

FURUTECH

HiFi Choice (UK) – ADL Cruise Review

March 2012



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ADL Cruise portable headphone amp

The performance credentials of the ADL Cruise are impressive. It features a 96kHz-capable USB input as well as an analogue connection, has an internal battery good for a claimed eighty hours of playback and if you connect the USB input then the battery will charge automatically.

Sound quality

The good news for anyone for whom the mere presence of a gorgeous carbon fibre chassis isn't enough to guarantee purchase, is that the Furutech sounds impressive as well. Listening to the 24-bit/96kHz download of *So Beautiful Or So What?*, the Cruise will leave a standard laptop headphone output standing. Even relatively inexpensive headphones and earphones benefit from the insight and clarity that the Furutech brings to the performance, while more expensive monitors, like Etymotic ER4s, gain substantially in bass extension and soundstage. The benefits aren't limited to high-resolution music either. Spotify and iTunes files also show a welcome step forward in clarity and detail and these benefits are achieved without the Cruise slaughtering poorer files.

On the move, the Cruise proves equally adept when connected to an iPhone. The only minor gripe I found was that the unit is very susceptible to phone interference, which is a real pain. If the two units are in close company, you can be treated to some background noise and indeed some pops and cracks from time to time. Place the two units on a desk or table (as they would be on a long journey) and this ceases to be a problem and you can show the Furutech off to those around you. Thankfully in this case, it's fair to say that beauty is a great deal more than skin deep. **ES**



► DETAILS

PRICE: £465

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OUR VERDICT

