compact seat height made it convenient to riders of all sizes, while its light frame made it straightforward to handle in cramped spaces. This versatility allowed it to thrive as both a

everyday motorcycle and an dirt adventure machine.

The heritage of the Yamaha TW200 extends far beyond its lifespan . Its unpretentious yet effective design motivated many subsequent motorcycle designs, and it continues to be a popular motorcycle among aficionados today. Its dependability , robustness , and adaptability make it an excellent choice for entry-level riders or anyone seeking a straightforward motorcycle that can handle almost anything.

In conclusion, the Yamaha TW200 (1987-1999), and the 1996 model in particular, represents a significant achievement in motorcycle design. Its unique blend of trail capability and everyday practicality created a niche for itself that persists to this day, making it a truly timeless icon.

### **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):**

**1. Q: Are parts for the Yamaha TW200 still readily available?**

**A:** Yes, many parts are still obtainable , though some may be more difficult to find than others depending on the specific part and the year. Online

vendors and dedicated motorcycle parts suppliers are your best options .

**2. Q: Is the TW200 a good motorcycle for beginners?**

**A:** Absolutely! Its short seat height, lightweight design, and easy handling make it perfect for beginner riders.

**3. Q: What kind of maintenance does a TW200 require?**

**A:** The TW200 is relatively low-maintenance . Regular oil replacements , air filter maintenance, and chain lubrication are crucial for keeping it in top shape .

**4. Q: How does the 1996 model compare to other years?**

**A:** The 1996 model represents a enhanced version of the TW200, benefiting from several minor improvements accumulated over the previous production years. It's generally considered a very dependable and popular year.

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