



Great boots,  
but not 100%  
waterproof

2500  
MILES

## TCX Hero WP boots £199.99

### 'Bring spare socks'

Tested by Saffron Wilson for 2500 miles/two months



These TCX boots are perfect for summer - they're comfortable to ride and walk in. With CE certification, a comfort fit system, grippy soles and claimed water resistance, they should be the perfect all-round bike boot.

The only issue, in my experience with them, is that I haven't found them to be completely waterproof. After getting caught out in a few showers, (admittedly one was a thunderstorm) I did get damp socks, but I wouldn't categorise them as sodden. In a light shower they held up well for a time, and with some maintenance and waterproofing on a regular basis they could be more effective.

That said, I'm a big fan of the design, and the lateral zip with the Velcro band at the top saves me the hassle with laces each time I use them.

Quality ★★★★★ Value ★★★★★  
uk.tcxboots.com

### PROS & CONS

- + Stylish and comfortable both on and off the bike
- If you get caught in the rain, you'll get damp feet



1500  
MILES

## Sidi Motolux Boots £222.99

### 'Unboxing them was a joy'

Tested by Gareth Evans, 1500 miles



My brief for boots this year: I wanted minimal hassle and maximum comfort, ideally with a modern look, and these Sidi Motolux appeared to do the job nicely, albeit at a rather high price.

Still, unboxing was a joy. The faux-leather finish promises durability, but more importantly it's soft and pliable yet the boot remains rigid in a way that allows simple ingress and egress.

I've found it's much quicker to fasten these boots than regular laces thanks

to the Sidi rotor closing mechanism, which evenly tightens a cable lace around the foot, meaning accurate adjustment. This is supplemented by a Velcro ankle strap. Taking the boots off is no slower - simply release the rotor, remove the strap, pull the tongue forwards and you're free. Thanks to their lightweight construction I can barely feel them, while walking or riding, but I was thankful for the extra padding for shifting.

Quality: ★★★★★

Value: ★★★★★

sidiselect.co.uk



## Spidi Defender Back & Chest £256.99

### 'A protective hug'

Tested by Dan Sutherland, 3000 miles / 10 months



I first reviewed this chest and back protector after a winter of riding - praising its ability to provide a warming protective hug on the chilliest of rides. Since then, I've worn it under multiple summer jackets and inside my leathers for two race meetings and it's continued to impress. The CE chest and CE level 2 back elements sit just where you need them and tuck inside my one-piece suit perfectly. Once zipped up, I don't even realise I'm wearing it and it's not too hot on the move. That said, it's not cheap, and I often catch the Velcro side straps with my arms, which can get annoying.

Value ★★★★★ Quality ★★★★★  
www.spidiuk.com

3000  
MILES

# MCN 5004 R5K READERS' TOP FIVE LEATHER JACKETS



## 1 Richa Toulon 2 £299.99

I use it for commuting, leisure rides, and a bit of off-roading. It's held up well, but some inner stitching has frayed, and the hood straps can come loose. Jamie Jeffrey, Medway

## 2 Harley-Davidson Vanocker Waterproof £458

I love it. I have had no issues with quality. I have all of the optional armour, too. Martyn Fordham, Ely



## 3 RST Tractech Evo 3 £279.99

It zips to my RST trousers. Quality is impressive and it's comfy. I've seen zips fail on others. Matt Sutherland, Sleaford



## 4 Enginehawk Hawkeye UV £379

It's been really good, if a bit too warm in summer. I'd like to be able to zip it to my jeans, though. Bob Smith, Notts



## 5 Hideout Touring Jacket £600-£654

I've had mine for five years. I use it year-round. I can't fault the quality. David Neale, Suffolk



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