

BIKER CHIC

Traditional Savile Row tailoring now comes straight to your doorstep in London on a custom-built Vespa.

By RENYILIM



Photos HENRY HERBERT TAILORS



Henry Herbert Tailors' one-of-a-kind Savile Row by Scooter service sends experienced tailors by Vespa to wherever the client might be in London.

Being so ridiculously busy that you can't find the time to have a proper bespoke suit made is no longer a valid excuse – or at least, not while Charlie Baker-Collingwood and his team of scooter-driving tailors are zipping around London with fabric swatches and measuring tapes in hand.

Named after the master of the royal wardrobe to King Charles I and King Charles II, Henry Herbert Tailors' one-of-a-kind Savile Row by Scooter service works around



This and facing pages: every commission begins with a consultation with a Henry Herbert tailor, who will help select the most suitable style, cut and fabric, and explain the tailoring process.

each client's schedule, sending experienced tailors by Vespa to wherever the client might be in London.

Besides handcrafting bespoke suits and shirts using only British-milled wool and Egyptian or Italian cotton, the suits (which start at £1,795, \$3,600) are distinguishable by their tall, slim silhouette, 'cavalry cut' tailored trousers, natural roped shoulders and strong, hand-stitched rolled lapels.

"Every customer is different, and there are no rights, wrongs or



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rules anymore – just preferences,” says Baker-Collingwood. “We have our own house style, but we don’t enforce it – simply suggest. Although it has a slim finish on both the jacket and trousers, it’s in proportion to each customer: the suit should be there to make them look good.”

Exemplifying Henry Herbert’s ever-professional service, he points out that the art of tailoring is not just about creating a flattering suit, but also centres around putting clients at ease. “The problem with bespoke is that there are so many choices, and an important part of our job – besides providing a very high-quality product – is to help steward

This and facing pages:
bespoke suits can be
completed within
four to eight weeks of
the initial consultation.



customers through this labyrinth of decisions. We always start with the question ‘How can we help?’ and from that, everything flows.”

Those adventurous enough to try a slightly less conventional suit might be interested in another of Henry Herbert’s favourite styling combinations – the broken suit.

“It’s really an Italian invention where you break the fabrics apart,” Baker-Collingwood explains. “If your jacket fabric is a navy wool, it might be different from the trouser fabric, which could be a grey cotton or grey wool. It’s all about mixing things up; we like it because it adds a little more flair and character to a suit.” www.henryherbert.com

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