



# MARIN PRESIDIO 1

**£465** » The Californian brand's take on commuting

**M**arin has become adept at forging no-nonsense bikes that don't cost the earth. The Presidio, however, isn't aimed at Marin's usual hunting grounds of mountain biking or gravel: this one's for commuters.

The Series 1 aluminium frame (1) is third on the hierarchy of Marin's alloy offerings, and is neatly finished with tidy welds and quality paint; it doesn't look like a bike that costs less than £500. The frame is also well-appointed with a full complement of traditional mudguard mounts – so it'll take any number of standard 'guards – plus mounts for front and rear racks, not to mention internal cable routing. All good so far, though it's a surprise to find post-mount disc-brake fittings, rather than the latest flat-mounts (found on the Giant). They're bulkier and heavier than their younger siblings, especially when you add in adaptors. The Tektro disc calipers also have to be fitted via an adaptor.

In contrast, the disc brakes themselves (2) are a welcome addition because they're full



**TOP** I was delighted to find Tektro disc brakes at this bike's price  
**ABOVE** Mudguard mounts mean you can avoid the 'commuter stripe'

**WE SAY...**  
*Attractively priced and versatile bike that takes the daily commute in its stride*

hydraulic units that are rarely seen at this price point. They have a smooth, progressive feel at the lever, plenty of power and no rotor rub, even when sprinting out of the saddle from lights.

The drivetrain is simplicity itself with a

single 38-tooth chainring paired with an 8-speed (11–34) cassette. The combination of a single rapid-fire shifter (with gear window) and Altus rear mech is silky smooth with crisp, quiet shifts both up and down.

The forged alloy chainset runs on an old-school, square-taper bottom bracket that has a bit of flex but nothing undue. The chainring features an integrated chain protector (3) to keep stray trouser legs from catching or attracting oil marks. Marin has even included a chain guide to keep the chain in place when riding over rougher ground.

## SPECIFICATIONS

**Weight** 11.89kg

**(L) Frame**

Aluminium

**Fork** Chromoly

**Gears** Shimano

Altus 8-speed

**Wheels** Marin

aluminium

double-wall

rims and forged

alloy hubs

**Brakes** Tektro

HD-M275

hydraulic disc

brakes

**Finishing kit**

Marin Fitness

tyres 700 x

35mm