

TRAIL



MEINDL MAKALU

Used by Tom Bailey, **Trail** photographer
Used for 3 years

I wear these boots on every walking shoot I go on, year-round – from cramponing across Beinn Eighe to a bumble along the Cotswold Way. This is my third pair of Meindl boots, as I find the wide shape suits my feet, and I've never had any blister issues. The high rand protects the upper from rocks, and has stood the test of time as regards wear. My only criticism is that over the last six months they have started to squeak and groan, which has led my walking companions to look quizzically around for a bird in pain or a swinging gate. (It was down to the tongue rubbing on the upper.) And I did make a mistake with these boots the day I left them in the boot of my car, damp, on a hot day: not a clever thing to do with leather. They cooked, and shrank.

Verdict when these eventually die I'll order pair number four – though I'll have to settle for their replacement, the Meindl Makalu MFS
Contact www.meindl.de; tel. (01539) 560214



TOM BAILEY SNAPPER EPRICELESS

Used by **Trail** magazine
Used for 13 years

You don't often see Tom's face in the magazine, but he is responsible for the bulk of our photography, which means he's racked up a huge mileage on **Trail** features (just look at those boots!). He's climbed in the Alps and all across Europe, caved, dangled off abselts to wait for the perfect climbing shot, flown over mountains with the RAF and captured on camera some of the greats of British mountaineering (see his exquisite portrait of Harry Griffin on page 60). His hill knowledge is enormous; he gets more excited than you can imagine at the sight of a wheatear or a crop of sphagnum moss, and he loves nothing more than night out bivvying or climbing big winter routes. Hats off to a top class snapper who loves the hills!

Verdict one of **Trail**'s greatest assets, and one of the best outdoor snappers around

