

ARAI REGENT X FULL FACE HELMET

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Bias Alert: I have an “Arai head,” and no other helmet brand I’ve ever tested fits me quite as perfectly. And I’m not alone, as the company has built a sterling reputation for quality over its 94-year history with riders worldwide. This storied quality isn’t cheap! Arais are normally positioned firmly at the premium end of the helmet market, but the new Regent X aims to bring the meat and potatoes of the Arai experience to the masses at a lower than usual price point.

The Regent X’s Peripheral Belting & Structural Net Composite Shell is constructed from Arai’s proprietary synthetic fibers, while the Variable Axis System (VAS) allows for easy faceshield swaps, not something riders normally associate with Arai! The standard clear Pinlock-compatible faceshield features a thumb-actuated locking mechanism to keep it shut at high speeds. Ventilation is plentiful, with two intake scoops on the crown, two eyebrow vents on the faceshield, and one large two-position chin port all working in concert to keep air flowing through to six fixed-position exhausts on the rear side of the helmet.

The interior features Arai’s “Intermediate Oval” shape, a favorite among American riders. The multi-density liner and fully removable Facial Contour System cheek pads provide a cozy, luxurious fit which is mostly removable for ease of cleaning. The cheek pads thoughtfully include channels for those of us who wear eyeglasses while riding. The removable chin curtain is substantial, effectively blocking off nearly all intake access in that area. Liner and cheek

pad bits are available from Arai in multiple sizes, allowing customization for a truly tailored fit.

Even at this lower (for Arai) price point, the fit and finish of the Regent X is superlative. Our test helmet’s Sensation Blue paintwork was intricate and precise, with a matte finish that held up flawlessly over my commuting regimen. The faceshield and vents actuated smoothly, and the internal liner was plush as expected.

Out on the road, the Regent X was fantastic in every measure. The interior’s liner was comfortable after hundreds of miles in the saddle, and there was plenty of room for comm speakers in the shell recesses. Air ventilation was very good although I did wish for slightly larger crown vent toggles for winter glove actuation. The Regent’s light weight reduced fatigue on high mileage days, and its aerodynamic shape kept wind noise and buffeting to a minimum.

Bottom Line: I’ve used many Arais as my daily personal helmet over the years, most notably the Quantum/f and various Corsair models. The DOT and Snell M2020 Certified Regent X provides 95% of the benefits of those top shelf models at a lower price point, making it a top

choice in the mid-priced full-face helmet class. The Regent X is available in XS-XXL with MSRP starting at \$560 for solids. See www.araiamericas.com/regent-x-variation for more information.

