

**TRIED & TESTED**

MCN STAFF RATE THEIR RIDING KIT

★★★★★



Rugged in all weathers

12 months ON TEST

Klim Outlander GTX £330

# Boots that can take a hike

Perhaps not the bike type Klim had in mind...



**Tested by Ben Clarke for 3000 miles**

Klim have a reputation for producing high-quality kit and the Outlander GTXs sit firmly in that mould. They're best described as casual or urban boots; they're short, lightweight and easy to wear with jeans without looking obviously like motorcycle kit.

What makes them slightly unusual is the adventure styling – they look like a scaled-down adventure boot, which is rare in the ankle-height category. The standout feature is the BOA fastening system, which allows for extremely precise tightening and a very secure fit without the hassle of laces or buckles.

Comfort is exceptional. There was no break-in period required and, over time, the insoles have moulded to the

shape of my feet, making them feel almost personalised after a year of use. On the bike they're lightweight and dextrous, so operating the controls is easy. The left boot has an extended rubberised gear change protector that doesn't feel bulky despite the reinforcement.

Off the bike they're comfortable enough to use as walking boots, which I did regularly through winter dog walks in grim weather. Aside from the reinforced toe, there's little to distinguish them from hiking footwear and even in hotter conditions they remain breathable and don't feel clammy.

Overall quality feels excellent. Structurally they're rock solid and still feel as though they have thousands of miles left in them. The BOA system has never failed or slipped and continues to tighten and

release perfectly. I've deducted a mark because the sole at the heel of one boot has started to come away slightly. That appears to be from wearing them while driving, with the heel rubbing on the carpet – arguably misuse, but still wear that's occurred during my ownership and not a problem I encounter in regular shoes.

Protection is acceptable rather than class-leading. They're CE certified to EN 13634 at 1-1-1-2, meaning a basic Level 1 pass for height, abrasion and impact cut, and higher Level 2 for transverse rigidity; reasonable enough but at this price I'd expect higher scores in the middle two areas. XRD foam padding at the ankle and tongue, plus TPU reinforcement at the heel and toe, mean they don't feel flimsy, and I've commuted on fast A-roads and dual carriageways without hesitation.

At £330 they're undeniably expensive for a short boot with a basic safety certification, and there are alternatives that achieve a 1-2-2-2 for less money. However, the comfort, outstanding waterproofing and long-term durability go a long way towards justifying the price. They're not a bargain, but in real-world use they perform at a very high level and have genuinely impressed me over a year of riding.

MCN rating ★★★★★  
www.klim.com

## PROS & CONS

- + Extremely comfortable on and off the bike
- Only 1-1-1-2 CE certified at this price



Grippy on 'pegs or in a muddy field



BOA closure system works very well