



Donald Atchison, meanwhile, says anyone who buys a motorcycle built under his Ecosse brand name comes to regard it as “The most practical, most desirable piece of art in their collection.”

Ecosse makes limited production, bespoke street bikes ‘for the fortunate few’ – ie, those with plenty of cash. The top-of-the-range Heretic Ti model costs \$139,800, and even the ‘entry level’ version is almost \$50,000.

For that you get an entirely hand-built machine constructed from exotic materials and parts that are individually fabricated at the Ecosse Moto Works in Denver, Colorado – even the dynamically balanced and blueprinted engines are made in-house, as well as the chassis which, on the Heretic Ti version, is created from titanium, a world first in the motorcycle industry.

On the higher-end models, you can demand virtually any specification you like: engine sizes from 1,640cc to 1,966cc are available, you can have your own personal message engraved into the handlebar clamps and any colour and finish you desire.

Carbon fibre is used extensively on the bodywork – there is no plastic on an Ecosse – and every piece is hand-finished to perfection, while the wheels (which can also be made from carbon fibre if so wishes) are made to the same pattern as that of the brake discs.

Although the Heretic Ti is undeniably expensive, Atchison says buyers of the \$60,000-plus versions are really getting three motorcycles in one because each machine comes with multi-adjustable footrests and handlebars which allow the bike to be quickly transformed from a road racer to a cruiser to a dragster.

In any mode, performance is guaranteed from the top engine option, which produces up to 140 horsepower, enough for a maximum speed of 160 mph – and a zero-to-sixty time of just 2.8 seconds.

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