

MCN EXCLUSIVE

# £133,000 – the world's most expensive bike

The Ecosse Heretic Titanium is the priciest production bike you can buy. So what will you get for 20 times the cost of a new CBR600?

ben.purvis@emap.com

If you think a £40k Ducati Desmosedici RR is expensive, or that £13 grand for an MV Agusta F4 is a bit steep, look away now. Because for the price of this machine you could have three Desmosedici in your garage, plus an MV to commute on.

It's the Ecosse Heretic Titanium Series, and with a price tag of £133,000 it's the most expensive production bike currently on the market.

So, what exactly does that extra cash buy you? Exclusivity, for one. Just 10 of these bikes are set to be made, and all will be sold via the exclusive US Robb Report magazine's website. It also buys you a truly hand-made bike.

The engine, for instance, is machined from a solid block of billet aluminium, and features a race-spec crankshaft,

a supercharger, intercooler and fuel injection. From its 2147cc capacity, the pushrod V-twin pumps out some 207bhp and a mighty 218ftlb of torque – or two-and-a-half times as much as a 1000cc superbike.

And incredibly, the engine isn't even the most exotic part of the bike. That honour goes to the chassis, which appears identical to the standard Ecosse Heretic frame but is hand-made from titanium.

Titanium is notoriously expensive, as well as being difficult to manipulate and weld – indeed, Ecosse had to ship in specially-qualified welders to turn the exotic material into frames.

If you've got a titanium

**'The bodywork is race-spec carbon fibre'**

frame, you want to show it off, so the whole thing is left unpainted, and just gets a brushed finish to bring out the sheen of the metal.

Once the engine and frame are mated together, Ecosse bolts on a selection of top-of-the-range parts, sparing no expense. Other bikes might claim to have MotoGP-inspired suspension, but the Heretic Titanium features exactly the same forks and rear shock as you'll find on much of the GP grid.

The frame design allows ride height to be adjusted to such an extent that the Heretic can adopt a range of geometries, from low-slung, cruiser-style riding to a high-tailed sportsbike set-up.

Rake, for instance, can be adjusted between a sharp 25° and a lazy 29°. The only visible clue to this adjustability is the odd-looking sidestand, which can be adjusted to different lengths to suit the

set-up of the bike.

The list of exotic parts goes on and on. The brakes are custom-made ISRs, with six pots on each of the radial-mounted calipers. All the bodywork is race-spec carbon fibre, formed in an autoclave, while the wheels, from BST, are made of the same material.

All that lightweight kit helps cut the weight of the bike to 192kg – not a lot considering the sheer size of its engine.

Each of the 10 bikes will come with a matching BRM chronograph watch, itself worth several thousand pounds, complete with a titanium bezel and an engraved serial number to match the bike.

For most of us, £133,000 would be better employed paying off the mortgage. But if you're one of the few who can afford it, place your order at [www.robbreport.com/limitededitions](http://www.robbreport.com/limitededitions).

## RICH PICKINGS

ENGINEER Donald Atchison came up with the idea for Ecosse in the mid 1990s, and formed Ecosse Moto Works in 2001 to build high-end bikes for the world's richest riders.

He worked through three prototype designs before settling on the Heretic as the firm's first production machine, and set out to build 100 examples.

Now Ecosse have expanded. More designs are on the drawing board, and they have linked with the British designers of the Spirit ES1 superbike – a machine developed by a group of F1 engineers.

Forming a new company, Ecosse Spirit, Atchison aims to get the ES1 into production, tapping up the same wealthy buyers.



If you're going to spend all that cash building a titanium frame, you sure ain't gonna paint it



The engine is machined from a single block of aluminium



Exactly the same forks as you'd see lined up on a MotoGP grid

## Ecosse Titanium in numbers

**275,000**

The Ecosse's price in dollars. Good exchange rates mean it is currently "cheap" in the UK!

**207**

Horsepower made by the bike's supercharged V-twin engine

**2147**

The capacity in cc of its V-twin engine

**335,000**

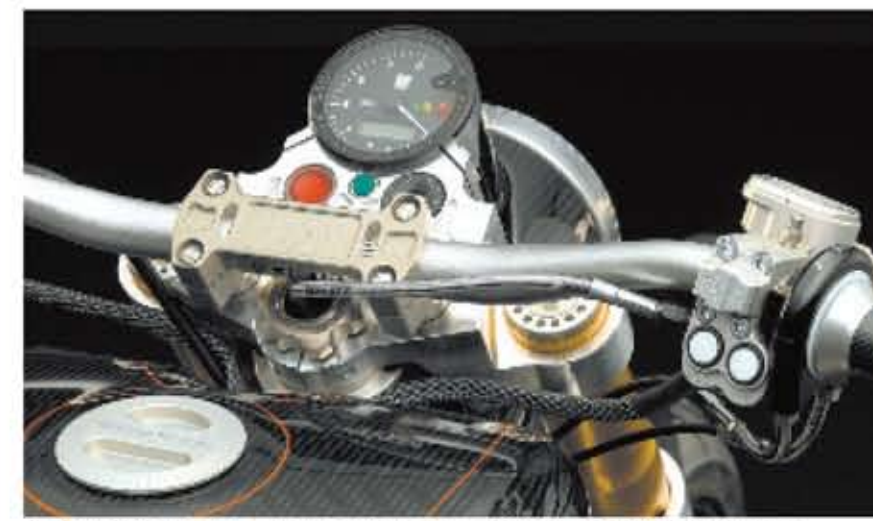
The number of Mars bars you could buy for its purchase price. That's 20 tonnes of chocolate

**167**

How many of Britain's best-selling 50cc bike – the £795 Baotian BT49 QT7 – you could buy for the same cash as one Heretic Titanium.



The bike makes 207bhp and two-and-a-half times as much torque as a 1000cc superbike



A unique serial number is engraved on the bars – so that's numbers one to ten, then

## INSURANCE BABES UNCOVERED

LASSES from insurance provider Motorcycle Direct have posed for a calendar to raise money for Riders for Health. The nine ladies ditched their day jobs in sales, marketing and customer services to do their first glamour shoot. To order a copy (99p) or download the calendar for free, go to [www.mcdcovergirls.co.uk](http://www.mcdcovergirls.co.uk).



## CHELSEA STAR SELLS HARLEY

ENGLAND and Chelsea footballer Sean Wright-Phillips has auctioned off a Harley Nightster in aid of Guatemala's Education for the Children Foundation. The bike, which retails at £6,695, sold for £13,000 at last week's event.



## BROOKLANDS MARKS TON-UP

BROOKLANDS Museum is to stage a special event next year to commemorate 100 years of bike racing at the circuit. Following the success of this year's celebrations marking the centenary of the purpose-built race circuit, Brooklands will stage a motorcycle day on April 20. Tickets are £10; visit [www.brooklandsmuseum.com](http://www.brooklandsmuseum.com).

## TRUCKER SUES AFTER BIKE COP COLLISION

A LORRY driver who knocked a police motorcyclist off his bike is attempting to sue the hospital where the cop was treated, alleging that staff took two days to properly treat his spinal injuries, which have left him paralysed. Phillip Rideout has agreed to pay policeman Simon Anderson £1.4m in damages, but argues that if Anderson had been treated appropriately at St Richard's Hospital in Chichester, he would be able to walk with a stick and continue working.