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THE TEDDY TOP 40

THE BEST WATCHES OF 2025

CONTRIBUTORS

VP of Content
Danny Milton

Editor
Erin Wilborn

Editor in Chief
Bilal Khan

Graphic Designer
Ella Atfield

Director Of Editorial Content
Mark Bernardo

About the Writers

BILAL KHAN

Bilal Khan is the Editor-In-Chief for Teddy Baldassarre overseeing the editorial department and has worked in watch media for a decade. Prior to joining TEDDY, Bilal was Senior Editor at WatchTime Magazine and Managing Editor at aBlogtoWatch. Bilal is also an avid photographer with a penchant for watch and black & white photography. In addition to watches Bilal is passionate about movies, television, video games, and hiking in Los Angeles.

MARK BERNARDO

Mark Bernardo is the Director of Editorial Content at Teddy Baldassarre. He previously served as the Senior Editor of WatchTime Magazine, where for more than 15 years he covered every aspect of the luxury watch industry, from reviewing timepieces to documenting brand histories to profiling industry leaders and celebrity collectors. He is the author of AIR TIME: Watches Inspired by Aviation, Aeronautics, and Pilots, and co-author of SEA TIME: Watches Inspired by Sailing, Yachting, and Diving. He has written about watches and other luxury lifestyle topics for Robb Report, Maxim, Worth, and Bloomberg BusinessWeek.

DANNY MILTON

Danny Milton is the VP, Content for Teddy Baldassarre overseeing the brand's entire content operations while also appearing on-camera on the Teddy Baldassarre YouTube channels. Prior to joining TEDDY, Danny spent five years at Hodinkee, where he served as Managing Editor, guiding the company's editorial and overall content verticals from online to video to the twice-yearly publishing of Hodinkee Magazine. Danny has also delved into the world of watches and movies (and television) having consulted on such productions as "Succession," and "The White Lotus." His favorite watch of all time is the Rolex Submariner and favorite watch movie is Robert Redford's Red Submariner Ref. 1680 from 1976's "All The President's Men. In addition to TEDDY and Hodinkee, Danny has been featured online in interviews for GQ, and the Hollywood Reporter.

ERIN WILBORN

Erin Wilborn is an Editor and Social Media Content Strategist at Teddy Baldassarre. Originally from Fort Worth, Texas, she has been working in the watch industry for over three years after getting her start as a Copywriter-turned-Editor at Hodinkee. Before her time in the watch industry, she taught English in Madrid, Spain in the public school system for several years. In addition to being an unabashed lover of teeny tiny watches, she loves to knit in her free time.





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The Best Watches Of 2025

BY BILAL KHAN

“

With the rapid pace of the industry’s numerous releases throughout the year, it becomes increasingly challenging for enthusiasts to cut through the noise and determine what is truly notable. Our team members have a combined industry experience spanning over half a century, engaging with leading voices, and experiencing timepieces firsthand around the world.

TEDDY BALDASSARRE

”

2025 has been a year marked by major new collections from Rolex to Christopher Ward while others like Vacheron Constantin and Longines expanded some of their established collections. The new Rolex Land-Dweller has been the story of the year since its launch at Watches & Wonders but the return of the Omega Railmaster and even the refreshed Patek Philippe Calatrava 6196P captured our attention and while delivering on lofty expectations. Here the editorial team at Teddy brings you 40 of our best watch releases of 2025 from a diverse group of brands. These are pieces that impressed us for their creativity, watchmaking prowess, or just plain good design and execution. But the year is not over yet so there are bound to be some additions to this list that we have not anticipated (and some we have an idea are coming) so we’ll keep an eye on what the second half of 2025 looks like. Until then, here are our best of watches of 2025.



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A quick rundown of our top 40 watches of 2025.

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01

Rolex Land-Dweller

The Rolex Land-Dweller debuted this year at Watches & Wonders and represents a brand new Rolex collection, and the first new “Dweller” since the Sky-Dweller. It harkens back to the brand’s past, notably its utilization of quartz technology via the famed Datejust Oysterquartz which served as Rolex’s primary, though shortlived, integrated bracelet offering. Now that integrated design is and has been experiencing a strong resurgence, Rolex is back with a modern take on the Oysterquartz look. But it isn’t just a superficial creation as the brand has used the Land-Dweller as a template to announce a major movement breakthrough under the hood.

The Land-Dweller is the product of 18 new patents specific to this watch, as Rolex has developed an entirely new watch both inside and out. No, this is not a new complication, but it is a brand-new approach to timekeeping. It marks the first development of a new escapement system at this scale since the arrival of the Co-Axial escapement from Omega some twenty-five years ago.

Backing up and returning to the design, we are met with a new take on the Jubilee bracelet, which features a flat-link design that flows seamlessly from the case. In person, the vertical brushing is beautiful and follows the contours of the angular drop-off from case to bracelet. On it you will find a polished caseline with exterior link chamfers and the polished interior links. This flat Jubilee has key differences from the normal fare. The outer links are broader, and by proxy the inner links narrower. The tops of the links are flat, and the center links are raised just above the outer links, a feat that is harder to achieve than you might think.

The bracelet tapers down to the crown clasp – which you might recognize from older generation Datejusts, and current Day-Dates. The only drawback of a crown clasp is the lack

of micro-adjustment we have become accustomed to with systems like Easylink. The bracelet attaches to the case via a 10-component system with ceramic tubes that house the spring bar to reduce wear.

In terms of case size, the Land-Dweller comes in either a 36mm or 40mm diameter. This very much mirrors the sizing conventions of the Day-Date. Both wear incredibly well.

Next is the bezel which features the iconic fluted design, with a twist. The fluted bezel found on the Day-Date has 72 flutes; the 1908 has 180 flutes. The Land-Dweller has a redesigned set of 60 flutes, which really play beautifully with the light, and it pairs well with the chapter ring, which is sloped.

In both sizes, the watch measures 9.6mm in case height, but the lug-to-lug changes depending on 36 or 40mm sizing. The former measures in at 43.5mm while the larger 40mm has a lug-to-lug of 46.5mm. In terms of real-world perception, both models feel remarkably thin for what they are.

The Land-Dweller debuted this year in three metals: Rolesor (steel with a white gold bezel), Everose, and Platinum. The Rolesor and Everose have white dials, and the Platinum is released in a sunray Ice blue typical of Rolex platinum fare. Look closely and you’ll notice a very distinctive honeycomb pattern. In fact, Rolex calls this a honeycomb, but also a flute-patterned dial. This motif is also seen in the counterweight on the central seconds hand (more on hands later). Beyond the honeycomb, you will find fine vertical lines applied via a femtosecond laser.

The dials are not all the same however. There is variance depending on whether the watch features a diamond dial & be





OVERVIEW

Reference

MO268291704100

Case Size

40.5 mm

Crystal

Sapphire

Water Resistance

200m

CASE

Case

Stainless Steel

Crown

Screw-down

Dial

Blue

Dial Features

Applied indexes / Arabic numerals

MOVEMENT

Caliber

Stainless Steel

Function

Date, GMT

Jewels

25

Power Reserve

Up to 80 hours

zel or not. This option is only found on the Everose and platinum variants and when diamonds are present, there are stick-shaped markers throughout. It's when there aren't diamonds that these watches really bring newness to the forefront by way of a new "6" and "9" marker set. Unlike those found on the Air-King and Explorer, the applied 6 and 9 numerals have an open design that reminds me of the open numerals on vintage Rolex date wheels. These markers are filled with Chromalight lume, as are the other markers. Which brings us to the next portion of newness. The markers have been redesigned, and if you look closely, you'll notice that they are open on either end with exposed Chromalight lume. This exact cutting and exposure of the lume is one of the 18 patented components of the watch.

Speaking of those 18 patents, 16 of them are applied to the internal specs of this watch, i.e. the movement. That's the real story with this watch. As amazing as all of the design efforts are on the outside, the future will look back upon the caliber 7135 inside the watch. To find a development anywhere close to this one, we need to look back a decade to 2015 when Rolex unveiled the Chronergy escapement system which reworked the Swiss lever escapement. With the Land-Dweller, Rolex embarks on a new journey utilizing its version of a natural escapement called the Dynapulse Escapement system. The Caliber 7135 represents Rolex's first use of a 5Hz movement – a Rolex high-beat.

The Dynapulse is designed to be efficient. It uses silicon escapement components making it highly resistant to magnetism. Its architecture is such that the components create a rolling motion rather than one that slides. The going train takes the stored energy from the mainspring and then connects with a large wheel that Rolex calls the "Transmission Wheel." The Transmission Wheel, instead of interacting directly with a pallet fork, is first met with two wheels known as the Sequential Distribution Wheels. Rolex has designed these with custom teeth.

The energy from the Transmission Wheel is then fed to one of the distribution wheels via a raised pinion at the first Sequential Distribution Wheel's axis. Next, a component called the impulse rocker (with the help of the impulse jewel on the balance roller) enables the locking and unlocking of the two Sequential Distribution Wheels, thereby providing power to the oscillator.

The balance wheel itself is made of brass, containing two microstella studs for finer adjustments. The hairspring is a familiar sight for some – as it is made of the brand's proprietary Syloxi material – an abbreviated form of silicon and silicon oxide composite. This balance spring is also highly resistant to magnetic fields and shock, and offers stability amid temperature changes. Lastly, the balance staff is modified with ceramic construction to work with redesigned Paraflex shock absorbers in what Rolex is calling a double cone internal structure. These are positioned at both ends of the balance staff and enable the precise repositioning of the staff against shocks.

The result is a movement that delivers a 30% increase in efficiency compared to prior 3230 calibers. But it also brings Rolex's Superlative Chronometer accuracy to a 5Hz frequency, remaining accurate to -2 / +2 seconds per day. And it does it all while still managing to maintain 66 hours of power reserve. If the 7135 looks familiar to you, that's because it is derived from the 71 series used in the 1908. Here we see very good decoration including the Rolex Cotes de Genève across the bridges, machined anglage edges, and a solid gold rotor. And while efficiency and accuracy were brought over in this new caliber, it also comes in 2mm thinner than the 3230 series.

In short, the Land-Dweller represents brand new innovation from Rolex from design to engineering and should serve as foreshadowing for where the brand is headed in the future.

02

Oris Big Crown Pointer Date

After 90 years on, the Big Crown Pointer Date is one of Oris' catalog pillars, with nearly 30 offerings in the current lineup, including plenty of choice in case and dial variants, and several in bronze. For 2025, we get even more by way of choice, with five color-soaked dials spread across two different models, launched for Watches & Wonders.

What we're looking at with this new release is two separate models, the Big Crown Pointer Date with its central second hand, and the aptly named Oris Big Crown Pointer Date Calibre 403, which gets a movement upgrade and a small seconds display. The center seconds model is available in three bold new colorways, and the small seconds in two new, different dial colors.

Starting with the center seconds version, these newest Big Crown Pointer Dates keep their near-ideal dimensions, with a classic 40/20 format, that is, a 40mm case diameter and a 20mm lug width. You get a well-proportioned 47.5mm lug-to-lug, and a 12mm case height, including the double-domed antireflective sapphire crystal, and that's with a display caseback. Finishing is a blend of fine brushing and polishing, with a mirror-like bezel that serves to accentuate the bold dials. The signed big crown is indeed big, and offers fantastic grip via its pronounced ribbing. And although the crown does screw down, water resistance is listed as 50 meters. On the reverse, the screwed-in display caseback is rendered in flat mineral for the center seconds version, and sapphire in the Calibre 403, which gains a fairly inconsequential 0.3mm in thickness due to the slightly larger movement within.

The center seconds model comes standard with an attractive and comfortable H-link bracelet, with brushed outer links and polished centers. The signed-yet-hidden clasp is well-finis-

hed, with a two-button release, and there are half links included for a precise fit. The Calibre 403 versions are available with your choice of the bracelet, or a willowy tan deer leather strap with deployant clasp.

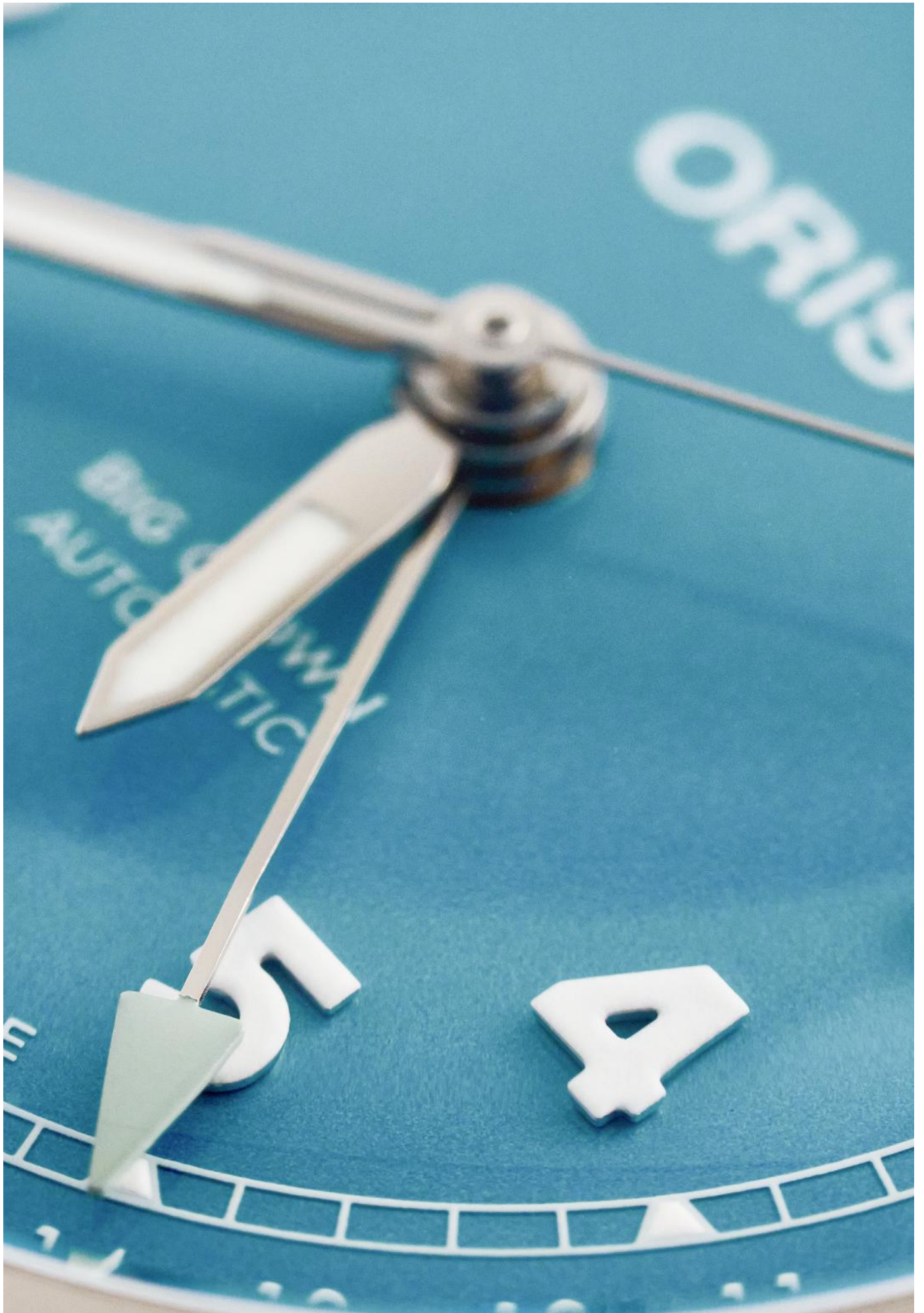
The dial variants shake out like this: the standard Big Crown Pointer Date now comes in a vibrant turquoise blue, a sunny lemon-drop yellow, and a soothing lilac purple, all of which offer a carefree sense of style first seen in the cotton candy-dialed Divers 65 models. The Calibre 403 small seconds versions get two colorways of their own, a soft, herbal green, along with a rich terracotta red.

Both watches share the classic Big Crown Arabic numerals, in this case applied and lending some deep dimension to the dial. They're filled with Swiss Super-LumiNova, as are the hour and minute hands, and anecdotally, the hands do glow a bit brighter than the dial elements. Dial text is somewhat reserved, a wise choice that allows the other aspects a bit of breathing room, including the railroad minute track and the outer date scale.

The hands are a simple pencil shape for the hour and minute hands a needle-like shape for the second hand. The pointer date gets a clean arrowhead design, color-coordinated to the dial in question, and a departure from the red crescents of the more traditional Big Crown Pointer Dates we're accustomed to.

As far as the distinguishing points of the Calibre 403 version, we're obviously getting the small seconds subdial above six, with a simple railroad track design and straight silver hand.

Apart from the dial choices, the big point of distinction be-





OVERVIEW

Reference

01 754 7798 4069-07 8 20 06

Case Size

40 mm

Water Resistance

50m

CASE

Case

Multi-piece stainless steel

Crown

Screw-down

Dial

Yellow

Dial Features

Applied indexes / Arabic numerals

MOVEMENT

Caliber

Caliber 754

Function

Date

Jewels

25

Power Reserve

41 Hours

tween the two models is the movement within. For the standard Big Crown Pointer Date, Oris utilizes the automatic 754, essentially a modified Sellita movement with the addition of a pointer date function. While it doesn't offer world-beating power reserve at 41 hours, the 754 has a 28,800 VpH rate, or 4 Hertz. The 26 jewel movement hacks and handwinds, and features bidirectional winding and Incabloc shock resistance. Movement decoration is clean and industrial, with the oscillating weight finished in Oris' trademark deep red.





03

Tudor Black Bay 58 Burgundy

The new Burgundy Black Bay 58 represents a full refresh of the line much like the 41mm Black Burgundy did the same in 2023. It takes the burgundy color usage of Black Bays from the past, and then updates odds and ends to make this watch look closer to its vintage ancestors.

With this new model as we get a punchy, sunburst burgundy dial color harkening back to a certain 1990s Tudor Submariner prototype that had a similar red bezel/red dial combination. And while that watch never made it to the production stage, it heavily influenced the brand's decision when it released the very first Black Bay with a burgundy bezel.

The first thing you'll notice is the inclusion of the five-link bracelet, a fixture now of larger BB models. And yes, that also means the watch is finally equipped with Tudor's micro-adjustment T-Fit system which allows for ample adjustment in a sliding motion similar to the Glidelock on Rolex divers.

It has a redesigned crown with a knurling similar to the Tudor Submariners of old, that is also rendered smaller than the original BB58 crown was. It is a change similarly deployed on the aforementioned updated Black Bay 41 diver.

The case still measures 39mm in diameter but is now 0.2mm thinner – measuring 11.7mm in case height compared to the 11.9mm it was before.

Then there's the internals where we see a shift from the MT-5402 movement – a chronometer-certified caliber – to the new MT5400-U caliber – a Master Chronometer. The MT-5400 has been used in the Black Bay 54, but the "U" distinction makes it the METAS variation. The movement has a variable in-

ternal balance, runs with 27 jewels and provides 65 hours of power reserve with a 4Hz beat rate.

In addition to the five-link bracelet, the watch also comes on the traditional riveted three-link style as well as a rubber option. The bezel is made of anodized aluminum in that burgundy colorway, and the redesigned crown remains stamped with the classic Tudor rose. The dial gets simplified by way of less text and the lack of faux-lume paired with the red hues make for a very interesting watch overall.

This watch represents a new day for the Black Bay 58 which receives changes many of its larger siblings have also gotten. In short, this is a watch that still looks to the past, while also setting the watch up for the future. It is priced at \$4,400 on strap, \$4,625 on the riveted three-link bracelet, and \$4,725 on the five-link bracelet.

OVERVIEW

Reference
M7939A1A0RU-0001

Case Size
39 mm

Water Resistance
200m

CASE

Case
Stainless Steel

Crown
Screw-down

Dial
Blue

Dial Features
Applied indexes

Crystal
Domed Sapphire

MOVEMENT

Caliber
Manufacture Calibre
MT5400-U

Function
Hours, minutes

Jewels
27

Power Reserve
65 Hours





04

Tudor Pelagos Ultra

After years of focusing on the FXD platform, and a smaller form factor for the Pelagos collection, Tudor returned in 2025 to the collection's roots with the introduction of the Pelagos Ultra. The newest watch goes a bit old school, with a 43mm titanium case and a familiar looking design language, with a few notable exceptions, and a newly designed extension system in the clasp. The Ultra stands as a reaffirmation of the original ethos of the Pelagos collection, a modern, unrelenting diving instrument with little in the way of compromises. Oh, and it's got multi-colored lume on the dial.

Looking at the visual language, we can start with the dial. Instead of an angled rehaut with recesses for the block hour markers we get a flattened experience to bring the dial closer to the underside of the crystal, and likely keep the total thickness somewhat in check. The dial does get a stepped chapter ring, with the hour markers segregated completely on the main dial section.

On the subject of hour markers, it's worth noting that the date aperture at three o'clock completely removes any semblance of an hour marker, potentially running afoul of ISO standards in the process. We saw Seiko deal with this by adding a small, half marker to the right of the aperture in their Prospex line before moving the date altogether to the 4:30 position.

The 43mm case is constructed from both grade 2 and grade 5 titanium, and gets a helium escape valve at nine o'clock in the case, right where you'd expect. The case itself has received a slight redesign, according to Tudor, though the differences are tough to spot. The dial elements have been scaled up to benefit legibility, which wasn't exactly a weak point before. But this watch doubles the standard depth rating of 500m, to 1,000m, so the changes will be welcome in that context.

The dial also welcomes multiple lume colors, with the minute hand and the bezel pip each getting a green hue to contrast with the base blue of the rest of the lume. This will make spotting the most important components a bit easier in low light situations. The other deviation on the dial comes in the form of a light blue Pelagos label at the bottom of the dial, sitting atop the Master Chronometer label.

Yes, this watch receives Tudor's MT5612-U which has undergone master chronometer certification, which means it will keep time to ± 2 seconds per day. The automatic movement enjoys 65 hours of reserve, and sits behind a closed caseback. Total thickness of the Ultra is 14.5mm, and if that's a number that concerns you the Pelagos was likely never really on your radar to begin with.

The bracelet clasp of the Pelagos Ultra receives a new version of the T-Fit clasp, which allows for easy adjustments on the fly including a visual guide to how much the bracelet has been extended. The builds on the spring loaded system introduced with the original Pelagos, that also had a visual cue of how far it was being stretched to fit over a dive suit.

The Pelagos Ultra is a return to form for the Pelagos collection, and shows that Tudor is still focused on the core values of the idea behind the collection. The use of the term Ultra denotes its the first one capable of reaching 1,000 meters. This hardcore Pelagos will come priced at \$6,100.





OVERVIEW

Reference

M2543C1A7NU-0001

Case Size

43 mm

Water Resistance

1,000m

CASE

Case

Titanium

Crown

Titanium screw-down

Dial

Black

Dial Features

Black matte dial with sand-blasted flange

Crystal

Domed Sapphire

MOVEMENT

Caliber

MT5612-U

Function

Hours, minutes

Jewels

26

Power Reserve

65 Hours





05

Omega Railmaster

The Railmaster is one of – if not the most recent addition to the “best of 2025” lineup, having been released in May of this year. In the wake of the Seamaster Railmaster’s recent discontinuation, Omega brought the double master collection back in a most unexpected way. We have grown accustomed to the Railmaster – which has its history as being one of the original 1957 trilogy watches alongside the first Seamaster 300 and the original Speedmaster – being merged with the Seamaster collection. But that notion was never felt as much as the 2025 revamp of the line as the iconic Railway watch now feels more like an Aqua Terra than an engineer’s tool (the Railmaster has always been considered Omega’s version of the Rolex Milgauss).

First thing to note is that this now comes in two new colorways, one with a grey gradient and one in a small-seconds format with a patinated, faux-aged, brown coloration. Neither looks exactly like any particular historical Railmaster, but both bring a vintage-meets-modern effect to the lineup.

In some sense, this is perhaps the classiest iteration of the Railmaster to date as it utilizes the identical case and bracelet format from the modern 38mm Aqua-Terra. That means the brushed and polished three link bracelet, which is a far cry from the all-brushed affair of the outgoing model. This bracelet notably features on-the-fly microadjustment. These watches measure 38mm, with 12.4mm in thickness, 19mm lug width, and are 44.9mm lug-to-lug.

The center-seconds variation uses the METAS-certified 8806 and the small seconds, the 8804, with both bringing the same 15,000 gauss resistance to magnetism. While anti-magnetism has long been the hallmark of the Railmaster, this gauss rating is standard for Omega in the modern context.

The center-seconds Railmaster veers away from the past enough to make this look fresh, but also looks decidedly more like an Aqua Terra than a Railmaster. Conversely, the small-seconds does harken back to a version of the model range from 2004, which gives it a nice tie to the past.

The updated Railmaster slots into the Omega lineup as a real value play aided by a nice simplicity in design that makes it a great option for a lot of people looking for an everyday, no-date tool watch.

OVERVIEW

Reference

235.10.38.20.06.001

Case Size

38 mm

Water Resistance

150m

CASE

Case

Stainless Steel

Crown

Screw-in

Dial

Gradient grey

Dial Features

Large numerals and white hour markers with Super-LumiNova

Crystal

Domed Sapphire

MOVEMENT

Caliber

8806

Jewels

35

Power Reserve

55 Hours





06

Rolex Oyster Perpetual Beige, Pistachio, Lavender

In another bit of Watches & Wonders-related Rolex fare, the brand took its entry level model range, the OP, and delivered a trio (well actually more than that if you count the upgrade of the shade of blue used for one of its dials) of new dial colors across the entire size range.

For our purposes, 36mm and 41mm Oyster Perpetual models have served to be the most popular, especially in the wake of such editions as the “Celebration” OP, and colors like the orange and “Tiffany” blue. Some of these colorways took what is meant to be the entry point for Rolex, but you would never know that if you saw them on the secondary market.

Fast-forward back to the subject at hand and it was the beige, pistachio, and lavender dial iterations that got everyone most excited this year and allowed us to turn technically three watches into one of our favorites for 2025. These are literally the OPS we know and love with the only meaningful difference being the matte dial colors, that veer into pastel territory.

The beige is honestly something new for us as you really never see it used in watchmaking, but it brings a warm bit of casualness to the watch. The Pistachio is a color we have come to love via the Breitling Premier, but it really shines here on the OP. The lavender is perhaps the most “love it or hate it” of the

bunch but, like the beige, it introduces a shade that we seldom see and despite its lavender coloration, it could absolutely qualify as a unisex offering.





OVERVIEW

Reference
134300

Case Size
41 mm

Water Resistance
100m

CASE

Case
Oystersteel

Crown
Screw-down

Dial
Pistachio

Dial Features
Applied indexes

Crystal
Scratch-resistant sapphire

MOVEMENT

Caliber
3230

Jewels
31

Power Reserve
70 Hours





07

Hamilton Khaki Field Auto 38

Today, we look at two new riffs on the fantastically-proportioned 38mm Khaki Field Auto, in striking new blue and olive green colorways which take what has been a no-brainer “first watch” choice to new heights.

What we have is a 38mm diameter, case height of 11.5mm, and tidy lug-to-lug of 46mm combined with a 20mm lug width. Finishing is tool watch-appropriate, with circular brushing on the case top and horizontal brushing along the flanks, but there's a dash of polish in the form of that nicely sloping bezel that meets the flat sapphire glass. Water resistance is an up-for-anything 100 meters, aided by the substantial push/pull crown and screwed-in display caseback. The signed crown is slightly oversized, and with its precisely-ribbed texture.

On both the blue and green-dialed variants, you can specify a calfskin leather strap in a medium brown that features contrasting white stitching for a fantastic vintage look. These straps are lined, and utilize a stainless pin buckle, with a taper that goes from 20mm at the lugs down to 18. And as we're dealing with a dressier take on a field watch here, the 20mm lug width offers a universe of possibilities. But for a mere \$50 upcharge, the bracelet option is a no-brainer, with its rugged three-link configuration and brushed finish bringing the watch upmarket in an instant. The signed twin pushbutton clasp boasts a machined construction that inspires confidence, getting a boost of refinement from its polished edges. And while it doesn't offer a whole lot of leeway in terms of microadjustment, you shouldn't have too much trouble getting a good fit.

The dial aesthetic splits the difference between the rudimentary functionality of the Khaki Field Mechanical, and the more restrained refinement of the Khaki Field Murph. Moving inward, bold Arabics indicate the hours, and as we reach closer to the

center, a military 24-hour scale provides added utility. Dial text is kept to a minimum, with the Hamilton wordmark below twelve, and 'Khaki Automatic' above six. A white-framed date window at three may not be strictly field watch-correct, but it certainly adds a welcome functionality for those who prefer it. The entirety of the printing is rendered in bright white, with lume on the Arabic hour markers and dots every five minutes at the dial's edge. A healthy shot of lume can also be found within the modified sword hour and minute hands, both featuring an extended needle tip. The second hand makes its presence known with a bold red arrow tip, and the arresting pop of color works beautifully paired with both colorways. All this works nicely against the sunray finish of either color variant.

The 38mm Khaki Field Auto boasts one of the better movements among its competition, the H-10 automatic, which is essentially a modified ETA C07.611. The H-10 features both hacking and handwinding, a Nivachron balance spring, and its slower beat rate of 3 Hertz, or 21,600 vibrations per hour, contributes to its category-leading power reserve of 80 hours. The Powermatic 80 family of movements are anecdotally better regulated than many of their peers, and on the H-10, you'll see a higher level of finishing, which is simple, but clean and aesthetically pleasing, with the cutout vintage Hamilton 'H' a highlight.

These new takes on the Khaki Filed auto are priced at \$745 on strap and \$795 on bracelet.

OVERVIEW

Reference
H70455133

Case Size
38 mm

Water Resistance
100m

CASE

Case
Stainless Steel

Crown
Push/pull

Dial
Black

Dial Features
Date Window

Crystal
Sapphire

MOVEMENT

Caliber
H-10

Function
Date

Jewels
25

Power Reserve
80 Hours





08

Zenith G.F.J

Zenith is most well known for the iconic El Primero movement but with 2025 marking the brand's 160th anniversary, they released something a little different and very impressive to the table with the G.F.J. Named after Zenith founder Georges Favre-Jacot, this watch tells the story of the caliber 135 which is a lesser known yet no less significant movement of theirs. The Zenith caliber 135 dates back to the mid-20th century when it was called the Caliber 135-O, with that "O" denoting that it was meant for observatory testing rather than commercial use and it would go on to win 230 chronometry trials which is still a record. The G.F.J introduces a new Caliber 135 designed for modern times and it makes quite an entrance being housed in the dramatic and wonderful limited edition G.F.J watch.

Before we get into the new Caliber 135, let's talk about the case and dial of the G.F.J as it really was these aesthetics that captured everyone's attention at Watches & Wonders 2025. The platinum case measures 39.15mm wide and 10.5mm thick with a lug-to-lug measurement of 45.75mm making for a very versatile and wearable watch. And then there is that dial which starts with the center done in majestic lapis lazuli, the brilliant blue stone that has so much character with those flecks of golden pyrite throughout. The seconds sub-dial is done in a lighter blue mother of pearl that adds its own depth and richness borne from the natural patterns of the stone. Finally, the dial is framed in a "brick" guilloché pattern that is adorned with 40 individual white gold beads that are hand applied. Finally, there are the hands and hour markers which are all done in white gold. All these details come together in harmony which is a bit surprising considering how different each of the patterns are.

The case back reveals the new Caliber 135 movement which is indeed new but stays very true to the original. In fact, it has

the same dimensions (13 lignes in diameter and 5mm thick) and architecture of the original while the "brick" guilloché pattern echoes the chapter ring on the dial. This manual-wind movement operates at an old-school 2.5 Hz and has a 72-hour power reserve which improves on the 40-hours of the original. It also exceeds COSC standards with an accuracy of +/-2 seconds per day.

The Zenith G.F.J is a special watch that reintroduces one of the great movements of the 20th century but with a contemporary twist. These watches are limited to 160 pieces with a price of \$49,900. That said, the matching platinum bracelet is an absolute game-changer after which the strap just does not hold up. Of course, the bracelet doesn't just bring up the total weight of the watch (to a whopping 250 g) but also more than doubles the price to precisely \$99,900.





OVERVIEW

Reference

40.1865.0135/51.C200

Case Size

39.15 mm

Water Resistance

50m

CASE

Case

Platinum 950

Crown

Notched crown emblazoned with the G.F.J. initials

Dial

Black

Dial Features

Zenith star logo, white gold hour markers, outer ring and 40 white gold beads

Crystal

Sapphire

MOVEMENT

Caliber

135

Function

Hours and minutes, small seconds at 6 o'clock

Power Reserve

72 Hours





09

Vacheron Constantin 222 Steel

The Vacheron Constantin 222 was initially released in 1977 and was essentially a precursor to the Overseas, the brand's more mainstream integrated bracelet sports watch. Designed by the vastly underrated and prolific Jörg Hysek, the 222 had a tonneau-shaped case framed by that dramatic scalloped bezel matched with the bracelet which was done by the legendary Gay Frères. In 2022 the brand released the Les Historiques 222, a solid gold reissue of the original that became one of the hottest and most talked about watches of the year. And earlier this year, we saw the long-awaited Vacheron Constantin 222 in a steel case. The steel iteration does not change much from the gold other than the use of a steel case and bracelet, a matte blue dial, and the use of a contrasting 18k yellow gold Maltese cross on the case (as opposed to white gold).

Vacheron Constantin understood that sticking to what made the original so iconic was paramount here, so the contemporary 222 does not stray too far from the original. Still, there are some differences you should know about if you wanted to speak knowledgeably about the 222. First, while the case remains 37mm wide, it's now 7.95mm thick as opposed to the original which was 7.2mm thick. And where the original had a monobloc case which helped achieve 120 m of water resistance, the new model does not which sadly results in 50 m of water resistance. Another major difference has to do with the movement and case back and ultimately comes down to a matter of taste. The original 222 had a LeCoultre 920-based Caliber 1120 movement which was hidden behind an enclosed case back. The new 222 has an exhibition case back that shows off the modern in-house Caliber 2455 which operates at 4 Hz and has a 40-hour power reserve. The real star of the show is the frosted yellow gold rotor, though. While it would have been incredible to see Vacheron source some old Caliber 1120

movements, the durability and reliability of the contemporary Caliber 2455 is inarguable.

Where the new Vacheron Constantin 222 absolutely outperforms the original is with an improved dial, superior case finishing, and most importantly, the bracelet. While it looks just like the original with those hexagonal center links, the new bracelet wears far more comfortably and has superior build quality due to manufacturing techniques available today that didn't exist in the 1970s. An easy way to tell is by seeing how tight the links are due to superior tolerances. The Vacheron Constantin 222 is more obscure and lesser known than the Royal Oak or Nautilus but that rarity is what makes it so special. The steel model introduced this year is priced at \$32,000.

OVERVIEW

Reference
4200H/222A-B934

Case Size
37 mm

Water Resistance
50m

CASE

Case
Stainless Steel

Dial
Blue

Dial Features
Date Window

MOVEMENT

Caliber
2455

Function
Date

Power Reserve
40 Hours





10

Patek Philippe Calatrava 6196P Salmon Dial

You would not be alone in wondering why this otherwise rather simple and straightforward dress watch from Patek Philippe has been getting so much love since its release at Watches & Wonders 2025. The reason here is that, for all the respect and reverence the Calatrava commands, the collection has been fairly lackluster for many years now. Sure, the category can be a little stuffy but this year Patek showed us how there is room for passion and intrigue in otherwise demure dress watch.

The 6196P is uncompromisingly steeped in Patek Philippe's oft-overlooked history as the dress watch one aspires to. Done here in a 38mm wide and 9.33mm thick platinum case with a lovely salmon dial framed with applied prism-shaped "obus" anthracite white gold hour markers and a running seconds sub-dial at 6 o'clock. The previous Calatrava Ref. 5196 (discontinued in 2022) had a smaller 37mm wide case but was outfitted with the old 215 PS movement which had a 21.9mm diameter which was just too small and resulted in a seconds sub-dial that was so bizarrely close to the center of the dial that it quite literally grazed against the pinion where the hands are mounted. It was like a belly button placed right beneath one's sternum. This new Calatrava uses the updated manual-wind caliber 30-255 PS which operates at 4 Hz, has a 65-hour power reserve, and has a diameter of 31mm which perfectly fits the 38mm case of this watch.

Of course, fixing the mistakes of the past isn't enough to make a truly great watch. The rose-gilt opaline dial here is just magnificent with the natural salmon tone being far more subtle than some photos would have you believe. This warm unctuous dial matched with the blackened gold from the hands and hour

markers makes for one of the most handsomely conservative watches in recent memory. It's the kind of dress watch that, well, makes you want to dress up. The Patek Philippe Calatrava Ref. 6196P is priced at \$49,440 which is a pretty penny but this is the watch that embodies Patek's "you never actually own a Patek Philippe, you merely look after it for the next generation" slogan.





OVERVIEW

Reference
6196P-001

Case Size
38 mm

Water Resistance
30m

CASE

Case
Platinum

Crown
Screw-down

Dial
Rose-gilt opaline

MOVEMENT

Caliber
30-255 PS

Function
Small seconds

Jewels
27

Power Reserve
65 Hours





11

TAG Heuer Formula 1 Solargraph

In 2024 TAG Heuer released the Formula 1 Kith collection which many of us assumed would be the template for the brand's standard production reissue of their 1980s classic. However, we ended up getting something entirely different and wholly refreshing. The new TAG Heuer Formula 1 Solargraph stay true to the retro style of the original while being more ambitious than a simple throwback cash grab. Where the original Formula 1 came in a 28 or 34mm wide case, the new Formula 1 Solargraph is done in 38mm wide case that measures 9.9mm thick with a 45.2mm lug-to-lug measurement. There are plenty of options with three core collection models and six limited production models that will slowly be rolled out in coordination with this year's Formula 1 race schedule.

The Solargraph TH50-00 caliber has a whopping 15 year battery life which instantly communicates that this is not some novelty toy watch you wear for fun and then toss out. This is a serious watch with a serious solar-powered movement that can run for a full day with just 2 minutes of sunlight and can run for 10 months after 40 hours of sunlight. The Formula 1 Solargraph also introduces TH-Polylight, a new polymer that TAG Heuer says is highly durable and very lightweight. The cases have 100 m of water resistance and are done in steel,

DLC-coated steel, or TH-Polylight with all of the bezels being done in this new polymer. The TAG Heuer Formula 1 Solargraph is priced at \$1,750 on rubber strap and \$1,850 on steel bracelet.

OVERVIEW

Reference
WBY1111.BA0042

Case Size
38 mm

Water Resistance
100m

CASE

Case
Stainless Steel

Dial
White

MOVEMENT

Solar Quartz

Functions
Hours, Minutes,
Seconds, Date

Power Reserve
15 Year





12

Jaeger-LeCoultre Reverso Tribute Monoface Gold On Milanese

At this point JLC is almost synonymous with the Reverso, the rectangular with a reversible case that was designed for Polo players dating back just shy of 100 years now. This year we saw an iteration of this perennial classic that left an impression on everyone who was fortunate enough to try it on at Watches & Wonders.

Done in solid 18k pink gold, this Reverso Tribute Monoface Small Seconds measures 27.4mm wide and just 7.56mm thick with a 45.6mm lug-to-lug measurement. This makes for nearly perfect proportions that set the watch up for resounding success due to the uniquely immaculate vibes that can only come from a solid gold watch. The grained pink gold dial has a matte finish that just perfectly contrasts against the highly polished case and bracelet. It's tough to pull off gold-on-gold but the polished hands and hour markers are pretty legible against this lovely matte backdrop. This watch has so much character that even the closed side of the dial done in polished gold exudes personality and timeless charm.

But, let's get to that bracelet. It all starts with two pink gold strands that total 16 meters (just about 52 1/2 feet) that are woven without interruption and soldered by hand by a single artisan to form that intricate and detailed Milanese bracelet. This makes for a bracelet that is at once supple and form-fitting while also feeling absolutely solid and tough. At the risk of sounding too nerdy, it's what I have always imagined the Bilbo's Mithril-coat from the Lord Of The Rings must feel like. A metal

woven into a fabric is a poetic yet fairly accurate way of describing this Milanese bracelet. The Jaeger-LeCoultre Reverso Tribute Monoface in pink gold with matching Milanese bracelet is priced at \$41,300 which really seems quite fair.





OVERVIEW

Case Size

27.4 x 7.56 x 45.6mm

Water Resistance

30m

CASE

Case

Solid 18k pink gold

Dial

Gold

Dial Features

Small seconds

MOVEMENT

Caliber

822

Power Reserve

42 Hours





13

Chopard Alpine Eagle 41 SL Cadence 8HF High Frequency

Chopard's Alpine Eagle has been a breakthrough success for the brand since it was released back in 2019 as a spiritual successor the old St. Moritz. That this watch is known for its integrated bracelet design makes this pick even more interesting due to the fact that it comes on a rubber strap. Yes, the limited edition high-frequency Alpine Eagle 41 SL Cadence 8HF is not just the lightest Alpine Eagle but at 75g on strap it is the lightest Chopard watch, period.

The "SL" in the name of this watch stands for "Super Light" due to the case, crown, bracelet clasp, bezel, and even the screws in the bezel being done in ceramicised grade 5 titanium. Ceramicised titanium was initially developed for aerospace use and is achieved by oxidizing titanium through electro-plasma technology which makes as hard and scratch resistant as ceramic but with the light weight of titanium. This is also how we get that deep anthracite grey color you see throughout this watch. The use of this material also extends to the COSC-certified Calibre 01.41C movement which has a manipulate and bridges done in ceramicised titanium. The movement is also special because it operates at that rapid 8Hz frequency with a 60-hour power reserve.

The Alpine Eagle 41 SL measures 41mm wide and 9.75mm thick (100 m of water resistance) and is very comfortable on the wrist though you may need a few seconds to process how light it really is. The PVD-coated deep black dial has that fami-

liar textured "eagle's iris" pattern with the only splash of color being the orange text, chapter ring, and seconds hand. While legibility was initially a concern, the "cool gray" lume on the hour and minutes hand allows for just enough contrast against the pitch black to actually make reading the time pretty easy. You probably won't see too many of these around as it is limited to 250 pieces priced at \$25,000.

OVERVIEW

Case Size
41 mm

Water Resistance
100m

CASE

Dial
Black

MOVEMENT

Caliber
01.41C

Power Reserve
60 Hours





14

A. Lange & Söhne Odysseus Honeygold

The Odysseus is Lange's love-it-or-hate-it integrated bracelet sports watch that remorselessly leans into the brand's design language. The massive day and date windows flank either side of the dial while the asymmetric case and rather complicated bracelet make for one of the most unusual and divisive watches of the last decade. This year Lange released the Odysseus in their proprietary Honeygold which was both a refreshingly warm aesthetic break from the collection's previous steel, titanium, and white gold cases as well as the collection's first precious metal bracelet as the white gold iteration came on a strap. This latter point is already noteworthy because the Odysseus bracelet is fairly complicated to produce and Honeygold is a physically hard material to work with. Still, the five-link bracelet stuns tight tolerances, beveled edges, and the very practical and easy to use 7mm micro-adjust.

considering only 100 pieces will be made. And, you knew this was coming, the \$110,000 price tag which doesn't seem excessive once the watch is on your wrist.

The Honeygold Odysseus is a dense and heavy watch though the 40.5mm wide and 11.1mm thick case (120 m of water resistance) is quite versatile considering just how much is going on here. It takes a lot for an existing watch debuting in a new material and dial color to crack this list but the Lange Odysseus seems like a revelation in Honeygold. The warm proprietary gold matched with that rich almost chocolate brown dial is a visual treat that is equal parts lavish and refined. The L155.1 movement operates at 4 Hz and has a 50-hour power reserve with some truly breathtaking finishes. Done in a warm German silver, the movement is finished with perlage, anglage, and of course that hand-engraved balance bridge.

The A. Lange & Söhne Odysseus Honeygold is a decadent flex by virtue of the watchmaking on display but also the rarity





OVERVIEW

Case Size
40.5 mm

Water Resistance
120m

CASE

Dial
Brown

MOVEMENT

Caliber
L155.1

Power Reserve
50 Hours





15

Rolex 1908 Settimo Bracelet

In 2023 Rolex discontinued the Cellini dress watch and replaced it with the more refreshing and less stuffy 1908 collection. The 1908 was intended to make dress watches a bit more appealing for today's consumer as it boasted an exhibition case back and the then-new Caliber 7140 movement with Syloxi balance wheel. It takes just about every new watch collection a few years to find its footing but the 1908 seems to have done this in a remarkably short amount of time with this year's yellow gold iteration with the brand new matching Settimo bracelet.

You'd be forgiven for not knowing what a "Settimo" bracelet is because it is indeed brand new and debuting with this 1908. This polished seven-link bracelet is exclusive to this collection which is why we see things like the patent-pending system that affixes the bracelet to the middle of the watch case. Some people complained about the fact that the lugs do not sit completely flush with the case but we have to keep in mind that Rolex was not going for an integrated aesthetic here. For comparison, the also-new Land-Dweller's "integrated Flat Jubilee" bracelet does this and because it's a sportier watch, the design works. For a pure dress watch like the 1908, we don't need to follow a trend where it doesn't fit.

The Rolex 1908 is ideally sized at 39mm wide and 9.5mm thick and the fluted bezel adds just the right amount of dazzle to keep things interesting without coming off too dazzling, for

lack of a better word. In fact, the watch strikes the perfect balance between classy and demure with just enough flash (it is a solid gold watch, after all) aided in part by the reserved dial design. There is the white dial option with matching gold hands, indices, logo, and hour markers and then there is the "intense black" option. Obviously it's a matter of taste but the white dial does seem to be the consensus favorite of the two. In short, with the new 1908 on the Settimo bracelet (priced at \$35,000), Rolex has made the dress watches cool again.

OVERVIEW

Case Size
39 mm

Water Resistance
50m

CASE

Dial
White

MOVEMENT

Caliber
7140

Power Reserve
66 Hours





16

IWC Ingenieur Perpetual Calendar 41

2025 has been a big year for the IWC Ingenieur, with the brand releasing several versions of the Gérald Genta-designed integrated bracelet watch that was reintroduced two years ago. We saw 35, 40, and 42mm iterations of the Ingenieur done in steel, precious metal, and ceramic cases. It was, however, the Perpetual Calendar 41 and the refreshing choice of a steel case rather than precious metal that left the longest lasting impression on us.

Perpetual calendars have a lot of information that needs to be conveyed on the dial which can easily result in clutter. This is bad enough for any kind of watch but it seems particularly unfit for a sports watch. Fortunately, the designers at IWC understood the assignment here with a tri-compax dial layout that could be a chronograph at a second glance. The 3 o'clock sub-dial has the date wheel, 6 o'clock sub-dial has the month and moon phase, and the 9 o'clock sub-dial has the day of the week and leap year indicator. It's clean and sticks to the almost-chromatic blue color scheme of the dial making for an aesthetically pleasing package. While the lack of a seconds hand might bother some, it does make everything a little cleaner and simpler to operate.

The in-house 82600 movement operates at 4Hz and has a 60-hour power reserve but it is IWC watchmaker Kurt Klaus' perpetual calendar design that steals the show here. While many perpetual calendars can be confusing and difficult to operate with pushers, this one is easy to use with all functions being set via the crown. But what about the wearability factor? This is, after all, an integrated bracelet sports watch that is meant

to be fun and a little relaxed. Fortunately there is a robust 100m of water resistance and while the 41.6mm wide and 13.4mm thick case is admittedly on the larger side of the "goldilocks" zone, those short lugs keep things under control.

IWC has packed a lot of watch into one package without losing any of the charm that is inherent to an Ingenieur. The price of \$38,800 isn't too bad either when one factors in just how much is on offer.





OVERVIEW

Case Size
41.6 mm

Water Resistance
100m

CASE

Dial
Blue

MOVEMENT

Caliber
82600

Power Reserve
60 Hours





17

Louis Vuitton Tambour Taiko Spin Time

Back in 2023 Louis Vuitton announced that their entry level and quartz watches would be phased out entirely and the brand would focus exclusively on higher end offerings produced at their La Fabrique du Temps manufacture. Initially there was some healthy skepticism on how this rebranding would work out but in the two years since, we have seen some truly exceptional watchmaking from Louis Vuitton.

At this year's LVMH Watch Week we saw the release of a wholly reimagined take on the Spin Time which was the first movement patented by La Fabrique du Temps all the way back in 2009. For those unfamiliar with the Spin Time, it uses 12 cubes which spin in order to denote the time. It's really quite a whimsical and novel approach to telling the time that happens to receive an update right when the different-yet-similar jumping hour complication is having a moment. In the past there have been many takes on the cubes of the Spin Time, often having colorful and fun patterns or designs on the sides that do not have a numeral on them. But where the previous iterations were a little chunky, these models come in a new more compact and sleeker Tambour Taiko (a Japanese drum) case with beautiful sculpted lugs and a case more in line with the revamped Tambour from 2023. There is a cohesiveness across the six new Spin Times as they're all done in white gold with the same "dolphin grey" colorway.

For the new "standard" Tambour Taiko Spin Time, the cubes read out each letter of Louis Vuitton which conveniently is made up of 12 letters. The gem-set diamond model is a little different with each cube covered in diamonds with the hour

side denoted with four black dots. There is also the Tambour Taiko Spin Time Antipode that has a world-time complication in which each cube has two cities on it, each 12 hours apart so they correspond with the numerical hour.

Of the six Tambour Taiko Spin Time models released, the two time-only models with a traditional dial are housed in a 39.5mm wide and 12.15mm thick white gold case with an enclosed case back with 100 m of water resistance. These are outfitted with the LFT ST13.01 caliber that has 45 hours of power reserve. The base model Ref. W9WG62 is priced at \$72,500 while the diamond-set Ref. W9WG52 is priced at \$145,000.

Then there are the two Tambour Taiko Spin Time Air Models that do not have a traditional dial and appear to be floating in air. These have a 42.5mm wide and 12.45mm thick case with 50m of water resistance and feature the LFT ST13.01 movement. The base Spin Time Air Ref. W9WG41 is priced at \$81,500 while the gem-set model Ref. W9WG31 is priced at \$145,000. The aforementioned Tambour Spin Time Antipode Ref. W9WG21 is also housed in the 42.5mm wide white gold case and has the LFT ST12.01 movement with a price of \$99,500. Finally, the Tambour Spin Time Flying Tourbillon Ref. W9WG11 shares the 42.5mm wide white gold case with LFT ST05.01 movement and a price of \$172,000.

OVERVIEW

Case Size
39.5 mm

Water Resistance
100m

MOVEMENT

Caliber
LFT ST13.01

Power Reserve
45 Hours





18

Audemars Piguet Royal Oak Perpetual Calendar

Audemars Piguet turns 150 this year and we got a brand new perpetual calendar movement to celebrate. The new Caliber 7138 marks a big moment for AP as it is their easiest to use perpetual calendar to date as it is fully operated and adjusted via the crown whereas the outgoing Caliber 5135 required a stylus with which to press down on the case pushers. The slick new calendar movement debuted with a Code 11.59 but it is the two Royal Oaks that are some of the most lust-worthy iterations of the integrated bracelet icon to date.

Of course, what is great about this pair of Royal Oak watches comes back to the benefits derived from the Caliber 7138. First off, it's slim. At 4.1mm thick it shaves off .4mm from the already-thin 5135 and allows for the 9.5mm case thickness. And then there's that ease of use with all the calendar functions adjustable from the crown. The first position allows you to manually wind the watch, the second position (one pull) allows you to set the date when turned towards 12 o'clock and the month when turned towards 6 o'clock, and the third position allows you to move the time forward and backward. But that's not all because there is a "secret" fourth position that is activated by pulling the crown out all the way to the third position and then pushing it back in one step. This allows you to set the day of the week by turning the crown towards 12 o'clock and adjust the moonphase by turning the crown towards 6 o'clock. And beyond the perpetual calendar functionality, the automatic Caliber 7138 operates at 3 Hz with a 55-hour power reserve.

AP also refreshed the dial layouts for the new perpetual calendars and they do look a lot better. The moon phase is still down at 6 o'clock but the full moon is now centered at 12 o'clock, something that previously drove those of us with design-oriented OCD a little crazy. The day and date are rearranged so as

to be in "European" order with day at 9 o'clock, date at 12 o'clock, and month at 3 o'clock. Finally, the 24-hour indicator has a red "no correction zone" between 9pm and 3am during which the calendar cannot be adjusted as doing so would ordinarily desynchronize the calendar. However, even though this red printed warning is present, the new movement won't let you set the date during this time.





OVERVIEW

Case Size
41 mm

Water Resistance
50m

MOVEMENT

Caliber
7138

Power Reserve
55 Hours





19

Breitling Top Time B31

The Breitling Top Time — a watch originally launched in the 1960s, with design DNA rooted in that era's free-wheeling hot rod culture — relaunched as a limited edition in 2020. Like the vintage model — one of which famously made its way to a key role in a James Bond movie, 1965's *Thunderball* — the modern Top Time collection offers an unconventional, energetic take on the chronograph and a clear aesthetic tie to classic cars and motorcycles of its ancestors' heyday. With this year's introduction of the Top Time B31, Breitling takes the collection beyond its chronograph roots and debuts the Swiss brand's first-ever in-house-made, three-handed, time-only movement.

All three of the Top Time B31 time-only models feature a 38mm steel case that should hit the sweet spot for many 21st Century enthusiasts and which represents a clear move toward understatement compared to the 41mm chronograph versions, aka the Top Time B01. Like the chronographs, the B31 models display an affinity for color contrasts and dial elements that pop; each has a central seconds hand in bright orange that stands out against the main dials, in green, blue, or a two-tone execution that frames a white dial with a sky blue outer ring. At 3 o'clock, the B31's sole complication, a date display, commands attention with a magnifying lens over its window. Each watch pairs with either a three-row stainless steel bracelet or a calfskin leather strap with perforations that call to mind vintage leather gloves worn by racing drivers.

The real story here — to employ the obvious automotive metaphor — is under the hood. Breitling ushered in a new era of vertical integration with the launch of its first in-house movement, Caliber B01, in 2009. That movement has provided the base for descendants like Caliber B04, which adds a GMT

function to the chronograph, and Caliber B19, which pairs the chrono with a perpetual calendar. Believe it or not, up until this year's launch of the B31, Breitling had not created a striped-down, three-handed movement, sans chronograph, based on the B01. After four years in development, that movement is finally here, and it includes several elements that are standard on other Breitling manufacture calibers, including a free-sprung balance wheel that improves precision, a skeletonized rotor, and an array of high-horology finishing, like *côtes de Genève* and *perlage*, which can be viewed through the watches' sapphire casebacks. Also in keeping with Breitling's in-house output, this movement is COSC-certified for chronometric performance, and its power reserve is even slightly higher than the impressive 70 hours offered by Caliber B01, reaching up to 78 hours of running autonomy when fully wound. All three models of the Breitling Top Time Caliber B31 carry an MSRP of \$5,600 on the straps and \$5,900 on the steel bracelets. All come backed by Breitling's five-year warranty.

OVERVIEW

Case Size
38 mm

Water Resistance
100m

CASE

Case
Stainless Steel

MOVEMENT

Caliber
B31

Power Reserve
78 Hours





20

Christopher Ward C12 Loco

Britain's Christopher Ward has been having a strong few years, with its introduction of the integrated-bracelet The Twelve collection in 2023 and the boundary-pushing C1 Bel Canto one year earlier, the latter followed up in Fall 2024 by an "Act II" version with a new dial texture. For those wondering what the brand would do for an encore, the answer arrived in April of 2025: the somewhat provocatively named C12 Loco edition, which showcases nothing less than Christopher Ward's second in-house movement, Caliber CW-003, in a distinctly eye-catching execution.

The C12 Loco features the twelve-sided case that defines the models in the The Twelve collection (and of course gives it its name), here in stainless steel, measuring 41mm in diameter and a bit thicker than its Twelve X predecessor, at 13.7mm — though much of this girth is due to the box-shaped sapphire crystal over the dial. The case is designed to smoothly integrate into the supple, tapered bracelet, which has the same brushed finish as the case.

The movement and the dial are essentially the same, or to be more precise, one is designed specifically to show off the eye-catching design of the other. The front surface of the dial — at least its bottom half — is dominated by the custom-designed free-sprung balance that drives the timekeeping, with a large escape wheel directly beneath it, both suspended by bridges that span the length of the dial. An off-center subdial for the hour and minute occupies the center of the upper half, below 12 o'clock, creating a symmetrical design, as well as a technical "open-hearted" aesthetic rarely found at this

relatively modest price point. Christopher Ward offers the Loco in an array of colorways and on either steel bracelets or color-matched rubber straps. For any enthusiast seeking out an off-the-wall timepiece on the level of an MB&F or Armin Strom, but far from able to pay for one, the MSRP of \$4,825 (strap) to \$4,995 (bracelet) will be quite an enticement.





OVERVIEW

Case Size
41 mm

Water Resistance
30m

CASE

Dial
Blue

MOVEMENT

Caliber
CW-003

Power Reserve
144 Hours





21

Grand Seiko UFA

Grand Seiko has become revered among enthusiasts and collectors for many reasons, one of which is the versatility of choices among its movements, all made in-house at the luxury maker's workshops in Japan. There are mechanical movements, manual and automatic, several with exceptionally high-frequency balances; quartz movements, mostly found within the most accessible entry-level models; and movements equipped with Spring Drive, a proprietary "hybrid" system invented by the parent Seiko Group, which combines a traditional balance wheel with electromagnetic energy and a quartz oscillator rather than a classical mechanical escapement. Spring Drive calibers like the current 9R02 and 9R05 are lauded for their accuracy of ± 10 seconds per month. With this year's high-profile launch of the new Spring Drive UFA movement, however, Grand Seiko achieves the unprecedented pinnacle of ± 20 seconds per year.

The UFA movement, Caliber 9RB2, uses a single barrel for its mainspring, rather than the double barrel common in previous Spring Drive calibers, lessening the power reserve to three days, down from five, but allowing the movement itself to be smaller and thus to fit into a smaller case. (And yes, this movement still displays the remaining power reserve in analog fashion on the back.) Other notable aspects include a quartz oscillator that's easier to service and a new integrated circuit (IC) that is visible through the exhibition caseback along with the aforementioned power-reserve indicator and high-horo-

logy details like frosted-finish plates and bridges, blackened screws, and beveled edging.

The watch in which the UFA movement makes its debut comes in a case made of titanium (in the standard-production model, (Ref. SLGB003) or platinum (in the limited edition, Ref. SLGB001). Case measurements have been reduced from previous models — 37mm diameter, 11.4mm thick, and 44.3mm lug to lug. As you'd expect from Grand Seiko, the master of the nature-inspired textured dial execution, the first UFA timepieces feature a new motif called Ice Forest, a subtle cross-hatched texture that takes inspiration from the midwinter period of Japan's Kirigamine highland in the Shinshu region. On the titanium-cased watch, this dial color is silvery with just a hint of light blue, while the platinum model's dial features a more vibrant blue hue. Grand Seiko also debuts a new bracelet with a micro-adjustable clasp on the titanium UFA model, answering the prayers of many of the brand's hardcore fans. Pricing is \$10,900 for the titanium SLGB003 and \$39,000 for the platinum SLGB001 edition, limited to 80 pieces on a leather strap.

OVERVIEW

Reference
SLGB003

Case Size
37 mm

Water Resistance
100m

MOVEMENT

Caliber
9RB2

Power Reserve
72 Hours





22

Nomos Club Sport Worldtimer

After wowing the enthusiast community with an array of colorways last year, Germany's Nomos Glashütte put all of its efforts into a single headliner at Watches & Wonders Geneva 2025, and the strategy has proven to be a wise one: the new Club Sport neomatik Worldtimer — the first model equipped with the globe-trotter-friendly complication in the everyday-wear, robust-yet-elegant Club Sport collection — was one of the undisputed sleeper hits of the year, even more so because of its very approachable pricing.

Inside the Club Sport neomatik Worldtimer is the new Caliber DUW 3202, which is only the third in Nomos's series of in-house neomatik (read: self-winding) movements. Notably, its world-time function is fully integrated into the main caliber rather than added onto it with a module. Because of this construction, the movement is uncommonly slender in profile, at just 4.8mm thick — as Nomos has pointed out, thinner than the passport that a world traveler wearing this watch would tote on his or her journeys.

The modest height of the movement allows for the steel case, at 40mm in diameter, to be similarly slim — only 9.9mm, making it one of the world's thinnest watches with a world-time complication. The water resistance of 100 meters places it firmly within the Club Sport collection, which spun off from the parent Club family in 2019. On the right side of the case, above the fluted crown at 2 o'clock, is a push-button that controls the rotating city ring around the dial. Bearing a combination of airport codes and city abbreviations, this ring enables easy viewing of the current time in any of the world's 24 major time zones. Each dial also has a small seconds subdial at 6 o'clock and an additional 24-hour subdial at 3 o'clock, bordered by a bicolor day-night ring, that displays the time in the wearer's home time zone. Of the first two versions of the Club Sport

neomatik Worldtimer to join the standard collection, one is distinguished by a deep blue dial with a sunburst finish its day-night ring subdivided into light and dark blue sectors; the other, by a rhodium-plated silver-colored dial, also sporting a sunburst finish, with an eye-catching day-night indication in high-contrast red and blue.

A sapphire window in the watch's screw-down caseback allows a view of the movement and its Nomos Swing System, an in-house-developed escapement with a tempered blue balance spring and a balance bridge fixed with screws on both ends. It also features plentiful decorative finishes, including traditional Glashütte striping on the plates and the rotor; a golden globe motif enhances the rotor's openworked center. The Nomos Club Sport Worldtimer comes on the familiar three-link Club Sport bracelet and retails for \$4,720.





OVERVIEW

Case Size
40 mm

Water Resistance
100m

MOVEMENT

Caliber
DUW3202

Power Reserve
42 Hours





23

Glashütte Original Senator Excellence Panorama Date Moon

Glashütte Original has produced some masterful moon-phase creations in recent years, and in early 2025 the German luxury watchmaker continued to shoot for the moon, in a visual and horological sense, with the launch of two new versions of its Senator Excellence Panorama Date Moon Phase family with two eye-catching and historically inspired new dial colors.

Both of the watches' dials — one in frosted silver, the other in frosted copper, achieved in a galvanic process — are created in homage to the rich mineral deposits once mined in the Ore Mountains, near the state of Saxony and the watchmaking town of Glashütte. Their finely grained surfaces, meant to evoke the thin layers of ice on the mountain rock, play host to the familiar and elegant details of the Senator Excellence family — including hand-applied, blued Roman numeral markers in gold and blued, polished poire hands complemented by a central seconds hand with the brand's "double G" symbol as counterweight.

The watches' signature functions occupy carefully chosen spots on the dial without disrupting its overall clean, harmonious look. The large "Panorama" date display settles snugly in a double window at 4 o'clock, while the moon-phase elegantly balances it in the opposite corner above, its semicircular aperture stretching from 10 to 11 o'clock. The case measures 40mm in diameter and 12.2mm high, in stainless steel with an array of polished and satin-finished surfaces. The elegantly stepped bezel frames a domed sapphire crystal over the dial, while another sapphire pane in the screwed caseback showcases the movement.

Glashütte Original established the Senator Excellence collection in 2016 as the stage for the elite, in-house base movement it developed that year, Caliber 36 — notable for its

100-hour power reserve in a single barrel and for being the brand's first movement with an antimagnetic silicon balance spring. The "Excellence" at the end of the family's name refers to the chronometer-level accuracy as determined by a battery of in-house testing. The automatic Caliber 36-24 inside the new watches is a descendant of that original, three-handed base movement, with the additions of a panorama date and moon-phase indication. It also features the maintenance-friendly "bayonet mount" design, which allows it to be fixed into the case with a simple twist, in the manner of a camera lens. Glashütte Original developed the latter feature to ensure long-term preservation as well as improved shock resistance. As with all its in-house movements, Glashütte Original's watchmakers have applied a host of decorative finishes to Caliber 36-24, including Glashütte ribbing on the three-quarter mainplate, polishing and beveling on the edges of plates and bridges, hand engraving on the balance cock, and traditional heat-blued finishing on the screws. The Senator Excellence Panorama Date Moon Phase is priced at \$11,900 on either a leather or nylon strap and \$12,900 on a steel bracelet.

OVERVIEW

Case Size
40 mm

Water Resistance
50m

MOVEMENT

Caliber
36-24

Power Reserve
100 Hours





24

MB&F Special Project One

Twenty years ago, visionary watch executive Maximillian Büsser, a veteran of Jaeger-LeCoultre and Harry Winston Fine Timepieces, gathered a specially curated team of his talented “friends” from every corner of the timepiece industry to establish MB&F — Max Büsser and Friends — and thus begins a journey that would take the fledgling company to the absolute pinnacle of innovative independent watchmaking. Celebrating that two-decade milestone this year is the first “Special Project” from the brand known chiefly for its wildly unconventional “Horological Machines” and its more traditionally rooted but still avant-garde “Legacy Machines.”

The MB&F Special Project One (“SP1” for short, in the usual MB&F parlance, also nicknamed “Three Circles”) debuts as the maker’s smallest and thinnest timepieces yet: its pebble-shaped case, in platinum or 18k rose gold, measures a modest 38mm in diameter and 12mm thick — a far cry from some of the spaceship-like HM models of recent years. An expansive sapphire crystal leave sample space for the trio of eye-catching elements that float and dance under it — the movement’s barrel, its balance wheel, and the actual dial, with hands and hour markers, all in individual sapphire domes and linked by bridges.

The smooth roundness of the case is interrupted only by the presence of a crown at 10 o’clock (an odd placement, but it reminds you we’re still talking about MB&F here), and despite the impressive technical tableau of the floating circles, the watch is very simple compared to other MB&F models — the only information displayed is the current time, via the miniature skeletonized hands on the small, inclined dial with its black

DLC finish. Perhaps due to this deceptive simplicity, MB&F refers to the Special Project One as the brand’s first take on an actual dress watch.

The cases have a little extra in terms of color as well: the platinum edition has a touch of sky blue, and the rose-gold model, a hint of anthracite, thanks to the treatments on the beveled flange that frames the sapphire dial (in the front and back), which MB&F has nicknamed the “amphitheater.” In essence, as other reviewers have noted, the SP1 — perhaps, though not definitely, the first in an entirely new collection — is sort of a middle ground between the extremes of the HM and LM families. Mounted on calfskin leather, the rose-gold SP retails for \$76,000 and the platinum edition for \$82,000.





OVERVIEW

Case Size
38 mm

Water Resistance
30m

MOVEMENT

Caliber
SP One

Power Reserve
72 Hours





25

Parmigiani Toric Quantième Perpetuel

The Toric was the first wristwatch model created by Parmigiani Fleurier's eponymous founder, Michel Parmigiani, back in 1996 at the brand's inception. While aspects of the Toric — particularly its architecturally derived, Golden Mean-influenced proportions and fluted bezels echoing the look of ancient Roman columns — were adopted by other product families in the collection, the Toric itself had quietly fallen off the maison's list of offerings in recent years, at least until it was revived, in a big way, in 2024.

The new Toric family has some bold and very narrow parameters: all the watches have in-house, manually winding movements; said movements all use gold for their major parts, like the bridges and mainplates; the cases are made only in gold or platinum, with even the dials, hands and indexes also crafted in gold. All Toric dials, additionally, have a grained and beveled finish and conspicuously shy away from the increasingly bright and audacious colorways of many of today's popular timepieces in favor of a more understated, pastel palette that is "drawn from the chromatic universe of [Swiss architect] Le Corbusier," of whose iconic work Michel Parmigiani has long been an admirer. For 2025, Parmigiani ushered a perpetual calendar into the small but expanding collection (which had previously consisted of elegant three-handers and a rattrapante chronograph).

The Toric Quantième Perpetuel, two limited editions of only 50 pieces each, in either rose-gold or platinum, takes things up a notch in horological complexity while somehow also embracing a minimalist simplicity that is rare to find at this elevated

level of complication. All the essential information conveyed by the built-in calendar is on two co-axial subdials —one for the day and date, the other for the month and leap year — horizontally arranged at 4 and 8 o'clock. The central space on the dial is thus left ample room for the hour and minute hands and the distinctive, applied Parmigiani Fleurier emblem in gold. Three correctors discreetly inset into the case side allow for easy adjustment of all the indications. The dial colors are a radiant, luminous blue for the platinum watch and a salmon-like "Golden Hour" shade for the rose gold edition. Both editions of the Toric Quantième Perpetuel come on color-coordinated Nubuck straps.

OVERVIEW

Case Size
40.6 mm

Water Resistance
30m

MOVEMENT

Caliber
SP One

Power Reserve
72 Hours





26

Breguet Classique Souscription 2025

You knew that legendary watchmaker Abraham-Louis Breguet invented the tourbillon, but did you know he also was the first to launch a watch brand on a crowdfunding platform, centuries before Kickstarter? Well, sort of. The Breguet Souscription pocket watch of the 1790s was historic not only for its simplified, single-handed time display, but also for the revolutionary marketing concept behind it. The modern Breguet brand has now resurrected that milestone timepiece, in wristwatch form, as the first special edition to celebrate its 250th anniversary in 2025.

The concept behind the Souscription was a visionary one at the time: a prospective customer could find the watch in a pamphlet and, if they wished to order one, would pay a quarter of the asking price up front, thus enabling Breguet's watchmaking workshop, then headquartered on Paris's Quai de l'Horloge, to purchase the supplies needed to manufacture the finished watch. (In effect, the customer was "subscribing" to the watch, hence the name, which is French for "subscription.") Over the following decades, Breguet produced more than 700 of these timepieces via this "crowdfunded" business model, which helped to broaden and democratize the watchmaker's customer base.

The Classique Souscription 2025, with the new, manually wound in-house Caliber VS00, marks the first time the Souscription design has been adapted into a wristwatch. Its dial has been finished in white grand feu enamel, echoing the look of its 18th-century ancestors, along with vintage-look Arabic hour numerals, a chemin de fer minute track, and the Breguet signature at 12 o'clock in petit feu black enamel for a sharp contrast. The single, center-mounted hand for the hour and minute is in flame-blued steel and curved by hand to sweep perfectly over the dial.

The 40mm case is the first of its kind to be forged in a new proprietary precious metal called Breguet gold, an alloy specially blended to not only evoke the pink hue of the gold used in Abraham-Louis Breguet's 18th-Century era but also to be resistant to discoloration over time. Its middle part eschews the traditional Breguet fluting for an elegant satin-brushed surface, and the lugs are more prominently curved for better ergonomics on the wrist.

Visible behind a clear caseback, Caliber VS00 is made of gilded brass that matches the gold hue of the case and features an entirely new style of guilloché decoration, called Quai de l'Horloge, on its plates and bridges. It stores a four-day power reserve in a single barrel and has a blued balance spring made from antimagnetic Nivachron. Its most eye-riveting element is the large, central ratchet wheel, engraved in cursive script with a reproduction of Abraham-Louis Breguet's own words from an original Souscription advertising brochure of the 1790s.





OVERVIEW

Case Size
40 mm

Water Resistance
30m

MOVEMENT

Caliber
VS00

Power Reserve
96 Hours





27

Frederique Constant Salmon Classic Perpetual

Since its founding in 1998, Frederique Constant has forged an identity as a watchmaker that consistently hits an elusive and very narrow target: making complicated watches that somehow, some way, come in at prices that most any enthusiast would describe as accessible. Perhaps the brand's most impressive coup in this area came in 2016, with the launch of its first Manufacture Perpetual Calendar, outfitted with an in-house movement and priced at a head-turning \$8,800. Nearly a decade later, Frederique Constant builds on the groundbreaking timepiece's success with a new, more streamlined case design, a crowd-pleasing dial colorway, and — lest it be overlooked — a new in-house caliber, the 34th that the brand has produced in its relatively youthful existence.

The noteworthy aspects of the Classic Perpetual Calendar Manufacture begin with its smaller case dimensions — 40mm in diameter and 12.1mm high, reduced from the 42mm of its predecessor. The stainless steel case has a polished finish, a nonreflective sapphire crystal over the dial, and 50 meters of water resistance. Frederique Constant refers to this case, with its slimmer lugs, smoother lines, and more modest dimensions, as its "Classic" design, not to be confused with its "Classics" collection of watches, which uses this style of case as well as others.

The subtle streamlining of elements continues on the dial, which comes in a salmon hue with a sunray finish. The silver-colored Dauphine hour and minute hands are hand-assembled and hand-polished; the applied, diamond-cut hour markers, also silver-colored and hand polished, are slightly

more slender than their predecessors for a more minimalist look. The "sector dial" minute track, a reference to vintage timepieces of the early 20th Century, is a new element for the model. The design leaves the perpetual calendar displays ample room to breathe: month and leap year at 12 o'clock, day of the week at 9 o'clock, date at 3 o'clock, and moon-phase at 6 o'clock. All these subdials and apertures have a slightly stepped design that adds a hint of depth.

The new, self-winding Caliber FC-776, which supersedes the original model's Caliber FC-775, is on display behind a sapphire caseback. Its main notable revamp is a three-day power reserve, amped up from the relatively pedestrian 38-hour running autonomy of its predecessor. It is also graced with an array of high-horology finishes that speak to its elite pedigree, including circular *côtes de Genève* and *perlage* on the plates and bridges and a gold, skeletonized rotor. Like Caliber FC-775, with which it shares a base, the FC-776 movement makes all of its calendar functions operable through inset push-buttons on the case while the time can be adjusted via the crown. The newest version of Frederique Constant's Classic Perpetual carries an MSRP of \$9,995 before taxes — coming just shy of that intimidating \$10,000 mark, and thus, still one of the absolute best price-to-value ratios you'll find in the watch industry today.

OVERVIEW

Case Size
40 mm

Water Resistance
50m

MOVEMENT

Caliber
FC-775

Power Reserve
38 Hours





28

Longines Spirit Zulu Time 1925

Longines introduced the Zulu Time models to its aviation-influenced Spirit collection in 2022, and the watch's dual-time complication, stylishly bold design, and undeniable value proposition have made it one of the brand's biggest hits of the 2020s. However, Longines' history of making dual-time wristwatches reaches back much further — 100 years, to be exact, when the company made the first “Zulu Time” watch in an Art Deco-style rectangular case and one of the world's first uses of an independent, extra hand to indicate the hour in another time zone, today a staple of GMT watches. To celebrate that century milestone, Longines unveiled the latest member of the Zulu Time family, the Spirit Zulu Time 1925, the first model to incorporate precious metal — in this case, brushed 18k rose gold — for the 24-hour bezel insert.

The Spirit Zulu Time 1925 comes in the “sweet spot” 39mm size that Longines rolled out about a year after the original 42mm proved just a bit too big for some prospective owners. The case and bracelet are made from stainless steel, with the rose-gold bezel insert adding an extra air of luxury. The bidirectional bezel has engraved numerals representing the world's major time zones, which work with the arrow-tipped GMT hand to read the time in another part of the world. The use of a rose gold, which contains copper, serves a symbolic function as well as an aesthetic one: it's a subtle homage to the copper strip that marks the Prime Meridian at the Royal Greenwich Observatory in England — which, of course, is where we get the initials GMT, for “Greenwich Mean Time,” in the first place. The main hour and minute hands and applied hour numerals carry forward the gold tones of the bezel, contrasting boldly against the matte black dial. The Longines winged hourglass logo appears in gold tone at 12 o'clock, balanced out by the five gold stars emblematic of the Spirit collection. Directly beneath the stars is an elegantly faceted date window with white numerals on a black field. Also elegantly executed is the

tone-on-tone “1925 - 2025” anniversary text, below the date display and following the curve of the gold-printed minute track between the 5 o'clock and 7 o'clock markers.

The proprietary movement, Longines' Caliber L844.4 is visible behind a clear caseback, with a golden rotor that supplies a 72-hour power reserve. Based on the ETA A31.L411 and customized for Longines, the movement also includes a silicon balance spring that helps to render it highly resistant to magnetism. Significantly, the movement is also certified by the Swiss testing agency COSC for chronometric performance — the bragging rights which the five golden stars on the dial were established to represent. The watch comes with both a steel bracelet and a nylon NATO strap, and retails for \$4,350.





OVERVIEW

Case Size
39 mm

Water Resistance
100m

MOVEMENT

Caliber
L844.4

Power Reserve
72 Hours





29

Tissot PRC 100 Solar

A few months ago, Tissot resuscitated the PRC 100 from its mid-2000s archive, breathing new life into the bygone line with the help of an innovative solar quartz movement: the PRC 100 Solar Quartz. Among the watch enthusiast community, as you likely already know, quartz is something of a heated subject, and a love for the intricacies of mechanical movements is akin to a cornerstone of the hobby. So, if the brand that's known as the entryway into Swiss-made mechanical movements is going to put some real weight behind a new line of quartz watches, they must deliver something worthwhile.

Tissot has ticked many boxes with the solar reboot of the PRC 100. Before I get into the solar-quartz technology of it all, the first win of this line of watches is its size. The 39mm diameter undoubtedly falls into the "Goldilocks" sweetspot, and is in keeping with the unisex appeal that most of the industry is gunning for. Overall, the PRC 100 Solar Quartz line seems to be aimed at a versatile, mass appeal. There isn't anything that stands out among the collection as anything too daring, glaring, or controversial, other than the solar technology itself. Given that PRC is an abbreviation for "Precise, Robust, Classic," I would say that Tissot opting to lean into the "classic" element of the PRC in these solar iterations makes sense to me, especially with the extensive power reserve for the Lightmaster Solar Quartz used throughout the line, which lasts up to 14 months when fully charged, and a brief 10 minutes of light exposure (both natural and artificial) can result in a full 24 hours of power. This is peak "set it and forget it" convenience. And while we're on the subject of solar power, the solar cells are uniquely positioned on the crystal itself, as you can see by the

subtle hexagonal pattern. But the visibility of the solar cells is much more obvious in photography than it appears in real life, and, at least to my eye, doesn't detract from the legibility at all.

These solar-powered PRC 100 models call back to the established design codes of the mid-2000s models with their case architecture, largely through the dodecagonal (that's 12 sides) bezel. Another plus for the versatility of these models is the 20mm lug width, so one is free to swap out the bracelet that the models are originally paired with for just about any other band, strap, or bracelet out there. The Tissot PRC 100 Solar Quartz is currently priced at \$600 and available in three distinct dial variations (blue, silver, and black), and the brand has also teased that different sizing options of the line are on the horizon.

OVERVIEW

Case Size
39 mm

Water Resistance
100m

CASE

Dial Features
Date Window, applied
indexes

MOVEMENT

Caliber
ETA F06.615 quartz

Power Reserve
14 Months





30

Seiko 5 Sports SKX Series SRPL83/85/87/89

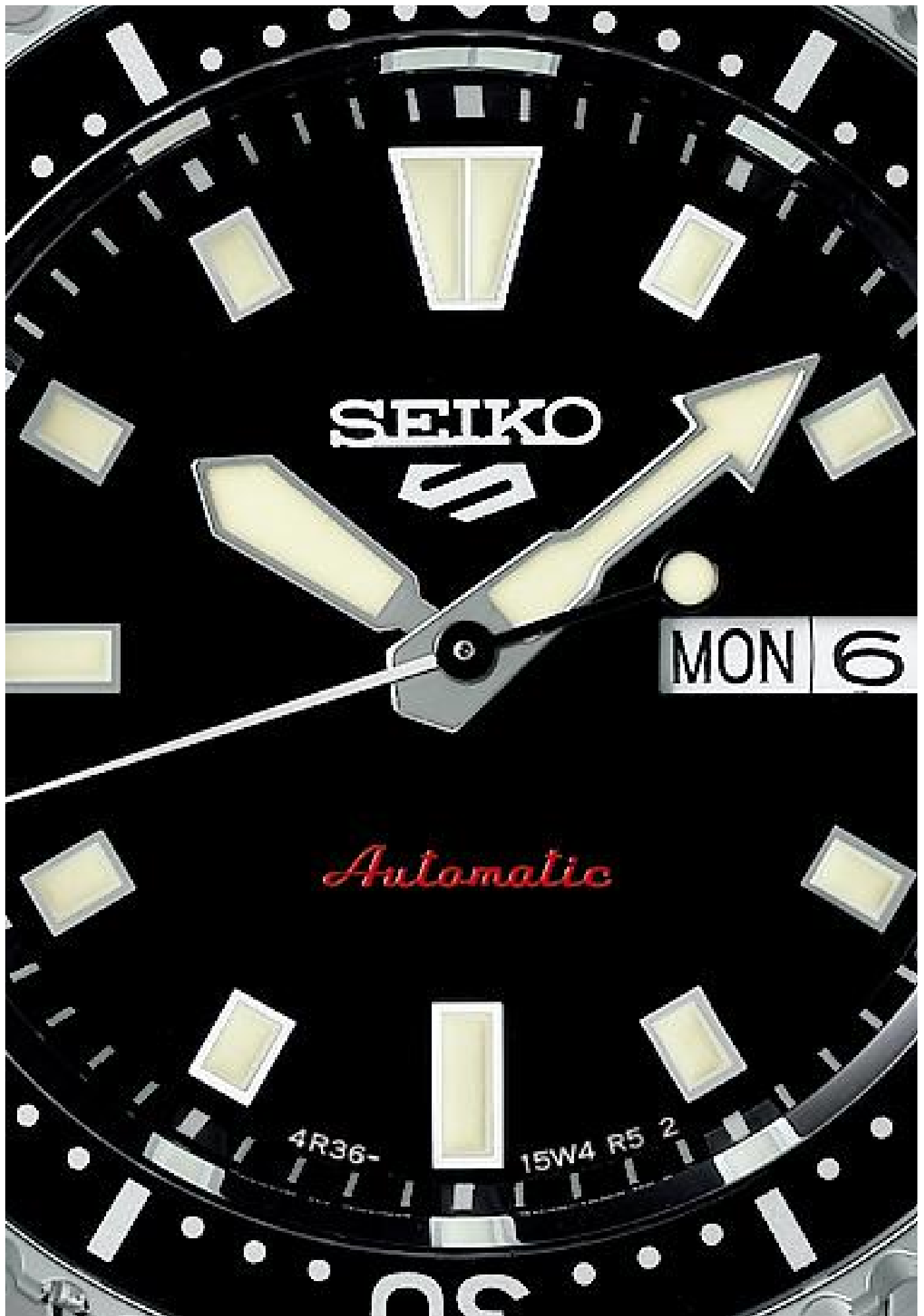
Though Seiko's popular SKX series was officially discontinued in 2019, the brand has put a lot of effort into taking its winning qualities and infusing them into its new offerings. The brand's 5 Sports collection is where the brand has toyed with reinventing the contemporary identity of the SKX and recently, the brand has introduced the latest generation of the watch world's favorite beater diver.

This collection has kicked off with four distinct models – the SRPL83, SRPL85, SRPL87, and SRPL89 respectively – two of which take a detour from the staunch tool watch vibe of the fan-favorite SKX007 with vibrant dials in yellow and orange. One key detail to note, given that Seiko has toyed with many different sizing options for the SKX-inspired members of the 5 Sports collection, including mid-sized 38mm options as well as more heavily retro-inspired takes, this new generation returns to the distinct 42.5mm sizing of some of its most popular models. The dial is where you'll see a lot of subtle but impactful changes made, most notably, the shape of the indices. The bubbly, circular hour pips and triangle at twelve has been replaced in favor of more sharply angled square and rectangular indices. That sharpness has been translated into the hands as well, though the date window at three o'clock has been largely unchanged.

The unidirectional dive bezel has also gotten something of an upgrade, and has moved on from metal construction to a glossy glass insert. Given that we're working with in the territory of beater dive watches here, it only makes sense for each of these models to be water resistant up to 100 meters. As for

the movement, all four models are powered by the automatic calibre 4R36 movement, which has a 3Hz frequency and a power reserve of 41 hours. The latest take on the SKX within the Seiko 5 Sports collection is set to debut in June of 2025, and is priced at \$425.





OVERVIEW

Reference

SRPL83/85/87/89

Case Size

42.5 mm

Water Resistance

100m

MOVEMENT

Caliber

4R36

Power Reserve

41 Hours





31

Mido Multifort 8 Two Crowns

MIDO is one of those brands that has a wealth of history behind it (its legacy can be traced all the way back to 1918), but I find that here in the 21st century, the brand is working at its best when it leans into some unexpected funkiness. The brand's Multifort collection is typically where MIDO is its most experimental, and ultimately, its most fun. Such is the case (both figuratively and literally) for the brand's newly released Multifort Two Crowns.

The brand has come up with a snappy portmanteau for its quirky yet functional approach to the creation of the Multifort Two Crowns: technometry. Yes, that would be technology meets geometry. This new design dimension that the brand is coining is exemplified by the blending of the classic sports watch (octagonal bezel, robust build) with the novelty of a recessed dive bezel that's adjusted with the second dedicated crown at two o'clock, which the brand promises to be a compellingly ergonomic experience.

The toying with the geometry of the watch is carried on through the dial, which goes for dimensionality with its texture of horizontal lines. The timekeeping and date functions are streamlined, and go for a graphic mix of luminous pips and rectangles to mark the hours, along with a square date window at three o'clock, which helps to make everything feel neat and legible, especially considering the positioning of that internal bezel around the dial's perimeter. As far as sizing goes, the Multifort Two Crowns goes for a versatile diameter of 40mm and a thickness of 9.5mm, and this watch tends to wear even more compact, considering that the faceted octagonal bezel does take

up a lot of real estate in comparison to the dial. In the movement department, Mido has gone with its weekend-proof Caliber 72, which is equipped with a Nivachron balance spring and has a 72-hour power reserve. And, you might be happy to hear that both of the crowns are screw-down across the line, so the Multifort Two Crowns is capable of descending depths up to 100 meters.

OVERVIEW

Case Size
40 mm

Water Resistance
100m

MOVEMENT

Caliber
72

Power Reserve
72 Hours





32

Doxa Sub 200 Steel Bezel

The Sub 200 seems to be the brand's chosen bread-and-butter for the moment, and recently, Doxa added some new options to its growingly intricate entry-point collection that feature a stainless steel bezel. Previously, the Sub 200 utilized a sapphire bezel insert, which isn't too alarming given that the collection is the brand's most attainably priced. But oh, what magic a small tweak can do to make an affordable watch feel more premium.

On its surface, the models with the new stainless steel aren't representative of any overhauling of the established Sub 200 formula. Really, it's just a small but impactful change that helps to give people more options to choose from at the brand's best pricing. But the use of stainless steel does have the effect of making the Sub 200 look more elevated and somewhat slimmer and sleeker. As compared with the bubbly sapphire inserts, the stainless steel is much flatter, and creates a sort of optical illusion that the dial is larger than it is, without blatantly changing the line's proportionality.

This stainless steel upgrade is available for all eight of the color options that Doxa has made its staple, including the illustrious Sharkhunter colorway with its fauxtina flair, the vibrant orange of the Professional, and, my personal favorite, the bright turquoise aquamarine. The 42mm diameter remains unchanged, as does the deep dive-ready 200 meters of water resistance, \$1,090 price tag, and the automatic ca-

liber within. I think the Sub 200 with the stainless steel bezel insert looks particularly great on the beads of rice style bracelet, but there are several straps and bands to choose from if you need something more tactical.





OVERVIEW

Case Size
42 mm

Water Resistance
200m

MOVEMENT

Power Reserve
38 Hours





33

MB&F M.A.D.2

Four years after MB&F launched its M.A.D.1, the brand launched the next generation of its boldly experimental line with the M.A.D.2. While the first iteration looked something like a UFO or alien timekeeping piece that just happened to make its way to wrists earth-side, the follow up edition has leaned into a more playful, though not any less audacious, sense of design. The M.A.D.2 is the brainchild of designer Eric Giroud and was born out of a love and nostalgia for the wild days of 1990s club culture. We often talk in the world of watch journalism of needing to see watches in person to truly get the full experience, but the M.A.D.2 is one that simply must be seen in motion – this thing quite literally spins with every flick of the wrist.

The throughline of this watch being a love letter to vibrant club culture touches nearly every aspect of its design. The way time is told is intended to harken to a DJ console (specifically, the Technics SL-1200), with two central subdials look just like a turntable, while the dial itself (in hues of either orange or green) mimics the textural grooves of a record. That spinning platter with its Super-LumiNova stop pins (which is another tie into the Technics SL-1200 console, specifically, its stroboscopic band) is not just a playful touch, but is actually the automatic winding rotor itself.

But the novelty of the M.A.D.2 doesn't end there. What at first appears to be a simplistic, albeit unconventional, way to tell time via the two subdials with the guitar-pick-shaped pointers

reveals itself with time to actually be a bi-directional jumping hours complication, along with trailing minutes. The wrist presence of this piece is saucer-like with its 42mm diameter and 12.3mm case thickness, and its 30 meters of water resistance strikes as somewhat surprising, given its lack of sportiness. The movement that powers this audacious example of watchmaking is none other than the Swiss-made Manufacture La Joux-Perret calibre G101 with modules developed by MB&F for the jumping hours, which has a 4 Hz frequency and 64-hour power reserve.

OVERVIEW

Case Size
42 mm

Water Resistance
30m

MOVEMENT

Caliber
G101

Power Reserve
64 Hours





34

Baume & Mercier Clifton Salmon

In recent years, Baume & Mercier has been putting most of its weight behind its Riviera collection, which mixes a sporty take on luxury with a certain 1970s flair. But this year, the brand is pivoting its focus on a different era of watchmaking with its reimagining of its 50s-inspired Clifton line, and has introduced a slimmer case profile, a redesigned dial, an in-house movement, and an easy-change strap system into the mix.

The reference to mid-century era watch design is immediately clear across the collection with the newly revamped Clifton's soft rounded case, thin hands and trapezoidal indices, and the style of the Arabic numeral twelve, which is, aside from the date window at six o'clock, the only numbers you'll find on this dial. The cross-hair detail at the center of the dial also feels right in line with the 1950s design inspiration. The 39mm case is where the brand has chosen to modernize a bit, considering that true 1950s era watches for men tended to stick within the 32 mm- 36 mm range.

Given that the Clifton was the vehicle that the brand originally debuted its Baumatic movement, it only makes sense that this generation of the Clifton uses one, in this case, the Baumatic BM13-1975A caliber, which carries on the five-day power re-

serve and COSC-Certified accuracy. Baume & Mercier unveiled several distinct models of its newest Clifton at Watches And Wonders this year, including a blue dial model, a white dial model with rose gold indices, and a salmon dial take that's a limited edition of 350 pieces.





OVERVIEW

Case Size
39 mm

Water Resistance
50m

CASE

Dial
Salmon

MOVEMENT

Caliber
Baumatic BM13-1975A

Power Reserve
5 Days





35

Blancpain Fifty-Fathoms 42mm in Steel

The Fifty Fathoms has long-earned its status as a legend in the world of watches. I mean, it essentially is the blueprint for the modern formula of all dive watches, period. Since the Fifty Fathoms hit the scene in 1953, its large case size has been something of a pillar of its identity, and I can only imagine how monstrous people back in the 50s thought this bold 42mm sizing was at the time. Back in 2008, in keeping with the demand for large watches at the time, Blancpain released a 45mm take on its iconic Fifty Fathoms, and finally swung back to the 42mm sizing of the original last year, but the pieces introduced were only introduced in precious metals, with precious metal price tags, of course. Finally this year, Blancpain debuted what might be fairly called the no-brainer option of releasing a steel take on the 42mm Fifty Fathoms.

This steel iteration on the Fifty Fathoms Automatique deviates from the matte blasted finish of its titanium counterpart in favor of brightly polished finishes that help this rugged tool watch lean a little more dressy, and feel a bit more premium. Though I've been referring to this watch above as a 42mm option, in reality, the sizing is really just a hair larger with a diameter of 42.3mm, and it has a case profile of 14.3mm. But it takes some real estate to accomplish impressive depth ratings, and the Fifty Fathoms Automatique makes up for its thick profile with an impressive 300 meter depth resistance, which is three times greater water resistance than the first Fifty Fathoms was capable of.

Given the long legacy of the Fifty Fathoms, this steel 42mm take maintains the key design elements we know and love, including the mid-century inspired typography, luminous de-

tails, and the quintessential uni-directional dive bezel for timing ascension to the water's surface safely. But in addition to its shiny polished steel surfaces, this take has also gone with a detail that feels a touch more dressy and sophisticated by adding a sunray brushed finish to the black dial. The movement within is the Blancpain automatic Caliber 1315, which has a power reserve of a whopping 120 hours, and can be seen in action through the exhibition caseback.

OVERVIEW

Case Size
42 mm

Water Resistance
300m

MOVEMENT

Caliber
1315

Power Reserve
120 Hours





36

Alpina Tropic Proof

One of the sleeper hits that debuted at this year's Watches & Wonders show was Alpina's tiny-but-mighty reissue of its circa-1965 Tropic Proof design. What, for me, was successful about this release among the immense landscape of heritage reissues was that Alpina stayed true to vintage with the 34mm sizing, and didn't go the route of beefing the watch up to make it feel more decidedly contemporary.

While we largely take our ability to traverse the globe with ease for granted nowadays, Alpina's original Tropic-Proof watch was put into production when traveling into different, more demanding climates was just taking off. So, despite its simple time-only functionality, the Tropic-Proof is, at its core, something of an adventurer's watch, as it was initially intended to hold steady in a myriad of weather, humidity, and extreme climates. In its newly revitalized identity, the Heritage Tropic-Proof is simply a great-looking, somewhat unassuming piece that's packed with timeless charm.

The dial design has everything you need and nothing you don't, opting for simplicity with its silver-toned applied indices and simple script at twelve o'clock. Small Super-LumiNova-coated pips rest above the hour markers, and the hour and minute hands have also gotten the luminous treatment for the case of actually telling the time in low-light conditions. If I had to pick a gripe about this watch, it would be that despite its adventurous heritage, you're not really getting much here in terms of water resistance, and the Tropic-Proof is only promised to be "splash proof." But, given that both the glossy black and white models are each paired with a leather strap, this is

not exactly a watch that I would think to wear poolside, anyway. For the movement, Alpina has gone with the Swiss-Made AL-480 automatic caliber, which has a 48-hour power reserve with hand-winding capabilities.





OVERVIEW

Case Size
34 mm

Water Resistance
30m

CASE

Dial
Black

MOVEMENT

Caliber
AL-480

Power Reserve
48 Hours





37

Breitling Superocean Heritage B31 40mm

The Breitling Superocean Heritage collection has been around since 2007 and since then it has received two major updates, the first of which was in 2017 and then the latest this year. Breitling CEO Georges Kern is one of the keenest minds in the watch industry and the eight years he has spent at the helm of the brand have been nothing short of transformative. Gone are the big, chunky watches with aggressive designs that the brand was synonymous with in the early to mid-aughts. The Breitling of 2025 is sleeker and cleaner with just enough retro to make things classic without being derivative. So, what's so great about the new Superocean Heritage?

Well, let's start off with the sheer range of case sizes meant to appeal to, quite literally, everyone with 36, 40, and 42mm case options. But while the options are vast, it's the debut of the 40mm model that grabbed our attention because the smallest size the previous generation came in was 42mm wide which alienated quite a few potential buyers. It was also very thick at 14.35mm thick. This new, smaller Breitling Superocean Heritage comes in at 40mm wide and just 11.73mm thick with a 48.2mm lug-to-lug measurement. It's also outfitted with Breitling's new manufacture B31 movement that operates at 4Hz and has a very impressive 78-hour power reserve.

The dial is also updated with those sharp, bullet style hour markers and that circular 12 o'clock marker with the sharp index cutting through it a la the original Superocean. And the

case isn't just slimmer, it also has sleeker lugs and the bracelet or strap are now integrated into the case. Speaking of the bracelet, the new mesh bracelet is absolutely a winner not just because of how it wears and looks but because of how easy it is to size. Typically mesh bracelets can be a nightmare because they require being cut to size but these have a new and novel removable link system which makes the entire process much simpler.

The Breitling Superocean Heritage B31 40 comes in a black dial with matching black ceramic bezel and a green dial with matching green ceramic bezel option, both with rubber strap or mesh bracelet options. There's also the 500-piece limited edition done with Kelly Slater that has a really attractive blue dial with a stamped "tropical foliage" pattern.

OVERVIEW

Case Size

40 mm

Water Resistance

200m

MOVEMENT

Caliber

Manufacture Caliber B31

Power Reserve

78 Hours





38

J.N. Shapiro Infinity Series Pure

For those not familiar with his work, Josh Shapiro is one of the most talented independent watchmakers out there today. Based in Los Angeles, Shapiro has been making engine-turned guilloché dials for about a decade now though he spent nearly as long studying Watchmaking by George Daniels while working as a Vice-Principal at a school. Shapiro is known for his “infinity weave” dial pattern which is a breathtaking fractal pattern achieved by essentially doing a basket-weave within a basket-weave. In 2023, he released the J.N. Shapiro Resurgence which was the first entirely “Made in America” watch since 1969. This was also Shapiro’s priciest watch at \$85,000. This year, the prodigious talent went back to basics with the J.N. Shapiro Infinity Pure, a more “entry-level” offering meant to appeal to a broader collector base.

slowly squeezed out of the independent watchmaking scene over the last few years. That said, there are only 18 pieces of each Infinity Pure dial variants so these will be very limited production.

The Infinity Pure has a classic basket weave on the center dial while the seconds sub-dial features his Infinity Weave, a pairing that is still some of the finest in the world but done in a more reasonable timeframe to justify the accessible price point. The Infinity Pure is done in a stainless steel case measuring 37mm wide and 8mm thick with a 45.2mm lug-to-lug measurement. There are two dial variants: a blackened zirconium dial with white gold hands and a frosted silver dial with rose gold hands. The enclosed case back is, unsurprisingly, also done with a spiraling guilloché pattern and Shapiro’s signature infinity symbol at the center. The use of the manual-winding La Joux-Perret F200 movement also helps keep the cost down as opposed to the in-house movement used in the Resurgence.

The J.N. Shapiro Infinity Pure is a testament to American watchmaking and craftsmanship. And though it is by no means “affordable” by just about anyone’s definition, it’s refreshing to see a more modest offering for enthusiasts who have been





OVERVIEW

Case Size
37 mm

Water Resistance
50m

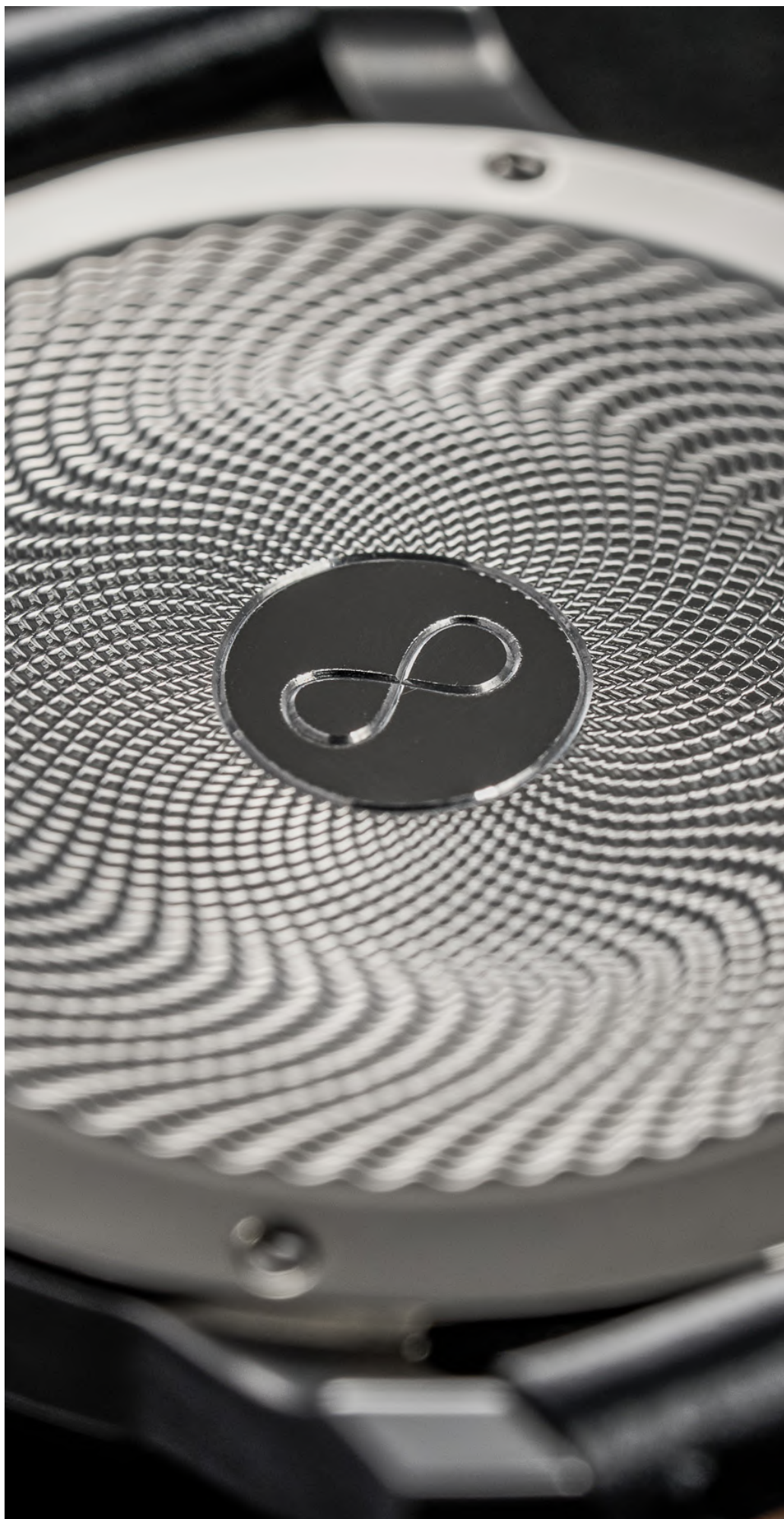
CASE

Dial
Black

MOVEMENT

Caliber
La Joux-Perret F200

Power Reserve
90 Hours





39

Urban Jürgensen

Urban Jürgensen is a brand that is as storied as any in watches, but one that – like many brands in this industry – went defunct. You can trace its roots all the way back to 1776 where the watchmaker himself moved from Copenhagen to Le Locle, and even studied with Abraham Louis Breguet. The watchmaking itself is the stuff of legend, but this is also a discussion about our top watches for 2025, so what is this doing here? Well in order to answer this question, we need to go back to 2021 (we will get to 2025 soon) when the brand was revived and put under the direction of one of the most celebrated watchmakers of today: Kari Voutilainen. We had anticipated a new release, and the day finally arrived in June of this year.

Voutilainen, who once served as a Jürgensen watchmaker has tastefully delivered on the anticipation with three new models within the revival of the brand. The first is the The UJ-1 Tourbillon with a Remontoir d'Égalité which is also considered the “Anniversary Watch” as it pays homage to an Derek Pratt Oval pocket watch that featured finishing by Voutilainen himself. The dial features guilloché linear grain d'orge for the overall dial surface, and Clous de Paris 45° guilloché on the subsidiary small seconds. The movement inside is a miniaturized version of the Pratt Oval which is really an impressive feat. It is priced at a considerable CHF 368,000.

Next is the The UJ-2 Three-Hand Watch. Now we have spoken about Rolex's new Dynapulse escapement here, the brand's take on a natural escapement which is relevant because Voutilainen as opted to us a double wheel natural escapement within this very watch. And this is perhaps the simplest execution of excellence in many ways. This is a time-only watch. In terms of design you'll find a power reserve indicator at 12 o'clock and a subsidiary seconds readout at an unconventional 5 o'clock position. The watch comes in platinum or rose

gold with blue or silver dials and none of these options is limited, something that might come as a surprise for some. Inside, the movement features a free-sprung balance with the aforementioned natural double-wheel escapement. It runs at 18,000 VPH and has a 52-hour power reserve. The cost here is CHF 105,000.

Rounding out the trio (yes we know we are using three watches to account for one on this list) is the UJ-3 Perpetual Calendar. And while that would be impressive enough on its own but there's more as this also uses a double wheel natural escapement as well as an instantaneous moonphase. Despite the fact that this is a manually winding watch, the moonphase will be accurate to one day every – wait for it – 14,000 years. You'll find similar hand guilloché finding year as well as a highly legible QP layout that sets the day and month on opposing sides of the dial, and an offset date indicator. Pricing on this will be CHF 168,000.





40

Breguet Type XX

Under new leadership, Breguet made a slapshot this year with two new precious metal variations on its iconic Type XX — a watch originally produced for France’s military pilots in the 1950s.

The dials are where the two new Type XX Chronographe models start to sharply diverge aesthetically from prior iterations of the model range. On one, the non-limited version (Ref. 2075BH/99/398), the dial is in black anodized aluminum with vintage-style Arabic numerals and a classical bicompass “Big Eye” arrangement, in which the subdial at 3 o’clock — the 15-minute counter that is most useful for a pilot — is larger and more prominent than the running seconds subdial at 9 o’clock. The syringe-style hands and the applied Breguet logo at 12 o’clock are in the same Breguet gold as the case, crown and pushers; the hands and numerals (including the central gold-plated chronograph hand) are all treated with beige luminescent paint that glows green in the dark. The choice of aluminum (actually Duralumin, an alloy of 95 percent aluminum) for the dial is another subtle tribute to Louis Breguet and his pioneering use of Duralumin sheet metal in his aircraft, and a discreet “Al” between 7 and 8 o’clock on the dial verifies its presence.

The other new Breguet Type XX, Ref. 2075BH/G9/398, limited to 250 numbered pieces, hearkens back to one of the most obscure and somewhat offbeat early versions of the model, with its satin-brushed 925 silver dial; thinner and more elegant Arabic numerals; smaller, sectorial subdials of the same size at 3 and 9 o’clock (no “Big Eye” unbalanced look here) and a tachymetric scale printed on the dial’s periphery, a feature we now associate much more with car racing than flying. According to Breguet, this silver-dial execution actually preceded the black-dialed model to the civilian market, but was quickly eclipsed in popularity by the latter, with its more traditional pilot look, and is an extreme rarity among vintage Breguet watches today. The Breguet gold case has the same dimensions and the same satin-brushed finishing, while the central chronograph hand is more thin and understated, made of blued steel rather than gold-coated. As on the other watch’s anodi-

zed copper dial, this precious metal dial’s provenance appears discreetly with an “Ag925” inscription between 7 and 8 o’clock.

Both movements in the new Breguet Type XX watches — Caliber 7278 in the limited edition, with a 30-minute counter at 3 o’clock, and Caliber 7279 in the unlimited model, with the aforementioned 15-minute “Big Eye” counter — are based on the recently introduced automatic Caliber 728. Like their parent movement, both boast a 5-Hz balance frequency and a 60-hour power reserve as well as the integrated chronograph with flyback that is an essential element of the Type XX models historically. Removing the self-winding oscillating mass of Caliber 728 opened up the movement’s surface area for the breathtaking miniature engraving applied to it: a depiction of the Breguet 19 plane in flight over the smooth-finished Atlantic Ocean, with the American and European landmasses, both with frosted finishes, representing the beginning and endpoint of the historic 1930 flight when French pilots, Dieudonné Costes and Maurice Bellonte, flew from Paris to New York in a Breguet 19TR Super Bidon...in 37 hours.

Both versions of the Breguet Type XX Chronographe 2075 are mounted on contrast-stitched calfskin leather straps — gradient black for the black-dialed model, gradient blue for the silver-dialed limited edition — and fasten to the wrists with pin buckles forged from the same proprietary gold as the cases. The black-dialed Ref. 2075BH/99/398 carries an MSRP of \$43,500, while the 250 numbered pieces of the silver-dialed Ref. 2075BH/G9/398 sell for \$45,200.



OVERVIEW

Reference
2075BH/G9/398



BY BILAL KHAN

Outro

At the time of writing we are just about halfway through 2025 and, as you can see, there have been no shortage of excellent watch releases so far this year. It's been a year of notable iterations and updates but also one of palpable excitement over watches like the Nomos Club Sport Worldtimer and the revival of a brand like Urban Jürgensen. While these two couldn't be more different in terms of pricing, it's the universality of their thoughtfulness and design that is so potent. The editorial team here at TEDDY is going to be keeping a watchful eye on new releases through the remainder of the year and beyond. So, we hope you enjoyed our top 40 watches of 2025 so far and we'll drop you a line when the year is over and the full list is released.

The Best New Watches of 2025

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