

Valkyrie Genealogy

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Introduction

Have you ever wondered what all those numbers mean on your bike's data plate? OK, well probably not, but I did. I wondered whether it related some key genetic data about my bike. Did it explain why the '97 models are reportedly faster? Did it indicate anything about color, or configuration, or the day it was built, or anything else of critical importance?

All these questions got the better of me and I finally set out to solve the riddle. I went back through every magazine article I could find about the Valkyries. I talked to Honda, I began getting VIN numbers off all the bikes I could (dealers look at you funny when you do this). I searched the web, and, I nagged the membership of the Valkyrie Owners Association and the Valkyrie Riders Cruiser Club (of which I am a member) for their VIN numbers.



Mark Tobias

Admittedly, hard facts on Valkyrie production are hard to come by. There is a lot of conjecture and hearsay, but little that can be documented.

I've tried to put together everything that I've read, heard or personally observed and will try to make distinctions accordingly. It is my hope that this will become the foundation for a more complete production history of the Valkyrie. Please feel free to e-mail me any additions or corrections (rp62@comcast.net).

VIN Numbers

First of all, as the term "VIN Number" is redundant, here on out I'll just refer to it as the "VIN". The vehicle identification number (VIN) is the 17-digit number stamped on the nameplate. On North American models the nameplate is a decal on the bike's frame, on the left side of the steering head. On European models it is an aluminum plate affixed to the right side of the steering head. On some models there is no VIN plate. The VIN is however stamped into the steering head on all models and is visible from the right side. The number looks something like:

1HFSC 3404VA000123

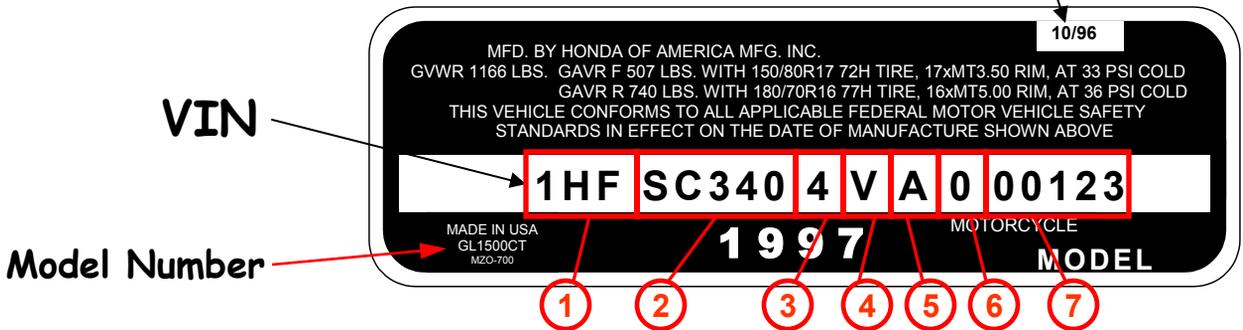
The first 11 digits represent vehicle identification information and the last 6 numbers make up the production or serial number. The vehicle identification information is broken down on the pages that follow.

The national release date for the first Valkyries was May 25, 1996 – all were 1997 models.



Data Plate (on left side of steering head – North American models)

Manufacture Date



VIN Decoding

Code	Significance	Breakdown/Remarks
① 1HF	Production Origin	1HF = motorcycle manufactured by Honda of America Mfg. in Ohio (Had the Valkyrie been manufactured in Japan, the production origin code would have been "JH2". All Valkyries however, were manufactured at the Honda plant in Marysville Ohio, USA.)
② SC340	Vehicle Description (variant)	See next page's discussion on Variants
③ 4	Check Digit	Can be the numbers 0-9 or the letter "X". This represents the result of an algorithm run against the other digits in the VIN. It is used to ensure that the VIN wasn't mis-keyed or fabricated.
④ V	Model Year	V = 1997 Y = 2000 3 = 2003 W = 1998 1 = 2001 4 = 2004 X = 1999 2 = 2002
⑤ A	Plant where the product was made	A = Marysville Motorcycle Plant in Ohio USA H = Hamamatsu Plant in Japan (not applicable in the case of Valkyries, (see 1 above.)
⑥ 0	Production Year	0 = The initial model year for each variant (Standard, Tourer or Interstate) will be a "0". On Standards and Tourers for example, 1997 models will be a "0", 1998 models, a "1" and 1999 models, a "2". For Interstates, the 1999 models will be a "0", for Runes, the 2004 models will be a "0", etc.
⑦ 00123	Serial Number	Sequential numbers - "zeroed out" with each model year and with each variant. For example, there will be a 1997 Standard 49-state model with a serial number 00001, a 1997 Standard California model with a serial number 00001, a 1998 Tourer 49- state model with a serial number 00001, etc. Just because one's bike may have serial number 00001, it doesn't mean you have the first Valkyrie built, it means you have the first of that particular variant built that year. The VIN taken in whole is unique, but serial numbers are not. It should be noted that in some variants (most notably Australian), a "5" in the first digit of the serial number is used to designate that it is a Tourer.

Variants

The vehicle description portion of the VIN (characters 4-8) are used to identify the “variant”. It essentially identifies the basic model and the build standard used for the various markets and countries for which the bike is intended.

The differences stem in part from the various state and national regulations, versions (Standard, Tourer, etc.) or options (in the case of the Rune).

Of the 5 characters in the vehicle description, the first 4 give the basic model, e.g.:

- SC34 = Valkyrie Standard and Tourer
- SC41 = Valkyrie Interstate
- SC53 = Valkyrie Rune

The 5th place character gives the build standard and as best I can determine as of this writing, they are as follows:

Variants	
Breakdown/Remarks	
SC340	= Valkyrie Standard - US 49-State models, pre-2001 (<i>some reported in Singapore</i>)
SC341	= Valkyrie Standard - US California models, pre-2001
SC342	= Valkyrie Standard - Canadian models, pre-2001 (<i>some reported in Brazil</i>)
SC346	= Valkyrie Standard - US 49-State, 2001 and on
SC347	= Valkyrie Standard - US California, 2001 and on
SC348	= Valkyrie Standard - Canadian models, 2001 and on
SC34A	= Valkyrie Standard - UK, Austrian, Belgian, French, Spanish and Swedish models
SC34B	= Valkyrie Standard - German models
SC34C	= Valkyrie Standard - Swiss models
SC34U	= Valkyrie Standard & Tourers - Australian models (<i>Standards & Tourers differentiated by serial number blocks</i>)
SC34-	= Valkyrie Standard & Tourers - Japanese models (<i>Standards and Tourers differentiated by serial number blocks</i>)
SC343	= Valkyrie Tourers - US 49-State models
SC344	= Valkyrie Tourers - US California models
SC345	= Valkyrie Tourers - Canadian models
SC410	= Valkyrie Interstate - US 49-State models
SC411	= Valkyrie Interstate - US California models
SC412	= Valkyrie Interstate - Canadian models
SC41U	= Valkyrie Interstate - Australian models
SC530	= Valkyrie Rune - US 49-State, Standard Handlebars, Cast Wheels
SC531	= Valkyrie Rune - US California, Standard Handlebars, Cast Wheels
SC533	= Valkyrie Rune - US 49-State, Pulled-back Handlebars, Cast Wheels
SC534	= Valkyrie Rune - US California, Pulled-back Handlebars, Cast Wheels
SC535	= Valkyrie Rune - Canadian, Standard Handlebars, Cast Wheels
SC536	= Valkyrie Rune - US 49-State, Standard Handlebars, Chrome Wheels
SC53J	= Valkyrie Rune - US 49-State, Pulled-back Handlebars, Chrome Wheels
SC53K	= Valkyrie Rune - US California, Pulled-back Handlebars, Chrome Wheels
SC53U	= Valkyrie Rune - Australian models

Production (Serial) Numbers – By Model By Month

The following tables are based on a mixture of deduction, data received from various sources, extrapolation, stuff I've read and wild ass guesses. Accordingly, they shouldn't be taken too literally. As more VIN's are added to the database, I'm better able to determine the range of serial numbers produced in any given month. If the serial number on your bike doesn't agree with month range shown, I'd love to hear from you – please send me your data and set me straight (rp62@comcast.net).

If there is no data shown for a given month, it doesn't necessarily mean that no Valkyries were produced that month, only that I haven't received any information for that month yet.

The tables are broken down by variant i.e. US 49-State, US California models, etc.. As you will note, the information I have on non-US models is very sketchy at this time.

What Happened In August 1997?

Something curious happened with 49-State Standards produced in 8/97. They actually have serial numbers lower than the 49-State Standards produced in 7/97. In all of the VIN data for all models and all years, this is the only occurrence of serial numbers not being in sequence with production months.

It would appear that the 8/97 Valks were actually produced earlier, say in 6/97 or 7/97 and held back for some reason until 8/97. I have personally observed that on the Data Label on several 8/97 Valks, and it appears that the "8" was a sticker applied over the original month of manufacture.

Something curious also happened with the 2001 models. All previous Standards have had the designation SC340 and SC341 for 49-State and California models respectively. This changed for the 2001 models. They are designated SC346 and SC347 for 49-state and California versions. One can only speculate that with the Tourer out of production, the basic Standard frame no longer has to include provisions for Tourers and hence is considered a new variant.

Regarding colors, it has been noted that the Valkyries were produced in color lots. This is borne out by the data when sorted by month, by serial number. I've tried to list the colors in the order that they appear in the serial number range in any given month. Again, the information is more accurate with the earlier model Standards and Tourers as these make up the bulk of the data in the database.



Connie Bradford "F6gal"



Viking MC - RP Brown

The Standards

SC340 49-State Standards Pre-2001

Month	Approximate S/N Range	Model - Comments	Predominant Colors
4/96	000001 - 000650	4/11/96 First day of production. The first hundred or so were California models and the remainder, US 49-State models.	Black, Red & White, Black & Yellow
5/96	000651 - 001250	'97 Standards	Black & Yellow, Red & White, Black, Purple & White
6/96	001251 - 001700	'97 Standards	Red & White
7/96	001701 - 002100	'97 Standards	Black, Black & Yellow, Purple & White, Red & White
8/96	002101 - 002400	'97 Standards	Black, Black & Yellow, Purple & White, Red & White
9/96	002401 - 003200	'97 Standards	Red & White, Purple & White, Black & Yellow, Black
10/96	003200 - 003300	'97 Standards	Black, Purple & White
11/96	003300 - 003430	'97 Standards	Red & White
12/96	003431 - 003471	'97 Standards	Black , Red & White
1/97	003472 - 003670	97 Standards	Black, Red & White, Black & Yellow
2/97	003671 - 003920	'97 Standards	Red & White, Purple & White, Black
3/97	003921 - 004500	'97 Standards	Black, Yellow & Black, Purple & White, Red & White
4/97	004500 - 004950	Last month of '97 US Std production	Black, Red & White, Purple & White
5/97	100001 - 101199	First month of '98 US Std production, California models produced first	Black, Blue & Cream, Maroon & Cream, Red & Black Yellow & Cream
6/97	101200 - 102300	'98 Standards	Maroon & Cream, Blue & Cream, Yellow & Cream, Black
7/97	102600 - 103100	'98 Standards	Blue & Cream, Black, Yellow & Cream
8/97	102301 - 102560	'98 Standards	Maroon & Cream
9/97	103101 - 103300	'98 Standards	Black, Yellow & Cream
11/97	103301 - 103600	'98 Standards	Blue & Cream, Black
12/97	103601 - 103860	'98 Standards	Black, Blue & Cream, Yellow & Cream
1/98	103861 - 104100	'98 Standards	Blue & Cream, Black
2/98	104101 - 104450	'98 Standards	Black, Yellow & Cream, Blue & Cream
3/98	104451 - 104650	'98 Standards	Maroon & Cream
4/98	104651 - 105200	'98 Standards- Last month of '98 Std	Black, Yellow & Cream, Blue & Cream
	200001 - 200060	'99 Standards- First month of '99 Std	Black, Black & Silver
5/98	200061 - 200900	'99 Standards	Black, Black & Silver, Yellow & Cream, Orange & Black, Red & Black

The Standards . . .continued

SC340 49-State Standards Pre-2001

Month	Approximate S/N Range	Model - Comments	Predominant Colors
6/98	200901 - 202000	'99 Standards	Black, Black & Silver, Yellow & Cream, Orange & Black
7/98	202001 - 202150	'99 Standards	Black, Orange & Black
8/98	202151 - 202500	'99 Standards	Yellow & Cream, Black
9/98	202500 - 203000	'99 Standards	Orange & Black, Black & Silver
10/98	203001 - 203100	'99 Standards	Black
11/98	203101 - 203200	'99 Standards	Black & Silver, Yellow & Cream, Yellow & Black
3/99	203201 - 203300 300001 - 300003	'00 Standards - First month of '00 Std	Black & Silver Yellow & Black
4/99	300004 - 300250	'00 Standards	Red & Black, Black, Yellow & Black
5/99	300251 - 301100	'00 Standards	Black, Black & Yellow
6/99	301101 - 301289	'00 Standards	Black, Red & Black
7/99	301290 - 301399	'00 Standards	Black
10/99	301400 - 301500	'00 Standards	Red & Black, Yellow & Black
11/99	301501 - 301700	'00 Standards	Red & Black, Yellow & Black, Black
1/00	301701 - 301900	'00 Standards	Black

SC341 California Standards Pre-2001

Month	Approximate S/N Range	Model - Comments	Predominant Colors
4/96	000001 - 000150	'97 Standards	Black, Red & White, Purple & White
5/96	000151 -	'97 Standards	Red & White
1/97	000300 -	'97 Standards	Black
5/97	100001 - 100200	'98 Standards	Blue & Cream, Yellow & Cream, Black, Maroon & Cream
7/97	100201 - 100260	'98 Standards	Black, Blue & Cream
8/97	100261 - 100300	'98 Standards	Maroon & Cream
2/98	100301 - 100520	'98 Standards	Blue & Cream
-	200000 - 200200	'99 Standards	Black
-	300000 - 300200	'00 Standards	Red & Black, Yellow & Black

The Standards . . .continued

SC342 Canadian Standards Pre-2001

Month	Approximate S/N Range	Model - Comments	Predominant Colors
7/96	000001 - 000350	'97 Standards	Black, Red & White, Purple & White
1/98	100001 - 100250	'98 Standards	Black, Maroon & Cream
-	200001 - 200040	'99 Standards	Yellow & Cream
1/00	300000 - 300040	'00 Standards	Red & Black
-	400000 - 400020	'01 Standards	Black

SC346 49-State Standards 2001 & On

Month	Approximate S/N Range	Model - Comments	Predominant Colors
5/00	400001 - 400300	'01 Standards	Blue & White Stripe
6/00	400301 - 400480	'01 Standards	Black, Blue & White
7/00	400481 - 401000	'01 Standards	Blue & White Stripe, Black & Silver
2/01	401001 - 401500	'01 Standards	Black, Black & Silver, Blue & White Stripe
12/01	500000 - 500300	'02 Standards	Blue & White Stripe, Black, Red & Black
1/02	500301 - 500500	'02 Standards	Black
2/02	500501 - 500580	'02 Standards	Blue & White Stripe, Black
7/02	600000 - 600200	'03 Standards	Black
8/02	600201 - 600850	'03 Standards	Black
12/02	601001 - 601500	'03 Standards	Black
1/03	601000 - 601820	'03 Standards	Black

SC347 California Standards 2001 & On

Month	Approximate S/N Range	Model - Comments	Predominant Colors
9/00	400001 - 400100	'01 Standards	Black
-	600000 - 600200	'03 Standards	Black

The Standards . . .continued

SC348 Canadian Standards 2001 & On

Month	Approximate S/N Range	Model - Comments	Predominant Colors
-	400001 - 400050	'01 Standards	Black & Silver, Blue & White
-	500000 - 500050	'02 Standards	Blue & Silver

SC34A European Standards

Month	Approximate S/N Range	Model - Comments	Predominant Colors
'97	000001 - 001380	'97 Standards	Red & White, Black
'98	100001 - 101380	'98 Standards	Blue & Cream, Blue & Beige, Copper & Black
'99	200001 - 200500	'99 Standards	Black & Silver, Blue & Cream
'00	300001 - 300500	'00 Standards	Green & Beige, Black & Silver
'01	400001 - 400400	'00 Standards	Black

SC34B German Standards

Month	Approximate S/N Range	Model - Comments	Predominant Colors
'97	000001 - 000500	'97 Standards	Red & White
'98	100001 - 100650	'98 Standards	Blue & Cream
'99	200001 - 200200	'99 Standards	Black & Silver
'00	300001 - 300200	'00 Standards	Green & Beige
'01	400001 - 400600	'00 Standards	Black

SC34U Australian/UK Standards

Month	Approximate S/N Range	Model - Comments	Predominant Colors
'97	000001 - 000040	12/97 was first month of '97 Australian/UK Standards	Yellow & Black
'98	100001 - 100060	'98 Standards	Black, Blue & Cream
'99	200001 - 2000040	'99 Standards	Black
'00	3000001 - 300020	'00 Standards	Black

The Tourers

SC343 49-State Tourers

Month	Approximate S/N Range	Model - Comments	Predominant Colors
7/96	000001 - 000020	First month of Tourer production.	Green & Cream
10/96	000021 - 000720	'97 Tourers	Black, Green & Cream, Red & White
11/96	000721 - 001050	'97 Tourers	Black
12/96	001051 - 001600	'97 Tourers	Green & Cream, Red & White, Black
1/97	001601 - 002000	'97 Tourers	Green & Cream, Red & White
8/97	100001 - 100600	First month of '98 Tourer production.	Black, Maroon & Cream, Green & Black, Red & White
9/97	100601 - 101020	'98 Tourers	Maroon & Cream, Black, Green & Black
10/97	101021 - 101600	'98 Tourers	Black, Maroon & Cream, Green & Black
11/97	101601 - 101900	'98 Tourers	Maroon & Cream, Green & Black, Black
12/97	101901 - 102300	'98 Tourers	Maroon & Cream, Black, Green & Black
1/98	102301 - 102620	'98 Tourers	Black, Maroon & Cream, Black & Green
2/98	102621 - 102800	'98 Tourers	Maroon & Cream, Green & Black, Black
4/98	102801 - 103200	'98 Tourers- Last month of '98 Tourer	Maroon & Cream, Green & Black, Black
	200001 - 200050	First month of '99 Tourers	Purple & White, Maroon & Cream
8/98	200051 - 200600	'99 Tourers	Black & Silver, Black
9/98	200601 - 201100	'99 Tourers	Black, Black & Silver, Maroon & Cream
10/98	201101 - 201200	'99 Tourers	Black & Silver
2/99			
3/99	300001 - 300100	First month of '00 Tourer	Red & Black
4/99			
5/99			
7/99	300101 - 300450		Black, Red & Black
8/99	300451 - 300800		Red & Black, Black

The Tourers...continued

SC344 California Tourers

Month	Approximate S/N Range	Model - Comments	Predominant Colors
10/96	000001 - 000100	First month of '97 Calif Tourer production.	Green & Cream, Red & White
11/96	000101 - 000200	'97 Tourers	Red & White
1/97	000201 - 000300	'97 Tourers	Green & Cream
8/97	100001 - 100065	First month of '98 Calif Tourer production.	Green & Black, Black
9/97	100066 - 100100	'98 Tourers	Maroon & Cream
10/97	100101 - 100200	'98 Tourers	Green & Black, Black
11/97	100201 - 100300	'98 Tourers	Maroon & Cream
8/98	200001 - 200200	First month of '99 Calif Tourer production.	Black, Black & Silver, Maroon & Cream
10/98	200201 - 200350	'99 Tourers	Black, Black & Silver
11/99	300001 - 300100	Last month of '99 Calif Tourer production	Red & Black

SC345 Canadian Tourers

Month	Approximate S/N Range	Model - Comments	Predominant Colors
11/96	000001 - 000110	First month of '97 Canadian Tourer production.	Green & Cream, Red & White, Black
1/97	000111 - 100300	'97 Tourers	Green & Cream, Red & White
9/97	100001 - 100100	First month of '98 Canadian Tourer production.	Black, Maroon & Cream, Green & Black
10/97	100101 - 100200	'98 Tourers	Green & Black
1/98	100201 - 100300	'98 Tourers	Maroon & Cream, Black

SC34U Australian Tourers

Month	Approximate S/N Range	Model - Comments	Predominant Colors
'97	050001 - 050040	'97 Tourers	Green & Cream
'98	105001 - 105040	'98 Tourers	Maroon & Cream
'99	205001 - 205040	'99 Tourers	Black & Silver

The Interstates

SC410 49-State Interstates

Month	Approximate S/N Range	Model - Comments	Predominant Colors
9/98	000001 - 000080	'99 Interstates- First month of '99 Interstate	Black, Green & Silver
11/98	000081 - 000300	'99 Interstates	Black
12/98	000301 - 001250	'99 Interstates	Black, Red & Black, Green & Silver
1/99	001251 - 002250	'99 Interstates	Green & Silver, Black, Red & Black
2/99	002251 - 003100	'99 Interstates	Black, Red & Black, Green & Silver
3/99	003101 - 004100	'99 Interstates	Black, Red & Black
4/99	004101 - 004720 100001 - 100010	Last month of '99 Interstates First month of '00 Interstates	Black, Red & Black, Green & Silver Blue & Silver
6/99	100011 - 100550	'00 Interstates	Blue & Silver
7/99	100551 - 100900	'00 Interstates	Black
8/99	100901 - 101700	'00 Interstates	Black, Blue & Silver, Red & Black
10/99	101701 - 101950	'00 Interstates	Red & Black
12/99	101951 - 102300	'00 Interstates	Blue & Silver
4/00	200001 - 200350	First month of '01 I/S	Black, Black & Red
5/00	200351 - 200710	'01 Interstates	Black, Beige & Black, Green & Silver
2/01	200711 - 201010	'01 Interstates	Beige & Black



Dave Ritsema



Ian Trapl on the BRP - RP Brown



Dennis from Blythe



Interstate at Helen GA - RP Brown

The Interstates...continued

SC411 California Interstates

Month	Approximate S/N Range	Model - Comments	Predominant Colors
1/99	000001 - 000120	First month of '99 Calif Interstates	Green & Silver, Black, Red & Black
2/99	000121 - 000250	'99 Calif Interstates	Black, Green & Silver
4/99	000251 - 000350	'99 Calif Interstates	Black, Red & Black
12/99	100001 - 100150	'99 Calif Interstates	Black, Red & Black, Black & Silver
-	200001 - 200050	'99 Calif Interstates	Black

SC412 Canadian Interstates

Month	Approximate S/N Range	Model - Comments	Predominant Colors
'99	000001 - 000120	'99 Canadian Interstates	Green & Silver, Red & Black
'00	100001 - 100140	'00 Canadian Interstates	Red & Black
'01	200001 - 200280	'01 Canadian Interstates	Black, Beige & Black

SC41U Australian/UK Interstates

Month	Approximate S/N Range	Model - Comments	Predominant Colors
'99	000001 - 000060	'99 Australian Interstates	Green & Silver
'00	100001 - 100080	'00 Australian Interstates	Blue & Silver
'01	200001 - 200020	'01 Australian Interstates	Red & Black



Dragon Paint



Jack Holmes "Laborman" in the Badlands - RP Brown

The Runes

SC530 49-State, Std Bars, Cast Wheels

Month	Approximate S/N Range	Model - Comments	Predominant Colors
4/03	000001 - 000050	'04 Runes	Maroon
5/03	000051 - 000460	'04 Runes	Black, Blue
6/03	000461 - 001170	'04 Runes	Blue, Black, Maroon
7/03	001171 - 001350	'04 Runes	Maroon
8/03	001331 - 001450	'04 Runes	Maroon, Black

SC531 Calif, Std Bars, Cast Wheels

Month	Approximate S/N Range	Model - Comments	Predominant Colors
5/03	000001 - 000050	'04 Runes	Maroon
4/03	000100 - 000205	'04 Runes	
6/03	000206 - 000250	'04 Runes	Black, Maroon

SC533 49-State, Pulled Back Bars, Cast Wheels

Month	Approximate S/N Range	Model - Comments	Predominant Colors
8/03	000001 - 000200	'04 Runes	Maroon, Blue
9/03	000201 - 000350	'04 Runes	Maroon, Black
10/03	000351 - 000560	'04 Runes	Maroon

SC534 Calif, Pulled Back Bars, Cast Wheels

Month	Approximate S/N Range	Model - Comments	Predominant Colors
8/03	000001 -	'04 Runes	Maroon, Blue

SC535 Canadian, Std Bars, Cast Wheels

Month	Approximate S/N Range	Model - Comments	Predominant Colors
7/03	000001 - 000050	'04 Runes	Blue
8/03	000051 - 000110	'04 Runes	Blue



VIN Plate from European Standard

The Runes

SC536 49-State, Std Bars, Chrome Wheels

Month	Approximate S/N Range	Model - Comments	Predominant Colors
3/03	000001 - 000020	'04 Runes	Bkue, Maroon
4/03	000021 - 000040	'04 Runes	Maroon
10/03	000041 - 000350	'04 Runes	Blue, Maroon, Black

SC53J 49-State, Pulled Back Bars, Chrome Wheels

Month	Approximate S/N Range	Model - Comments	Predominant Colors
8/03	000001 - 000060	'04 Runes	Maroon, Black
9/03	000061 - 000120	'04 Runes	Maroon
10/03	000121 - 000200	'04 Runes	Blue, Maroon
11/03	000201 - 000300	'04 Runes	Maroon
12/03	000301 - 000500	'04 Runes	Black, Maroon, Blue
1/04	000501 - 000700	'04 Runes	
2/04	000701 - 000900	'04 Runes	Blue, Maroon, Black

SC53K Calif, Pulled Back Bars, Chrome Wheels

Month	Approximate S/N Range	Model - Comments	Predominant Colors
8/03	000001 - 000020	'04 Runes	Blue, Maroon
9/03	000021 - 000060	'04 Runes	Maroon



RP Brown

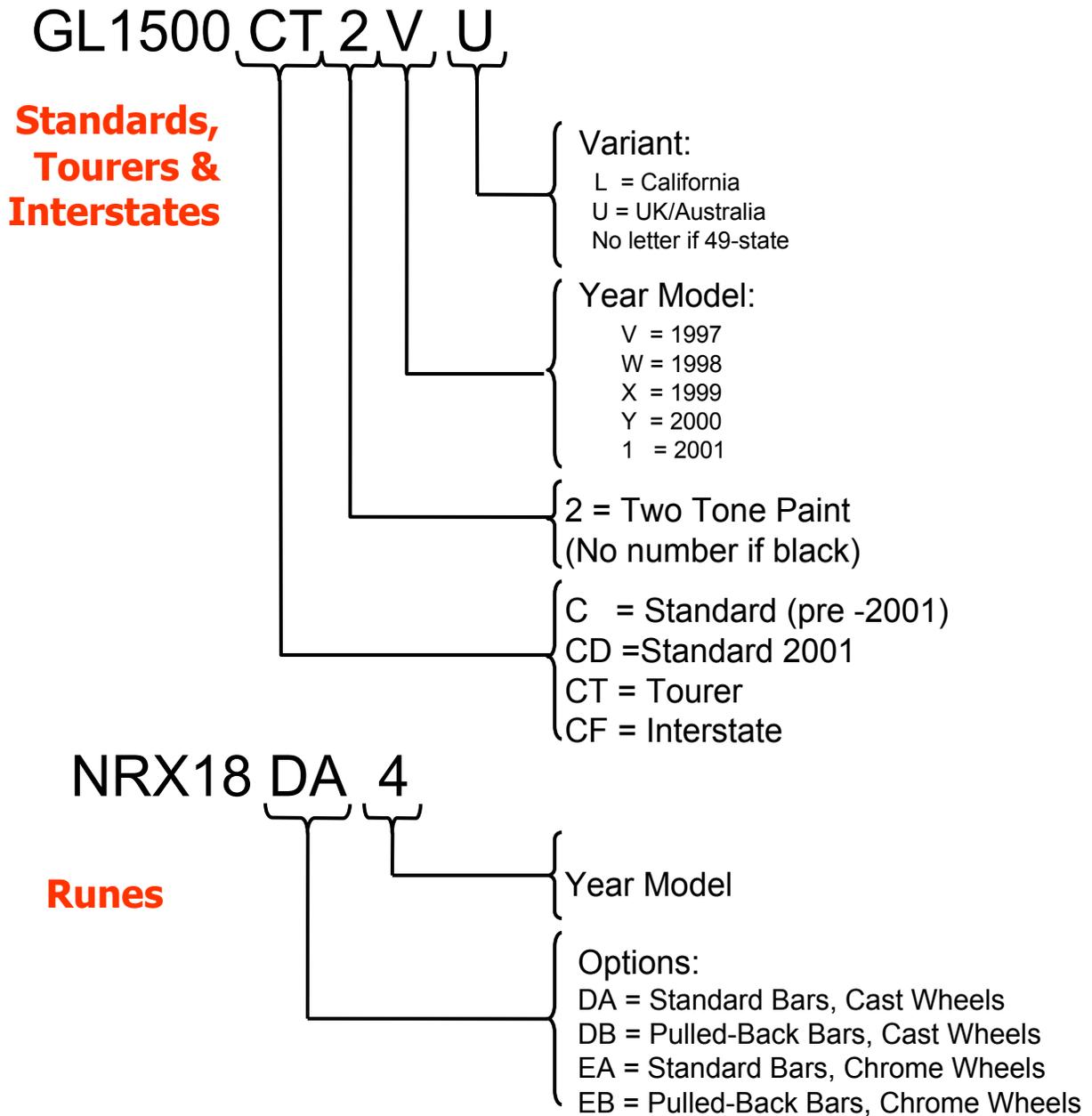


Rune Prototype – RP Brown

Model Numbers

There seems to be a lot of inconsistency with Valkyrie model numbers. The basic model number is on the lower left corner of the VIN data plate. This will typically be something like "GL1500CT". An expanded number is sometimes written on the price tag by the dealer and it may show up in the paperwork that accompanies the bike during purchase.

The inconsistency in the expanded numbers may be due to lack of attention on the dealers part when they write the numbers down, or some of them may have been transposed when submitted for this article. At any rate, below is a breakdown of the Valkyrie model numbers as best I can decipher. It should be noted that the figures in the model number are not always in the order shown and sometimes, the "C" is omitted in the case of the Tourers.



Stock Colors - By Year Model

By Model Year			(Honda color designations and codes)					
Year	Standard		Tourer			Interstate		
	Color	Code	Color	Code	Color	Code	Color	Code
1997	Black	NH1Z	Black	NH1Z				
	Red & Pearl White	R191	Red & Pearl White	R191				
	Pearl Purple & Pearl White	P17P	Pearl Green & Pearl Ivory	G159P				
	Black & Pearl Yellow	NH1Z						
		Y130P						
1998	Black	NH1Z	Black	NH1Z				
	Pearl Dark Blue & Pearl Ivory	PB255M	Black & Pearl Jade Green	NH1Z				
		Y137M	Pearl Dark Red & Pearl Ivory	G160P				
	Pearl Dark Red & Pearl Ivory	R223						
		Y137M						
	Yellow & Pearl Ivory	Y146						
		Y137M						
1999	Black	NH1Z	Black	NH1Z	Black	NH1Z		
	Black & Pearl Silver	NH1Z	Black & Pearl Silver	NH1Z	Pearl Dark Green & Metallic Gray	G159P		
		NH390M		NH390M	Black & Red	NH1Z		
	Black & Pearl Orange	NH1Z	Pearl Dark Red & Pearl Ivory	R223				
		YR190		Y137M		R191		
	Yellow & Pearl Ivory	Y146						
		Y137M						
2000	Black	NH1Z	Black	NH1Z	Black	NH1Z		
	Black & Red	NH1Z	Black & Red	NH1Z	Black & Red	NH1Z		
		R191		R191		R191		
	Black & Pearl Yellow	NH1Z			Pearl Blue & Pearl Silver	PB255M		
		Y130P				NH390M		
2001	Black	NH1Z			Black	NH1Z		
	Black & Metallic Silver	NH1Z			Black & Dark Pearl Red	NH1Z		
		?				R260P		
	Pearl Dark Blue & Pearl White	PB255M			Black & Pearl Beige	NH1Z		
		NH326M				Y191P		
2002	Black	NH1Z						
	Pearl Dark Blue & Pearl White	PB255M						
		NH326M						
	Black & Red	NH1Z						
		R191						
2003	Black	NH1Z						
2004	Runes							
	Double Clear Coat Black	NH1Z						
	Illusion Blue	P44P						
	Candy Black Cherry	R287						

Stock Colors - by Application

(Using common names)

Single Year/Model Applications			
Color	Application		
Black & Beige			2001 Interstate
Black & Green		1998 Tourers	
Black & Maroon			2001 Interstate
Black & Orange	1999 Standards		
Blue & Cream	1998 Standards		
Blue & Silver			2000 Interstate
Green & Cream		1997 Tourer	
Green & Silver			1999 Interstate
Purple & White	1997 Standards		

Of the Standards, with the exception of one "bumblebee", Black, and Red & White were built first.



Multiple Year/Model Applications			
Color	Application		
Black	All models all years	All models all years	All models all years
Bumblebee	1997 Standards 2000 Standards		
Red & White	1997 Standards	1997 Tourers	
Yellow & Cream	1998 Standards 1999 Standards		
Maroon & Cream	1998 Standards	1998 Tourers 1999 Tourers	
Black & Silver	1999 Standards 2001 Standards	1999 Tourers	
Black & Red	2000 Standards 2002 Standards	2000 Tourers	1999 Interstates 2000 Interstates
Blue & White Stripe	2001 Standard 2002 Standard		



"Peaches & Cream" - RP Brown



"La Monster" - RP Brown

Tank Art

Production by Color

The following is an attempt to answer the question of how many Valkyries of each color were produced. To go about this, I sorted my database by color, then by variant and then armed with the fact that Valkyries were produced in color lots of 20, I counted each serial number that was more than 20 numbers from any adjacent number, and considered such as representing 20 bikes. The red numbers represent situations where I had no serial

numbers recorded in that particular category, but assume that a nominal amount were built. For example, although I don't have VIN's for any Black Canadian Standards produced from 2001 to 2003, I assume that at least 20 were produced each production year and therefore at least 60 were built. As with any of the data contained in this article, if you know different, please feel free to contact me and set the record straight (rp62@comcast.net).

Color	Color (Honda Designation)	Honda Color Code	Used On Models	Variant	Dates Produced	Number Produced	Subtotal	Total
 <p>Black</p>	Black	NH1Z	'97- 00 Std	49-State SC340		2360	2820	9180
				Calif SC341		200		
				Can SC342		60		
				Euro SC34A		60		
				German SC34B		60		
				Australian SC34U		80		
				Total				
			'01- 03 Std	49-State SC346		940		
				California SC347		60		
				Canadian SC348		60		
				Euro SC34A		60		
				German SC34B		60		
				Australian SC34U		60		
			Total		1240			
			'97- 00 Tourer	49-State SC343		1000		
				Calif SC344		120		
				Can SC345		60		
				Australian SC34U				
			Total		1180			
			'99 - 01 IS	49-State SC410		1360		
Calif SC411		200						
Can SC412		60						
Australian SC41U		60						
Total		1680						
'04 Runes	49-St SBSW SC530	4/03 - 12/03	360					
	Calif SBSW SC531		40					
	49-St PBSW SC533		40					
	Calif PBSW SC534		20					
	Can PBSW SC535		-					
	49-St SBCW SC536		20					
	49-St PBCW SC53J		60					
	Calif PBCW SC53K		20					
	Aus SC53U		20					
Total		580						
 <p>Black & Beige</p>	Black, Pearl Beige	NH1Z, Y191P	'01 IS	49-State SC410	5/00 - 2/01	200	240	240
				California SC411		20		
				Canadian SC412		20		
				Total				
 <p>Black & Copper</p>	?	?	'98 Std	Euro SC34A		80	80	80
				Total				

SB = Standard Handlebars PB = Pulled-Back Handlebars SW = Standard (Cast) Wheels CW = Chrome Wheels

Production by Color

Color	Color (Honda Designation)	Honda Color Code	Used On Models	Variant	Dates Produced	Number Produced	Subtotal	Total
 Black & Green	Black, Pearl Jade Green	NH1Z, G160P	'98 Tourer	49-State SC343	8/97 - 4/98	280	400	400
				California SC344		100		
				Canadian SC345		20		
				Total				
 Black & Maroon	Black, Pearl Dark Red	NH1Z, R260P	'01 IS	49-State SC410	04/00	120	160	160
				California SC411		20		
				Canadian SC412		20		
				Total				
 Black & Orange	Black, Pearl Orange	NH1Z, YR190	'99 Std	49-State SC340	5/98 - 9/98	200	240	240
				California SC341		20		
				Canadian SC342		20		
				Total				
 Black & Red	Black, Red	NH1Z, R191	'00 Std	49-State SC340	4/99-11/99	260	300	1320
				Calif SC341		20		
				Can SC342		20		
				Total				
			'02 Std	49-State SC346	12/01	40	60	
				California SC347		20		
				Canadian SC348				
			'00 Tourer	49-State SC343	3/99-8/99	140	160	
				California SC344	11/99	20		
				Canadian SC345				
				Total				
			'99 IS	49-State SC410	12/98-4/99	440	500	
				California SC411		40		
				Canadian SC412		20		
				Total				
			'00 IS	49-State SC410	8/99-10/99	240	300	
Calif SC411		20						
Canadian SC412		20						
AUS SC41U		20						
Total								
 Black & Silver	Black, Pearl Silver	NH1Z, NH390M	'99 Std	49-State SC340	4/98-11/98	460	540	580
				California SC341		20		
				Canadian SC342		20		
				Euro SC34A		20		
				German SC34B		20		
	Total							
	'00 Std	Euro SC34A		40	40			
		'01 Std	49-State SC346	07/00	100	140		
			California SC347		20			
			Canadian SC348		20			
Total								
'99 Tourer	49-State SC343	8/98-11/98	200	300				
	California SC344		60					
	Canadian SC345		20					
	Australian SC34U		20					
Total								

SB = Standard Handlebars PB = Pulled-Back Handlebars SW = Standard (Cast) Wheels CW = Chrome Wheels

Production by Color

Color	Color (Honda Designation)	Honda Color Code	Used On Models	Variant	Dates Produced	Number Produced	Subtotal	Total
 Black & Yellow	Black, Pearl Yellow	NH1Z, Y130P	'97 Std	49-State SC340	4/96 - 3/97	340	420	700
				California SC341		20		
				Canadian SC342		20		
				Australian SC34U		40		
				Total				
			'00 Std	49-State SC340	3/99 - 11/99	240	280	
California SC341		20						
Canadian SC342		20						
Total								
 Blue	Illusion Blue	P44P	'04 Runes	49-St SBSW SC530	5/03 - 02/04	140	880	460
				49-St PBSW SC533		80		
				Can PBSW SC535		80		
				49-St SBCW SC536		60		
				49-St PBCW SC53J		80		
				Calif PBCW SC53K		20		
Total								
 Blue & Cream	Pearl Dark Blue, Pearl Ivory	PB255M, Y137M	'98 Std	49-State SC340	5/97 - 4/98	620	880	880
				California SC341		80		
				Canadian SC342		20		
				Euro SC34A		120		
				German SC34B		20		
				Australian SC34U		20		
Total								
 Blue & Silver	Pearl Blue, Pearl Silver	PB255M, NH390M	'00 IS	49-State SC410	4/99 - 12/99	440	500	500
				California SC411		20		
				Canadian SC412		20		
				Australian SC41U		20		
				Total				
 Blue & White Middle Stripe	Pearl Dark Blue, Pearl White	PB255M, NH390M	'01 Std	49-State SC346	6/00-7/00	200	240	340
				California SC347		20		
				Canadian SC348		20		
			Total					
			'02 Std	49-State SC346	12/01	100	100	
				California SC347				
Canadian SC348								
Total								
 Green & Cream	Pearl Green, Pearl Ivory	G159P, Y137M	'97 Tourer	49-State SC343	7/96 - 1/97	540	680	680
				California SC344		80		
				Canadian SC345		40		
				Australian SC34U		20		
				Total				
 Green & Silver	Pearl Dark Green, Metallic Gray	G159P, NH253M	'99 IS	49-State SC410	9/98 - 4/99	580	660	660
				California SC411		40		
				Canadian SC412		20		
				Australian SC41U		20		
				Total				

SB = Standard Handlebars PB = Pulled-Back Handlebars SW = Standard (Cast) Wheels CW = Chrome Wheels

Production by Color

Color	Color (Honda Designation)	Honda Color Code	Used On Models	Variant	Dates Produced	Number Produced	Subtotal	Total
 Maroon	Candy Black Cherry	R287	'04 Runes	49-St SBSW SC530	4/03 - 11/03	240	860	860
				Calif SBSW SC531		60		
				49-St PBSW SC533		200		
				49-St SBCW SC536		80		
				49-St PBCW SC53J		220		
				Calif PBCW SC53K		40		
				Aus SC53U		20		
				Total				
 Maroon & Cream	Pearl Dark Red, Pearl Ivory	R223, Y137M	'98 Std	49-State SC340	5/97-3/98	580	680	1500
				California SC341		60		
				Canadian SC342		20		
				Australian SC34U		20		
			Total					
			'98 Tourer	49-State SC343	8/97-4/98	560	660	
				California SC344		40		
				Canadian SC345		60		
			Total					
			'99 Tourer	49-State SC343	4/98-9/98	120	160	
				California SC344		20		
				Canadian SC345		20		
Total								
 Purple & White	Pearl Purple, Pearl White	P17P, NH326M	'97 Std	49-State SC340	5/96 - 4/97	280	340	340
				California SC341		20		
				Canadian SC342		40		
				Total				
 Red & White	Red, Pearl White	R191, NH326M	'97 Std	49-State SC340	4/96 - 4/97	820	980	1300
				California SC341		40		
				Canadian SC342		40		
				Euro SC34A		60		
				German SC34B		20		
			Total					
			'97 Tourer	49-State SC343	10/96 - 1/97	220	320	
				California SC344		60		
				Canadian SC345		40		
				Total				
Total								
 Yellow & Cream	Yellow, Pearl Ivory	Y146, Y137M	'98 Std	49-State SC340	5/97 - 4/98	300	360	720
				California SC341		60		
				Canadian SC342				
				Total				
			'99 Std	49-State SC340	5/98 - 9/98	320	360	
				California SC341		20		
				Canadian SC342		20		
				Total				

SB = Standard Handlebars PB = Pulled-Back Handlebars SW = Standard (Cast) Wheels CW = Chrome Wheels

How Many Valkyries Have been Built?

OK, this is really a stretch. I've attempted to answer the question by rounding-up the highest serial number for each variant and then summing the totals for all variants. This of course, assumes that all serial numbers within a variant are sequential (which at this time I have no reason to believe they aren't). Obviously, this is by no means high science and serves only to give a rough approximation of the total number of Valkyries produced.

Regarding the Rune totals, the numbers I have are in conflict with the numbers originally cited by Honda (1,500 total purported to be produced with 15 allotted for Australia). But again, my numbers are based on serial numbers actually observed and I stand by them as the best guess until something official comes along.

⌘ The first 70 Valkyries were made on April 11, 1996 and used the first 70 serial numbers. 69 were black and chrome and 1 was yellow and black. (The "bumblebee" was produced for American Motorcyclist Magazine's Managing Editor, Bill Wood for use as a long-term loaner. Mr. Wood followed the bike along the assembly line and rode the completed bike off the premises.)¹

⌘ 950 Valkyries were scheduled to be built in the month of April 1996¹.

⌘ 3000 Valkyries were to be built by October 1996.

⌘ Tourers are not available in Europe.

⌘ 334 Valkyries were registered in Germany as of March 1999.²

⌘ 64 Valkyries were registered in Finland as of October 2004.

Standards	US-49 State	California	Canadian	All Others	Totals
1997	5,000	400	400	1,950	7,750
1998	5,200	1,600	250	2,110	9,160
1999	3,300	200	50	810	4,360
2000	1,900	150	50	720	2,820
2001	1,500	100	50	1,000	2,650
2002	600	200	50		850
2003	1,600	200			1,800
					29,390

Tourers	US-49 State	California	Canadian	All Others	Totals
1997	2,000	300	300	40	2,640
1998	3,200	300	300	40	3,840
1999	1,200	300	300	40	1,840
2000	1,000	100			1,100
					9,420

Interstates	US-49 State	California	Canadian	All Others	Totals
1999	5,000	400	80		5,480
2000	2300	200	150	40	2,690
2001	1020	100	300	20	1,440
					9,610

Total (all Standards, Tourers & Interstates): 48,420

Runes	US-49 State	California	Canadian	All Others	Totals
2004	3,460	340	120	20	3,940

Total (all Standards, Tourers, Interstates & Runes): 52,360

Model Differences:

Year to Year

Differences from the previous years' model (other than color)

Model	Standard	Tourer	Interstate
1997	<p><u>Engine:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VPKOA carb (49-state). • VPKOB carb (Calif). • Jet needle J6KG. 	<p><u>Engine:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VPKOA carb (49-state). • VPKOB carb (Calif). • Jet needle J6KG. 	
1998	<p><u>Engine:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VPKOJ carbs (49-state). • VPKOK carbs (Calif.). • Jet needle J6KJ. • Cyl Head P/N change. <p><u>Frame:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Larger front wheel bearing (with different seals and axle). • Black wire wrap added to lower radiator hose. 	<p><u>Engine:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VPKOJ carbs (49-state). • VPKOK carbs (Calif.). • Jet needle J6KJ. • Cyl Head P/N change. <p><u>Frame:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Larger front wheel bearing (with different seals and axle). • "Tourer" emblem added to windshield trim. 	
1999	<p><u>Frame:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chrome horn cover added. 	<p><u>Frame:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chrome horn cover added. • Seamless hardbags. 	
2000	<p><u>Engine:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Made in USA" no longer appears on engine. • Engine Coolant Temp Indicator Unit eliminated (sensor now directly controls LED). <p><u>Frame:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I/S -style turn signals (no screws in lense face). • New Seat design (I/W '97-'99). • Seat height changed to 28.9" from 29.1". • Chrome wire wrap added to lower radiator hose. • "Made in USA" no longer on rear seat. • Tank badge changed from "F6" to Maidenhead design. • Heavier rear brake rotor (caused different wheel, caliper bracket and rotor mount bolts). • Extra protective boot on start relay. • Polished rear transfer case. • Lower triple clamp P/N change. 	<p><u>Engine:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Made in USA" no longer appears on engine. • Engine Coolant Temp Indicator Unit eliminated (sensor now directly controls LED). <p><u>Frame:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I/S -style turn signals (no screws in lense face). • New Seat design (I/W '97-'99). • Seat height changed to 28.9" from 29.1". • Chrome wire wrap added to lower radiator hose. • "Made in USA" no longer on rear seat. • Tank badge changed from "F6" to Maidenhead design. • Heavier rear brake rotor (caused different wheel, caliper bracket and rotor mount bolts). • Extra protective boot on start relay. 	<p><u>Frame:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chrome wire wrap added to lower radiator hose. (added to 2000 models in production in late '99)
2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polished & clearcoated wheels • Front wheel is only machined outside of brake rotor shadow. 		

I/W = fully interchangeable with

Model Differences:

Differences between US 49-State and California Models

Engine:

- ☞ Vapor canister installed on California models
- ☞ California models use different cams:

49-State	California	Comments
Intake 5° BTDC - 45° ABDC *	Intake 5° ATDC - 40° ABDC *	CA opens 10 degrees later and closes 5 degrees earlier for 15 degrees shorter duration.
Exhaust 35° BBDC - 5° ATDC *	Exhaust 40° BBDC - 5° BTDC *	CA opens 5 degrees earlier and closes 10 degrees earlier for 5 degrees shorter duration.
303 lift (both intake & exhaust) 226 In 215 Ex duration	303 lift (both intake & exhaust) 222 duration	
* Degrees at 1 mm lift.		

- ☞ California models use different carburetors:

Model	49-State	California
Std & Tourer - 1997	VPKOA	VPKOB
Std & Tourer - 1998 & On	VPKOJ	VPKOK
Interstate - 1999 & On	VPK1B	VPK1C

Frame: No known differences



Barry Boucher



"PIBIT" - RP Brown

Model Differences:

Differences between US and non-US Models

Engine:

- ☞ The stock main jets in the UK are #78 whereas US models use #100. (12/30/00 Lamont).
- ☞ Radiator screens on European models have a different hole pattern than the US models. (Rattlebars)
- ☞ European and Australian models have a throttle position sensor (TPS). Swiss and US models do not.
- ☞ European models use VPKON carburetors
- ☞ UK models use VPKOS carburetors
- ☞ Exhaust more restrictive - smaller diameter “piggies” (tail pipe extensions) than us models.
- ☞ European models have larger diameter exhaust cans and are made from heavier gage (0.080-inch vs. 0.049-inch) steel. (Mark T.)
- ☞ Australian models have different gear ratios:

	<i>Australian</i>	<i>US</i>
Primary reduction	1.591	1.591
Secondary reduction	0.939	0.971
Final reduction	2.833	2.833
Gear Ratios:		
1st	2.666	2.666
2nd	1.722	1.722
3rd	1.291	1.291
4th	0.964	1.000
5th	0.805	0.805



Reverse Selector - Yuzo Matsui

Frame:

- ☞ Australian Valks have an insert in the gas tank filler limiting them to the smaller diameter unleaded gas nozzles.
- ☞ With the exception of UK models, non-US models have speedometers marked in kilometers.
- ☞ European models are designated “F6C” rather than “Valkyrie”, and accordingly, have “F6C” on the tank badge rather than “Valkyrie”.
- ☞ Round mirrors have been reported on European models and on some ‘98 Canadian models.
- ☞ European models have clear coated wheels.
- ☞ European models have an “E” on the headlight and turn signal lenses (for European Standard) rather than the SAE mark on US models.
- ☞ European headlights are not faceted like US models.
- ☞ The radiator side covers on European models have black cover plates rather than the yellow reflectors on US models.
- ☞ Japanese model Tourers have reverse (operated electrically using the starter motor).

Miscellaneous:

- ☞ Canadian models come with two owners manuals, one in English and one in French.

Acknowledgements:

¹ American Motorcyclist Magazine
July 1996
“Picking Up Honda’s Six Pack” by Bill Wood

² Mr. Bernt Rauschenbusch, VOA #707

Honda of America Mfg.
Company Communications
Rodger Lambert
Senior Manager
(Provided VIN data on US models)

Motorcycle Consumer News
July 1996
Model Evaluation 1997 Honda F6 Valkyrie
“The Valhalla Express” by Bob Anderson

Rider Magazine
July 1996
“The 1997 Honda F6 Valkyrie” by Mark Tuttle Jr.

The members of the Valkyrie Owners Association International

The members of the Valkyrie Riders Cruiser Club



First VOA Ride-In, Crawford, CO July, 1999