GENERAL

2014 honda gold wing valkyrie horsepower

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Introduction

The 2014 Honda Gold Wing Valkyrie is a legendary touring motorcycle that captured the hearts of riders worldwide. Renowned for its smooth V4 engine, advanced electronics, and unparalleled comfort, the Gold Wing Valkyrie set a new benchmark for long distance riding in the mid 2010s. One of the most discussed aspects of this machine is its **2014 honda gold wing valkyrie horsepower**—a figure that not only defines its performance but also shapes the riding experience for enthusiasts and commuters alike. In this article, we will explore every facet of the Gold Wing Valkyrie's power, from the raw numbers to how they translate into real world performance, maintenance, and value. Whether you're a seasoned rider, a prospective buyer, or just curious about motorcycle horsepower, this guide will give you a thorough understanding of the 2014 model's engine prowess.

1. The 2014 Honda Gold Wing Valkyrie at a Glance

Released in 2014, the Gold Wing Valkyrie was the flagship touring bike in Honda's lineup. It combined a 1,200 cc V4 engine with a host of modern features—an advanced suspension system, a 12 speed transmission, and a suite of electronic aids such as traction control and a touchscreen display. The Valkyrie's design was more aggressive than its predecessors, with a slightly lower seat height and a more aerodynamic fairing. This model was the first to offer a 12 speed gearbox, which helped smooth out power delivery and improved fuel economy.

Key Specifications

- Engine: 1,200 cc, liquid cooled, V4
- Horsepower: 115 hp (at 6,500 rpm)
- Torque: 90 lb ft (at 4,500 rpm)
- Transmission: 12 speed
- Weight: 1,165 lbs (dry)
- Top Speed: Approximately 120 mph

2. Engine and Powertrain Details

2.1 Engine Architecture

The heart of the Valkyrie is its 1,200 cc, four stroke, liquid cooled V4 engine. Honda engineered this unit to deliver a blend of power and smoothness that is rare in touring motorcycles. The V4 configuration allows for a compact design while still providing ample displacement for high torque output. The engine features dual overhead camshafts and a 5.5 inch bore, contributing to efficient airflow and combustion.

2.2 Horsepower and Torque Breakdown

When discussing the **2014 honda gold wing valkyrie horsepower**, it's essential to understand how Honda achieved 115 hp. The engine's power curve is relatively flat, delivering strong torque from low to mid rpm ranges. The peak horsepower of 115 hp is reached at around 6,500 rpm, while peak torque of 90 lb ft occurs near 4,500 rpm. This characteristic makes the bike feel powerful even at lower speeds, which is crucial for touring and highway cruising.

2.3 Performance Characteristics

The Valkyrie's powertrain is designed to provide effortless acceleration and a wide usable range. The 12 speed gearbox, with close ratios, ensures that the engine stays within its optimal power band, especially during long rides. The bike's rear wheel speed and the engine's torque curve mean that acceleration from 0 to 60 mph takes approximately 5.5 seconds—an impressive figure for a touring motorcycle. The power delivery is smooth, reducing the need for frequent gear changes and allowing riders to focus on the road.

3. Horsepower in Context

3.1 Comparison with Other Gold Wing Models

Within Honda's Gold Wing family, the Valkyrie sits above the 2013 Gold Wing but below the newer 2019 and 2021 models. The 2013 model produced 110 hp, while the 2019 version increased to 115 hp but with a slightly different tuning. The 2021 Valkyrie, for instance, maintains the 115 hp figure but incorporates a more refined intake system for better low end torque. When compared to the 2014 Gold Wing Classic, which has 110 hp, the Valkyrie's 115 hp gives it a subtle edge in top end performance and a more aggressive acceleration profile.

3.2 Benchmarking Against Competing Touring Bikes

In the broader touring motorcycle market, the 2014 Gold Wing Valkyrie competes with models such as the Harley Davidson Electra Glide, the Yamaha Star Venture, and the BMW K 1600 GT. The Electra Glide delivers around 118 hp, while the Star Venture offers 100 hp. BMW's K 1600 GT tops the chart at 165 hp but comes with a heavier weight and a different riding position. The Valkyrie's 115 hp places it comfortably in the mid range of touring power, offering a balance between performance and fuel economy that appeals to long haul riders.

4. Riding Experience

4.1 Acceleration and Top Speed

Thanks to its 115 hp output, the 2014 Gold Wing Valkyrie can accelerate from 0 to 60 mph in just over five seconds. While the bike's top speed is electronically limited to 120 mph, most riders rarely need to push beyond 100 mph on highways. The power is available early, making lane changes and passing maneuvers smooth and confident.

4.2 Handling and Stability

The Valkyrie's power is complemented by a well tuned suspension and a low center of gravity. The front suspension uses a 41 mm fork with adjustable preload, while the rear uses a single shock with a 60 mm swingarm. These components absorb bumps and maintain traction, even when the bike is fully loaded. The power delivery is smooth enough that the motorcycle feels stable at high speeds, providing a sense of security for riders traveling long distances.

4.3 Comfort and Ergonomics

One of the key selling points of the Valkyrie is its ergonomic design. The seat height is lowered by 1 inch compared to the Classic, making it more accessible for riders of various statures. The forward leaning riding position reduces wind fatigue, and the seat is padded with a high density foam that supports long rides. The 115 hp output, combined with a relaxed torque curve, means the rider can cruise without constantly shifting gears, further enhancing comfort.

5. Modifications and Upgrades

5.1 Performance Enhancements

While the stock 115 hp is impressive, many owners look to increase power or tweak the bike's character. Common performance upgrades include:

- High flow air intake systems that improve airflow and slightly boost horsepower.
- Aftermarket exhaust systems designed for increased exhaust flow, offering a modest power increase and a more aggressive exhaust note.
- Engine tuning chips or ECU remapping, which can increase horsepower by 5–10 hp while also optimizing fuel efficiency.
- Upgraded camshafts, though these are more involved and typically require a professional installation.

5.2 Cosmetic and Comfort Mods

Beyond performance, many riders opt for cosmetic upgrades such as aftermarket saddlebags, a custom seat, or a larger windshield. While these modifications do not alter horsepower, they can affect the bike's weight distribution and aerodynamics, indirectly influencing how the power feels on the road.

6. Maintenance and Reliability

6.1 Routine Care

Maintaining a 115 hp engine requires diligent care. Key maintenance tasks include:

1. Oil Changes: Every 3,000 miles (or 6 months) with a high quality synthetic blend.
2. Filter Replacement: Air filter every 6,000 miles; oil filter every oil change.
3. Spark Plug Replacement: Every 15,000 miles or 12 months.
4. Cooling System: Flush the coolant every 24,000 miles to prevent overheating.

6.2 Common Issues

Owners have reported a few recurring issues that can affect the 2014 Gold Wing Valkyrie's performance:

- Oil consumption higher than average for touring bikes, often due to the high displacement V4 engine.
- Occasional idle irregularities caused by the dual camshaft timing chain tensioner.
- Electrical quirks such as the power steering pump's relay, which can affect steering responsiveness.

Addressing these problems early—through regular inspections and timely replacements—helps preserve the bike's horsepower and overall reliability.

7. Fuel Efficiency

Despite its 115 hp output, the Valkyrie is surprisingly efficient for a touring motorcycle. The 12 speed gearbox and the V4 engine's smooth torque curve allow the bike to cruise at around 50–55 mph on a single tank of fuel. The EPA rating is approximately 26 mpg in city conditions and 29 mpg on the highway. Riders who prioritize fuel economy can benefit from the bike's ability to maintain high power while staying within an optimal fuel consumption range.

8. Market Value and Resale

The 2014 Honda Gold Wing Valkyrie holds strong resale value due to its reputation for reliability and comfort. As of 2026, a well maintained 2014 model in good condition can fetch between $7,500 and $9,000 on the used market. Factors that influence resale price include mileage, service history, and any aftermarket modifications. Prospective buyers should look for a clean title, a detailed maintenance log, and any upgrades that enhance the bike's appeal without compromising reliability.

Conclusion

The 2014 Honda Gold Wing Valkyrie remains a standout example of touring motorcycle engineering, largely due to its 115 hp V4 engine and balanced performance characteristics. Its power output delivers smooth acceleration, a comfortable ride, and the capability to handle long distance travel with ease. While the bike's horsepower is impressive, it is the combination of power, ergonomics, and advanced electronics that truly defines the Valkyrie's appeal. Whether you're a seasoned rider looking for a reliable touring partner or a newcomer

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