



Introducing

The Sculp is a three-strut delta kite, which is pitched as Crazy Fly's accessible 'do it all kite', with a slight nod towards the progressive freestyler. Crazy Fly have been working hard over the last few seasons and have produced some highly respected kites, and this year also sees the introduction of the Sick Bar, which is 100% EU produced and has been completely reworked for 2012.

Basics

Build and construction The Sculp has a great stealthy look to it – three-struts with the leading edge tapering right back – it looks efficient and pretty serious. It's a light kite with no unnecessary reinforcements and the redesigned 'speed profile' struts are notably slim and streamlined, but supported the canopy just fine. **Set up and tuning** There's a standard bridle which hasn't been over engineered, and connection points as you would expect. We flew it on the middle settings. **Bar and trim** It has to be said that the bar looks impressive. As with a few of the bars from the 'less big' brands this year, a lot of R&D seems

to have gone into them and they're giving the big boys something to think about. Simplicity is the order of the day, and the full carbon Sick Bar is light but looks and feels super solid. There is a petite but beautifully functioning clam cleat above the bar which seems to laugh in the face of some of the more complex trim systems. The grip on the bar does feel pretty course, but we tested it after a windless few weeks so maybe our hands had just gone a bit soft... **Safety** A nice solid and uncomplicated push out and then a flag out onto one front line provide full depower and an easy pack up on the water if worst comes to worst.

Info Panel

Main Market
All round

Sizes 7, 9, 11, 13

Line configuration
4 Line

Inflation One pump

Safety Push Out then single line flag out

Performance

Turning speed, handling and feel We had the 11 on test which, after a winter of blustery 7m sessions felt quite refreshing! We also had the 45cm bar, which did feel a bit short – there is a 52cm bar which would probably be more appropriate for the bigger sizes. First impressions were the solid initial pull from the Sculp, and then a steady and surprisingly direct feel for an SLE kite – you feel very connected. Turning wise and, as is the way with bigger kites, it paid to drive it forward in the window and then give it some beans to send it back but, again, there was a smoothness and responsiveness in this. There was a relatively smooth pull throughout the range, and the Sculp responded quickly to bar input. **The Triangle** The Sculp powered upwind nicely – no nonsense and sitting nicely forward in the window, and was also pretty happy riding down the line on waves. It did have a slight tendency to drift seaward, but with a bit of bar pressure would sit up exactly where you want it. Lift, hangtime and landing The Sculp delivered plenty of grunt to boost with, and its predictable behaviour ensured a nice steady take off for mellower boosting – the hangtime's good (again, nice to be out on a bigger kite) and there was plenty of responsiveness through the bar for the landing... **Unhooking** If you get the right amount of depower on, then it was pretty cruisey, too much or too little and it wasn't as happy. **Trim, depower and range** Although the amount of length available on the depower didn't look that massive, we were never really at either end of it – you get a lot of response from a small amount of trim and, even on gustier sessions, the Sculp sucked it up just fine. The cleat and the handle are both super easy to use with minimum fuss, and without flailing around too much and distracting you from the matter in hand...

Icing

The Look. We had the black and white one which looks good. The antithesis to a few of the lairier kites about this year. The Sculp looks like it means business, and the distinctive 'batwing style' trailing edge give it a nice stealthy vibe too. **The package** Nice solid bag – and not one where you have wrestle your bigger kites in either...

kitesurf Verdict

→ The Sculp really is an enjoyable kite to fly. The low-end is notable and it's one of the most direct feeling SLE kites that we have tested – you really do feel connected. Design wise and it's a nice looking kite – with the batwing style trailing edge giving it something of the superhero look. The bar was fantastic – very well engineered, simple to use, and it felt like it would easily do a few seasons...
Tested AH