

PATEK PHILIPPE MUSEUM

PATEK PHILIPPE WATCHES

Volume I



PATEK PHILIPPE
GENEVE

Volume I

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Preface

I am very pleased to announce the publication of the first catalogue devoted to the collection of Patek Philippe timepieces on display at the Patek Philippe Museum.

This book is the result of many years of work. It documents and illustrates a representative selection of the company's watches from the time of its founding in 1839 until approximately 1980, offering an outstanding panorama of the production of Patek Philippe, which has continued uninterrupted for over 170 years.

After having spent more than 40 years travelling, seeking out, and acquiring watches, I decided my collection deserved to be housed in a museum. The Patek Philippe Museum opened to the public in 2001. Its aim is to encourage visitors from Geneva, the rest of Switzerland, and abroad, to discover – or rediscover – our city's great horological tradition, of which Patek Philippe watches are an intrinsic part.

The museum pays homage to the watchmakers of yesterday and today who endeavour to perpetuate traditional skills and to transmit them to future generations.

The Patek Philippe Museum collection will interest all collectors and lovers of fine horology, and particularly those who appreciate Patek Philippe watches. Its primary goal is didactic, its ambition being to inspire the young people of the present and the future and to encourage horological vocations and promote the progress of haute horology.

The help of several knowledgeable people who share my passion for fine horology proved invaluable. Without it, I could never have assembled this collection, which highlights some of the most exceptional Patek Philippe timepieces. I wish first to mention Mr. Alan Banbery, who worked tirelessly for over thirty years to constitute the core of the collection. Taking over this task, Mr. Arnaud Tellier enriched the basic collection over the course of ten years, acquiring major pieces and carrying out the huge task of research, documentation, and description that forms the basis of this catalogue.

My sincerest thanks go to these two remarkable men. I also wish to express my gratitude to the many people who contributed to the production and completion of this book, and particularly to Sharon Kerman, who revised the descriptions of all the watches and finalised the layout.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Stern', with a large, stylized initial 'P' and 'S'.

PHILIPPE STERN
HONORARY PRESIDENT
PATEK PHILIPPE, GENEVA

The Birth of a Company

Born of the encounter between men from different worlds, the priority of the Patek Philippe Company has always been the search for perfection. The firm – known successively as Patek, Czapek & C^{ie} (1839), Patek & C^{ie} (1845), and then Patek, Philippe et C^{ie} (1851) – owes its existence to the combined talents of Antoni Norbert Patek de Prawdzic (later known as Antoine Norbert de Patek), a Polish patriot who had taken refuge in Geneva, and Jean Adrien Philippe, a French horologist whose gifts were not recognised in his homeland.

In this team, Philippe was the watchmaker *par excellence*, a brilliant inventor whose high standards spurred the company's technical progress, while Patek was the determined and visionary entrepreneur.

Some of the early watches, bearing the portraits of Polish heroes or the symbols of a fervent religious faith, bore testimony to the aspirations of the Polish émigrés; indeed, many of the early clients were exiled Polish patriots and aristocrats.

The International World's Fairs played an important role in the firm's history. The 1851 Universal Exhibition in London was the first international event in which Patek Philippe participated. There it drew the attention of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert, who purchased a stem-wound watch and a quarter-repeating one. This was the first success in a series of many, including numerous prizes and other distinctions won at International Exhibitions.

While granting great importance to technical complications, the new company was also attentive to the decoration of its watches. Its exquisite miniature and form watches were in the finest Geneva tradition.

The American jewellery firm Tiffany & Co began offering Patek Philippe watches very early, spreading the company's renown in the New World.

The corporate name went through several modifications with the arrival or departure of various partners. In 1901, the firm became a limited company under the name Ancienne Manufacture d'Horlogerie Patek, Philippe & C^{ie}, which prefigured the current name: Patek Philippe SA. In 1932, Charles and Jean Stern acquired the manufacture. In 1946, Charles' son Henri founded the Henri Stern Watch Agency in New York, which became the distributor of Patek Philippe watches for the American market.

Today, Patek Philippe SA is the last independent family-owned watch manufacturer in Geneva. In 2009, its presidency was transferred from the 3rd to the 4th generation of the Stern family.

The first chapter of this catalogue presents the watches manufactured in the years following the company's founding in 1839, as well as a watch and a movement made by Jean Adrien Philippe and featuring his first stem-winding and setting mechanism, and horological pieces produced by François Czapek after he left the firm.

The Protagonists



Antoine Norbert de Patek (1812 – 1877)

Born on June 12, 1812 in the village of Piaski in Poland, the young Antoine Norbert de Patek joined the fight against the Russian invasion of his country. At the age of 16, he enlisted in the Polish cavalry, taking part in the November 1830 insurrection and being twice wounded. When the revolt was crushed Poland became a Russian province and the rebels were severely punished. Patek, like many of his compatriots, was forced to emigrate. He travelled to France, where he worked for a time as a typographer, and ultimately settled in Geneva. There he tried his hand at several trades, briefly studying with the painter Alexandre Calame before becoming interested in watchmaking.

Placing a great deal of importance on quality from the start, he purchased excellent watch movements and had them mounted in fine cases. Soon his business sense and high standards made him a well-known merchant.

Patek became friendly with François Czapek, a Polish watchmaker of Czech origin with whom he founded the firm Patek, Czapek & C^{ie} on May 1, 1839. In its early years, the company employed a half-dozen workers and produced approximately two hundred pieces per year, all of excellent quality.

Patek married Marie Adélaïde Elisabeth Thomasine Denizart, the daughter of a French merchant. The couple had three children: a first child who survived only a few months; a son, Léon Mecyslas Vincent, born on July 19, 1857; and a daughter, Marie Edwige, born on October 23, 1859.

In 1843, Antoine Norbert de Patek became a Swiss citizen and was granted the status of “bourgeois”, or burgher, of Geneva. He made many business journeys throughout Europe and the United States.

In 1845, Czapek left the firm, which would soon be joined by the French watchmaker Jean Adrien Philippe.

Antoine Norbert de Patek was a fervent and lifelong supporter of the Polish cause, always ready to come to the aid of Polish refugees. He was an active Catholic who was made a Count by Pope Pius IX in recognition of his services to the Church. Antoine Norbert de Patek died in Geneva on March 1, 1877, and is buried in the city’s Châtelaïne cemetery.

François Czapek (1811 – after 1869)

François Czapek was born on April 4, 1811, in Semonitz, Bohemia. He took part in the November 1830 insurrection as a soldier in the National Guard. He was soon forced to flee the country, and on July 1, 1832, he arrived in Geneva.

Trained as a watchmaker, he founded the company Czapek & Moreau (his business partner, Mr. Moreau, came from Versoix near Geneva).

On October 22, 1836, he married Marie Gevril, the daughter of a Carouge watchmaker.

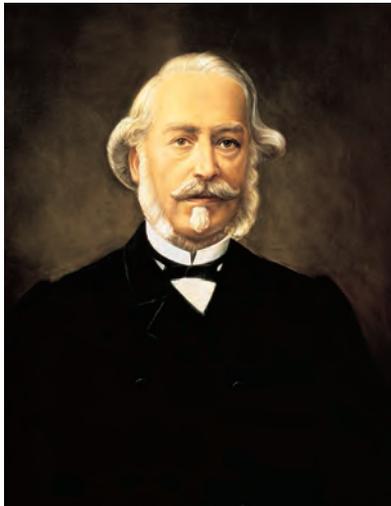
On May 1, 1839, he founded the firm Patek, Czapek & C^{ie} with Antoine Norbert de Patek. As a fervent patriot, he hoped to create a “Polish National Manufacture” that would be transferred to Poland as soon as circumstances allowed.

On April 18, 1845, due to disagreements between the two partners, Patek, Czapek & C^{ie} was liquidated. Embarking on a new partnership with a former hero of the 1830 insurrection named Julius Gruzewski, François Czapek used the corporate name Czapek & C^{ie}. When Frenchman Jean Adrien Philippe joined the Patek firm, several Polish clients transferred their patronage to Czapek.

In Leipzig in 1850, Czapek published the first horological book ever published in the Polish language. Its French title was *Remarques sur le métier d’horloger à l’usage de l’horloger et du public*. In 1854, he opened a shop in Warsaw, then another in Paris in 1860, at Place Vendôme, No. 23. Due to Julius Gruzewski’s friendship with Napoleon III, the Czapek firm became the official supplier to the French Imperial court. Despite these successes, Czapek & C^{ie} disappeared around 1869, and the business was taken over by A. Chailland.

The Polish *Grande Encyclopédie illustrée* of 1895 stated that François Czapek had died in poverty; the date of his death is unknown.

The Protagonists



Jean Adrien Philippe (1815–1894)

The son of a watchmaker, Jean Adrien Philippe was born on April 16, 1815, in Bazoches-Gouet, Eure-et-Loire, France. He trained at his father's workbench before embarking on his journeyman's "Tour de France" at the age of 18. Working successively in Rouen (1836), Le Havre (1836–1837) and London (1837–1839), he settled in Paris in July, 1839.

Around 1840, he started making watch movements. By 1842, he began researching winding and setting mechanisms activated by a crown on the watch pendant. The idea was not new – several attempts had been previously made to do away with watch keys, due to the fact that they were easily lost, often damaged enamel dials during winding, and because eliminating the winding square also reduced the mechanism's exposure to dust and conserved oil. However, Philippe's mechanisms produced better results than any of the prior stem-winding systems, and unlike them, it was suited to the flat watches then in fashion.

Philippe invested all his money in a stem-winding and setting mechanism that he presented at the 1844 Exhibition of the Products of French Industry. But the invention was not a commercial success, despite having been awarded a bronze medal.

After purchasing one of the young watchmaker's timepieces, Antoine Norbert de Patek travelled to Paris to meet him. His partnership with Czapek was floundering and he was looking for a new associate. He invited the Frenchman to become the new technical director of his firm.

Philippe, who had dreamed of launching a flourishing watch industry in the French capital, hesitated but finally chose to leave Paris. This decision was largely due to the fact that his principal supporter and client Charles-Louis Le Roy had sold his business in the Palais Royal quarter, and that very few others saw the potential of Philippe's work. At the time, Jean Adrien Philippe had produced approximately 40 keyless watches.

Before leaving France, he filed a patent for his invention: a "system or mechanical device for winding and setting watches by the stem; a device that may be applied to all types of ordinary watches as well as to repeating and marine watches, and even to independent seconds watches."

On May 1, 1845, he began working in the Geneva company. The beginnings were difficult; the Genevan and Polish watchmakers employed by the firm considered him an intruder and his exacting technical standards required them to make unwelcome changes in their work habits.

To make matters worse, Patek compelled him to accept a third associate – a Polish lawyer named Vincent Gostkowski, who brought capital to the firm. Uprooted and with limited resources, Philippe reluctantly consented. However, over time, his patience and good-natured personality prevailed. On January 1, 1851, the partnership was renewed with the addition of the Frenchman's name: Patek, Philippe & C^{ie}.

On August 17, 1851, Philippe married Anne-Marie Bailly, with whom he was to have five children.

A prolific inventor, Philippe also promoted the mechanisation of the watchmaking industry. He strove to perfect his stem-winding mechanism over a period of many years. He filed many patents, in several countries, under either his own name or that of Patek, Philippe & C^{ie}. Around 1860, he devised the definitive version of his stem-winding and time-setting system, having previously obtained patents No. 1317 (1845), No. 46 827 (1860), and No. 46 951 (1861), in Paris. He invented the "slipping" spring (French patent No. 58 941, with an addition in 1863). Philippe also penned numerous articles in horological journals. In 1863, he published a book entitled *Les montres sans clef (Keyless watches)* in which he discussed his work on independent seconds and the slipping spring, or "ressort libre" in French. He contributed articles on the industrial production of watches to the *Journal de Genève*.

His "Notice sur l'horlogerie de la manufacture Patek, Philippe & C^{ie}, 22, Grand-Quai, Genève, Exposition universelle de Paris 1878" (Notice on the horological production of Patek, Philippe & C^{ie}, 22, Grand-Quai, Geneva, Paris 1878 Universal Exhibition) presented the company and its technical innovations, with descriptions of the 127 chronometers, watches and objects, as well as the 86 movements, 39 ebauches and hundreds of components on display at the exhibition. At the 1878 Universal Exhibition Philippe wrote critical essays for the *Journal de Genève*, analysing the pieces shown there; these essays are an important guide to understanding the horology of the period. Philippe was a member of the Jury at that event, as well as at the exhibitions of Zurich in 1883 and Anvers in 1885.

An active member of the Geneva Société des Arts and the Geneva Astronomical Observatory, Philippe won many prizes at annual chronometry contests.

In 1881, he invented the "Philippe" precision regulator for precise fast/slow adjustment in watches.

In the early 20th century, an improved version of this device was fitted to all *Chronometro Gondolo* watches as well as to many other pocket and wristwatches.

Profoundly saddened by the death of his wife in 1892, Jean Adrien Philippe passed away on January 5, 1894, without ever having left his workbench. He is buried in Geneva's Saint-Georges cemetery.

In 1880, France awarded him the cross of the Legion of Honour; this was a belated honour from the country he had left a half-century before as an unknown and unappreciated watchmaker. In 1890, he was made Knight of the Legion of Honour.



Pocket Watches without Horological Complications

When Patek, Czapek & C^{ie} was founded in May 1839, the market was promising. Fine watches were in great demand and over the six years of their partnership, Patek and Czapek produced approximately 1120 watches, all of excellent quality.

The watches made during the early decades – with the exception of watches with horological complications, treated in the second chapter of this catalogue – were often embellished with enamelling or engraving. Often the decorative motifs were inspired by the history and culture of Poland. Many of the firm's clients were Polish; several were Polish patriots who had been forced to emigrate to Western Europe and missed their homeland. This clientele, very receptive to Czapek's ideal of a Polish National Manufacture, favoured portraits of Polish patriots and religious-themed motifs. Nearly all the early watches were fitted with a cylinder escapement, either in steel or with jewelled pallets. The earliest balances were monometallic, made of gold or gilt brass; some indexes had a bimetallic temperature compensation curb.

François Czapek left the partnership with Patek in 1845 and founded his own company in 1851. Located in Paris's Place Vendôme, his company became a supplier to the Emperor Napoleon III and the Imperial Court. The pieces included here are typical of his production of the period. As for Jean Adrien Philippe, the young watchmaker who drew Patek's attention in 1845 and who became his business partner in 1851, his quest for a satisfactory stem-winding and setting system is one of the most important events in 19th century horology. The watch and movement by Philippe included in this chapter feature the visionary inventor's first stem-winding system.

With the 19th century came the ambitious Universal Exhibitions, international showcases of the period's industrial development. These events greatly contributed to the young company's fame. At the 1851 London Exhibition, the firm's reputation was further enhanced when Queen Victoria and Prince Albert both acquired Patek Philippe watches. Over the next few decades, many members of royal families and the aristocracy followed suit, purchasing prestigious timepieces from the Geneva firm – these were often watches with complications.

At the 1851 Exhibition, Richard Rippon Dent (stepson of renowned horologist Edward John Dent, he had inherited an interest in the family firm on the condition that he take the name of Dent) proclaimed his intention to purchase the entire Patek, Philippe display. While he did not make good on this initial promise, by the end of the exhibition Dent had nevertheless acquired approximately thirty watches.

The case decoration was entrusted to the outstanding artisans of Geneva. The lavish ornamentation of pendant watches, form watches, and watches housed in objects such as lorgnettes is particularly remarkable. Whether embellished with champlevé or cloisonné enamel, fine painted on enamel scenes, or delicate engraving, these watch cases are of outstanding quality. The firm's miniature watches posed a technical and esthetic challenge that was brilliantly met.

The manufacture's prestige grew even further around 1849, when the renowned Tiffany firm of New York began offering the company's watches. An 1851 agreement made Tiffany the first American company to sell Patek, Philippe watches.

Watch and Movement
by Jean Adrien Philippe,
1842–1845



Movement Incorporating Jean Adrien Philippe's First Stem winding and Setting Mechanism

Jean Adrien Philippe, Paris

Movement 17'''', cylinder escapement and gold balance, incorporating Jean Adrien Philippe's first stem winding and setting system

1842

Inv. P-1842

H. 51.6 mm / Ø 38.4 mm / thickness 7.5 mm

When young Parisian watchmaker Jean Adrien Philippe addressed the problem of keyless winding, he was aware of the previous efforts in the field, including the small number of keyless watches made by Breguet circa 1840. The stem-winding system Philippe developed was simple and robust, and was well suited to the flat watches then in fashion. He continued to improve the mechanism, registering several patents, until 1860.

Philippe's system was not a commercial success despite having been awarded a bronze medal at the 1844 Exhibition of the Products of French Industry. When Antoine Norbert de Patek heard of the Frenchman's work he immediately saw its potential for his company, which at the time produced keyless watches with the system developed by Louis Audemars of Le Brassus. Patek invited Philippe to work with him in Geneva, after which time Philippe's mechanism was used in the manufacture's keyless watches. By the time he left Paris, Philippe had already constructed several watches of this type.



Pocket Watch by Jean Adrien Philippe

Jean Adrien Philippe, Paris

Open-faced, stem winding and setting

Yellow gold case, No. 821 338

Enamel dial, painted Roman numerals

Blued steel Breguet hands

Movement matte gilt, cylinder escapement, monometallic balance

Circa 1845

Inv. P-1592

H. 60.3 mm / Ø 44.6 mm / thickness 9.7 mm

This watch, with an engine-turned case, incorporates Jean Adrien Philippe's first stem-winding and setting system.



Pendant Watch

Patek, Philippe & C^{ie}, Genève, No. 32 216

Open-faced, stem winding and setting

Rose gold case

White enamel dial, painted Roman numerals

Blued steel Poire hands

Movement 13'''', Patek, Philippe ebauche, gilt, cylinder escapement, monometallic balance and flat balance spring

1867–1869

Inv. P-403

H. 47.7 mm / Ø 33.5 mm / thickness 10.7 mm;
accompanied by a matching chatelaine: H. 92 mm /
width 32.6 mm / thickness 11.7 mm



Painted on enamel on the back, a shepherdess and her dog within a green gold frame with a chased and black enamelled surround. The rose gold chatelaine, probably French, is similarly decorated, with four oval cartouches, their backs protected by mother of pearl plaques. This chatelaine watch is typical of the late 19th century taste for the historicist movement and particularly for the Louis XVI style.



The First Patek Philippe Wristwatch

Patek, Philippe & C^{ie}, Genève, No. 27 368

Lady's wristwatch, hunter type case, key winding and setting

Rectangular yellow gold case, hinged back

White enamel dial, upright painted Breguet numerals

Blued steel Poire hands

Movement 6'''', baguette, gilt, cylinder escapement, monometallic balance and flat balance spring

1868

Inv. P-49

H. 13.2 mm / width 32.3 mm / thickness 13.6 mm;
bracelet: inside Ø ~ 56 mm / outside Ø ~ 62.3 mm

The cover is enamelled in black and set with rose-cut diamonds.

This watch may be considered one of the first modern wristwatches. It is not a bracelet fitted with a pendant watch or a watch movement – that is, a bracelet watch of the type that was occasionally seen in the early 19th century – but a veritable timepiece to be worn on the wrist, whose bracelet is of secondary importance.

Illustration (right) 200%





Pocket Watch with Cabriolet Case

Patek & C^{ie}, Genève, No. 714

Cabriolet case, key winding and setting

Yellow gold outer and inner cases

Satin-finished gold dial, painted Roman numerals,
centre engraved in a vermicelli pattern

Blued steel Breguet hands

Movement 17''', Louis Audemars ebauche, gilt,
duplex escapement, monometallic balance and flat
balance spring

1842

Inv. P-173

With outer case: H. 66.8 mm / Ø 50 mm /
thickness 9.7 mm; without outer case: H. 63.3 mm /
Ø 42.6 mm / thickness 8.3 mm

*The front and back are engraved with a
vermicelli pattern.*

*In a "cabriolet" case, the watch may be placed
with the front facing outward, as an open-faced
watch, or with the back facing outward, as
a hunting-cased watch, to protect the glass.*

*This type of case appears to have been created
by Abraham Louis Breguet around 1810, for his
watches intended for the Turkish market. With this
type of case, both inner and outer cases may be
decorated in a similar manner.*





Pocket Watch with Cabriolet Case

Patek, Philippe & C^{ie}, Genève, No. 6223

Cabriolet case, stem winding and setting

Yellow gold outer and inner cases

White enamel dial, painted Roman numerals

Blued steel Breguet hands

Movement 16''', Patek, Philippe ebauche, gilt, counterpoised straight line lever escapement, compensation balance with gold timing screws and flat balance spring

1851–1852

Inv. P-897

With outer case: H. 64.9 mm / Ø 47.8 mm / thickness 9.4 mm; without outer case: H. 61.9 mm / Ø 41.1 mm / thickness 8.4 mm

Delivered on November 10, 1852, to Tiffany, Young & Ellis, New York.

The case backs are engraved in a vermicelli pattern; the outer case back features a floral motif, the back of the inner case an escutcheon.

In a "cabriolet" case, the watch may be placed with the front facing outward, as an open-faced watch, or with the back facing outward, as a hunting-cased watch, to protect the glass.

This type of case appears to have been created by Abraham Louis Breguet around 1810, for his watches intended for the Turkish market. With this type of case, both inner and outer cases may be decorated in a similar manner.

The words "INVENTION BREVETÉE" (patented invention) engraved on the cuvette indicate the watch employs Jean Adrien Philippe's stem-winding system (patent No. 1317 of April 22, 1845).





Lorgnette Pendant Watch

Patek & C^{ie}, Genève, No. 2277

Hunter case, key winding and setting, made for the Polish market

Yellow gold case

White enamel dial, painted Roman numerals

Blued steel Breguet hands

Rectangular movement "for lorgnette", 9" x 15",

Audemars ebauche, gilt, cylinder escapement, monometallic balance and flat balance spring

1847–1848

Inv. P-1354

L. 88 mm / width 23.6 mm / thickness 10 mm

The case is entirely engraved with scrolling motifs and flowers; the front cover is painted on enamel with a flower bouquet.

It appears that Patek, Philippe & C^{ie} made approximately thirty such watches. The company also produced rectangular movements "for lorgnette" that were used in other pieces.

Illustration 130%





Lorgnette Pendant Watch

Patek & C^{ie}, Genève, No. 2955

Hunter case, key winding and setting

Yellow gold case

White enamel dial, painted Roman numerals

Blued steel Breguet hands

Rectangular movement "for lorgnette", 9" x 15",
Audemars ebauche, gilt, cylinder escapement,
monometallic balance and flat balance spring
1848

Inv. P-20

L. 88.6 mm / width 25.2 mm / thickness 11.9 mm

The case is entirely engraved with scrolling motifs, with an escutcheon on the back; the cover bears an enamelled flower bouquet set with rose-cut diamonds.

It appears that Patek, Philippe & C^{ie} made approximately thirty such watches. The company also produced rectangular movements "for lorgnette" that were used in other pieces.

Illustration 130%





Queen Victoria's Pendant Watch

Patek, Philippe & C^o, Genève, No. 4536

Open-faced, stem winding and setting

Yellow gold case

White enamel dial, painted Roman numerals

Blued steel Breguet hands

Movement 13'''', Patek, Philippe ebauche, gilt, cylinder escapement, monometallic balance and flat balance spring

1850–1851

Inv. P-24

H. 46.8 mm / Ø 33.2 mm / thickness 9.2 mm;
accompanied by a matching brooch: H. 21.3 mm /
width 34.7 mm / thickness 10.2 mm

Delivered on August 18, 1851, to "N[otre] S[ieu]r Philippe" (our Mr. Philippe).

Tradition has it that this watch was presented to Queen Victoria at the 1851 Universal Exhibition in London.

The back features a bouquet of rose-cut diamond-set roses set on a lapis blue enamel ground surrounded by scrolling.

The words "INVENTION BREVETÉE" (patented invention) engraved on the cuvette indicate the watch employs Jean Adrien Philippe's stem-winding system (patent No. 1317 of April 22, 1845).

Miniature portrait of Queen Victoria, painted on enamel by John Haslem after a portrait by Franz-Xaver Winterhalter, 1849, H. 75 mm.





Queen Victoria's Pendant Watch

Patek, Philippe & C^{ie}, Genève, No. 4719

Open-faced, key winding and setting

Yellow gold case

White enamel dial, painted Roman numerals

Blued steel Breguet hands

Movement 12'''', LeCoultre & C^{ie} ebauche, gilt, cylinder escapement, monometallic balance and flat balance spring

1850–1851

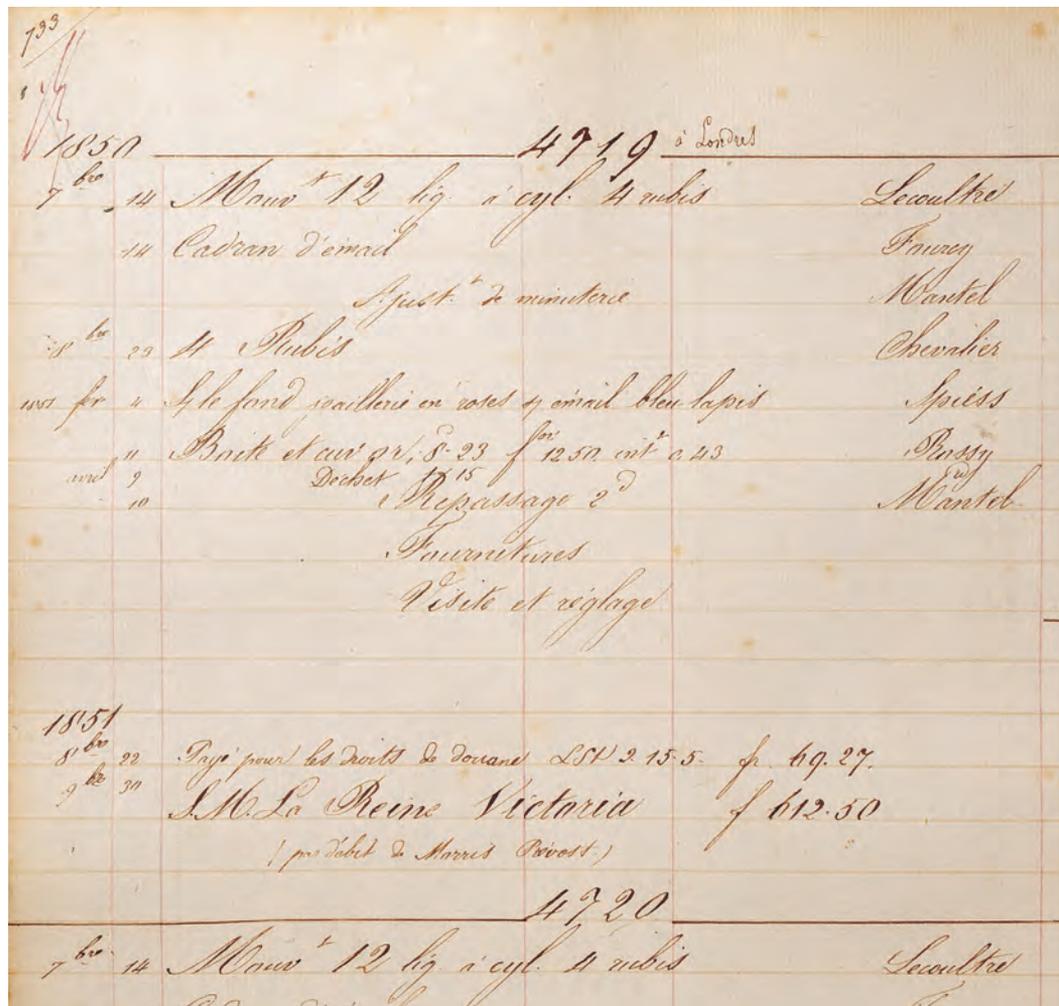
Inv. P-27

H. 42.5 mm / Ø 30.5 mm / thickness 8.9 mm

The back features a flower bouquet set with rose-cut diamonds, on a sky-blue enamel ground; the bezels are engraved.

This watch, shown at the 1851 London Universal Exhibition, was sold to Queen Victoria on November 30, 1851. Albert, the Prince Consort, also purchased a watch at the exhibition (of which he was an ardent promoter). This watch, bearing the number 3218, was a quarter repeating pocket chronometer with detent escapement.

Few Patek, Philippe & C^{ie} watches of this period are signed on the dial, case, and movement, as is this watch.



Page from the Patek, Philippe & C^{ie} Archives concerning this watch



Pocket Watch of Christian IX, King of Denmark

Patek, Philippe & C^{ie}, Genève, No. 28 939

Open-faced, stem winding and setting

Yellow gold case

White enamel dial, painted Roman numerals,
subsidiary seconds dial at 6 o'clock

Blued steel Breguet hands; blued steel
counterpoised seconds hand

Movement 19''', Patek, Philippe ebauche, gilt,
counterpoised straight line lever escapement,
à moustaches, compensation balance
with gold timing screws and balance spring
with terminal curve

1866–1867

Inv. P-1273

H. 67.2 mm / Ø 47.9 mm / thickness 13.4 mm



Sold on October 16, 1867, to Louise of Hesse-Kassel, Queen of Denmark, as a present for Christian IX, King of Denmark, on their 25th wedding anniversary.

The back is enamelled in translucent blue on an engine-turned ground and set with 45 rose-cut diamonds, composing the initials "L C" (for Louise and Christian); entwined with a painted on enamel red-edged white ribbon, bearing the dates 1842 and 1867, the whole surmounted by six stars. The cuvette bears the Queen's portrait in a sand-finished surround, painted on enamel by Charles-Louis-François Glardon.





**Pocket Watch of Victor-Emmanuel II of Savoy,
King of Sardinia and Italy**

Patek, Philippe & C^{ie}, Genève, No. 43 993

Open-faced, stem winding and setting, subsidiary seconds dial at 6 o'clock

Rose gold case

White enamel dial, painted Roman numerals

Blued steel Poire hands; blued steel counterpoised seconds hand

Movement 19''', Patek, Philippe ebauche, gilt, counterpoised straight line lever escapement, à moustaches, compensation balance with gold timing screws and flat balance spring

1874

Inv. P-1648

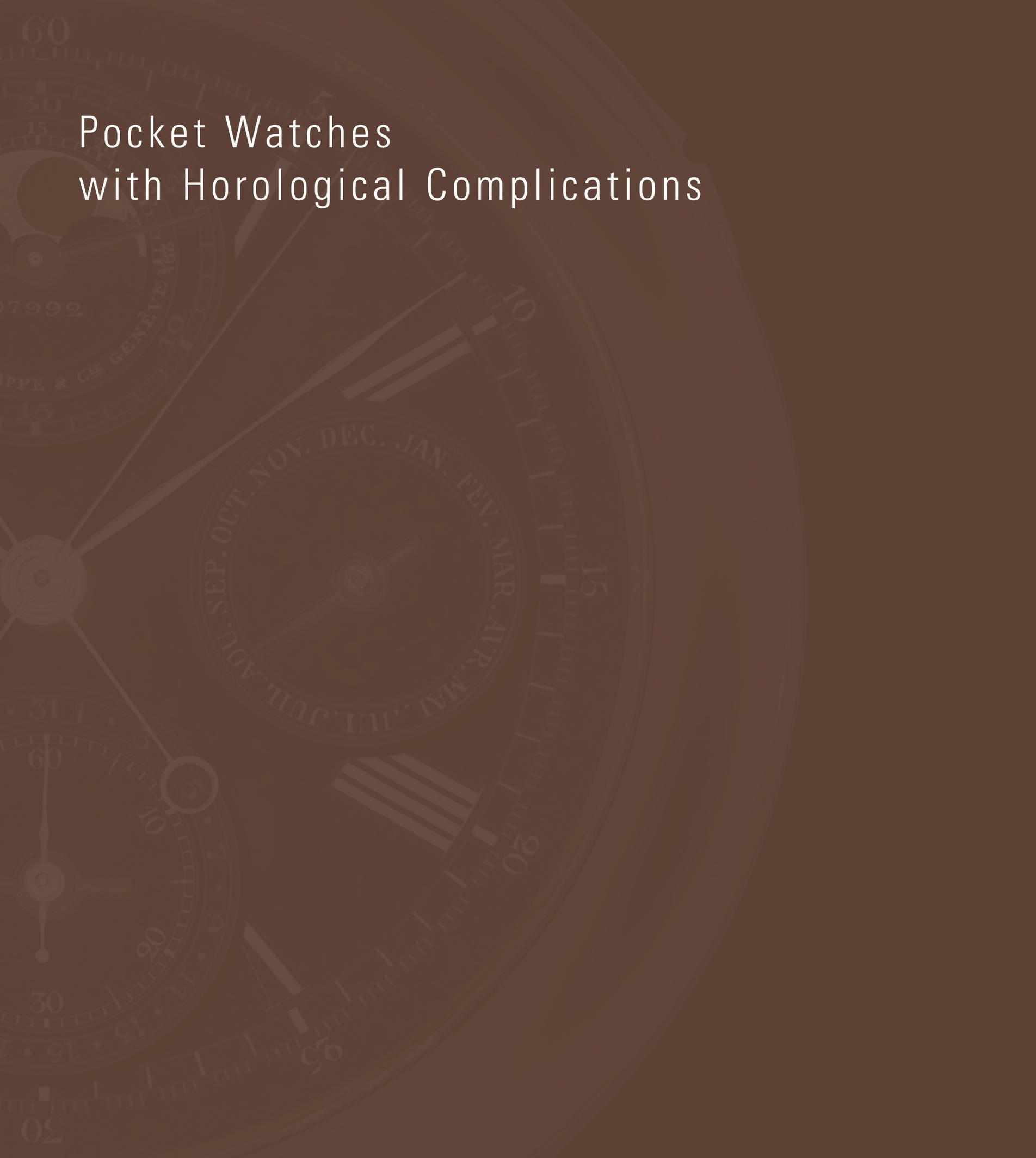
H. 69.9 mm / Ø 48.9 mm / thickness 16 mm;
accompanied by a silk and velvet box bearing the monogramme of King Victor-Emmanuel II



The back is enamelled with the monogramme of Victor-Emmanuel II of Savoy surmounted by a royal crown; the bezels and band are chased.

This watch is from a series of two pieces, No. 43 993 and No. 43 994.





Pocket Watches with Horological Complications

Horological complications have always held a great fascination. The types of complications have varied over time; in today's world, dominated by science and technology, the exact measurement of time is crucial while in the past it was more important to determine the dates of the moveable feasts and to follow the trajectories of the stars. Horological complications, an essential part of the art of watchmaking, are of particular importance for Patek Philippe.

Any addition to the basic indications – hours, minutes, and seconds – is considered a complication. These supplementary functions may require one or more additional hands to indicate other time zones or the astrological events that mark time divisions: day, date, month, leap year, and lunar cycle. They may indicate time by repeating mechanisms sounding the hours, quarters, minutes, *grande* and *petite sonnerie*, or by the precise measurement of small intervals of time.

Several important events punctuate the history of the pocket watch with complications, many of them due to horologists Abraham Louis Breguet and Ami LeCoultre. Breguet's "Marie Antoinette" watch – ordered in 1783 but not completed until 1827, over thirty years after the Queen's death – possessed all the complications then possible. The so-called "Merveilleuse" watch made by LeCoultre, a watchmaker from Le Brassus in the vallée de Joux, won a prize at the 1878 Paris International Exhibition; it long remained a reference in the world of horology.

The Universal Exhibitions held throughout the second half of the 19th century encouraged watchmakers to rival with one another to create pieces with ever greater complications. These events were instrumental in spreading Patek Philippe's fame and renown. The first of these exhibitions was held in London in 1851. There the manufacture attracted the attention of connoisseurs, including Queen Victoria and Prince Albert, and was awarded a gold medal. The exhibition was a resounding success for the firm, despite the disappointment suffered when watchmaker Richard Dent, who had initially assured Antoine Norbert de Patek that he would purchase all the watches displayed, finally acquired only thirty pieces. In his autobiography, conserved in the manufacture's archives, Philippe remarked: "this remained, nevertheless, a handsome transaction".

Patek Philippe participated actively in the stimulating environment of the International Exhibitions, presenting watches whose functions would become the standard for complicated watches of the early 20th century: repeating, perpetual calendars and split-seconds chronographs. Taking up the challenge, on occasion the company anticipated clients' requests, devising and constructing exceptional pieces that required years of interdisciplinary research into the fields of astronomy, mathematics, and precision mechanics.

Repeating, 1839–1926

Repeating watches strike the hour on demand, by a pusher or a bolt. This fascinating function, one of the most difficult complications to execute, is among the greatest horological challenges.

Repeating watches were developed in the late 17th century. Around 1680, English horologist Daniel Quare invented a mechanism striking the hours and quarters.

The invention of a minute-striking mechanism is attributed to Englishman Thomas Mudge, around 1750.

In the late 18th century, Abraham Louis Breguet replaced bells with gongs – hardened steel wires that are coiled inside of the case so as to take up very little space.

There are several types of striking watches, ranging from quarter to minute repeaters:

- Quarter repeating: strikes the hour with a low tone and each quarter with two tones, one low and the other high
- Half-quarter repeating: strikes the hour and the first or second half of the quarter hour
- Five-minute repeating: strikes the hours, the quarters, and the number of five-minute periods since the hour
- Minute repeating: strikes the hours, the quarters and the minutes since the quarter hour

The minute repeating mechanism, the most complicated of all repeating mechanisms, generally has two gongs: a low one for the hours and a higher one for the minutes. The quarter hours are indicated by a succession of high and low tones. The mechanism is activated by a bolt, pusher, or slide.

Minute Repeating by a Pusher

For their watches with minute repeating by a pusher – i.e. watches whose mechanism is activated by depressing a pushpiece on the winding crown – Patek Philippe used three different ebauches:

- 17^{'''} open-faced, made by Victorin Piguet & C^{ie};
- 18^{'''} hunter case, made by Victorin Piguet & C^{ie};
- 19^{'''} open-faced, made by J. Aubert according to Swiss patent No. 13536, filed by John W. Meylan, Le Sentier, registered on December 30, 1896; and probably 17^{'''} (to 19/21/22^{'''}), made by Louis Elisée Piguet.



Ten-Minute and Minute Repeating Pocket Watch

Patek, Philippe & C^{ie}, Genève

Open-faced, stem winding and setting, with the following complication:

- Ten-minute and minute repeating on two gongs (activated by a slide on the band)

Yellow gold case, No. 248201

White enamel dial, painted upright Breguet numerals, subsidiary seconds dial at 6 o'clock

Blued steel Poire hands; blued steel counterpoised seconds hand



Movement No. 137701, 18''', Victorin Piguet & C^{ie} ebauche, rhodium-plated, counterpoised straight line lever escapement, compensation balance and Breguet balance spring

1906–1907

Inv. P-1140

H. 67.4 mm / Ø 48.5 mm / thickness 10.7 mm

Minute repeating watches generally strike the hours, quarters and minutes on demand.

The present watch is unusual in that it strikes the hours, ten minutes, and minutes. For example, at 4:56, the watch strikes four times for the hour, five times for each ten-minute unit, and six times for the minutes.

This appears to be the only movement of its kind produced by Patek Philippe.





**Pocket Watch with Minute Repeating
by a Pusher and Differential Winding**

Patek, Philippe & C^{ie}, Genève

Hunter case, stem winding and setting, with the following complications:

- Minute repeating by a pusher, on two gongs (activated by the rectangular pusher on the band between 1 and 2 o'clock)
- Twin barrel with differential winding

Rose gold case, No. 215837

White enamel dial, painted Roman numerals, subsidiary seconds dial at 6 o'clock

Rose gold Poire hands; rose gold counterpoised seconds hand

Movement No. 97537, 18''', Victorin Piguet & C^{ie} ebauche, rhodium-plated, two barrels, two wheel trains, counterpoised straight line lever escapement, compensation balance and Breguet balance spring
1895–1896

Inv. P-1159

H. 69.5 mm / Ø 49.2 mm / thickness 17 mm

René Lalique, master artist and jeweller of the Art Nouveau period, created this watch with chased and enamelled front and back featuring rhinoceros beetles and trumpet flower motifs.

Another pocket watch, today in a private collection, was similarly decorated by Lalique.





Perpetual Calendar Pocket Watch

Patek, Philippe & C^{ie}, Genève, No. 25308

Open-faced, stem winding and setting by a pusher, with the following complications:

- Instantaneous perpetual calendar
- Retrograde date (semi-circular graduation with central hand)
- Day of the week (aperture at 6 o'clock; in Spanish)
- Month (subsidiary dial between 7 and 8 o'clock; in Spanish)
- Moon phases (opening at 12 o'clock)

Yellow gold case; reeded bezels, glazed back

White enamel dial, painted Roman numerals, subsidiary seconds dial between 4 and 5 o'clock

Blued steel Poire hands; blued steel counterpoised seconds hand



Movement 19'', ebauche Nicole & Audemars, nickerled, gold wheel train, counterpoised straight line lever escapement, compensation balance and Breguet balance spring

1864–1865

Inv. P-1281

H. 72.7 mm / Ø 49.6 mm / thickness 17.1 mm

Delivered on March 24, 1865, to F. de la Peña, watchmaker to the queen and supplier to the court, Madrid.

The cuvette is engine-turned and engraved with the coat of arms of the alliance of Antoine Marie Philippe Louis d'Orléans, Duke of Montpensier, Infante of Spain and Luisa Fernanda de Bourbon, Infanta of Spain, surmounted by a royal crown.

The perpetual calendar mechanism, made by Nicole & Audemars in the vallée de Joux, is constructed as an integral part of the pillar plate, rather than on an additional steel plate, as is generally the case.





Perpetual Calendar Pocket Watch

Patek, Philippe & C^{ie}, Genève, No. 27 096

Half hunter case, stem winding and setting, with the following complications:

- Instantaneous perpetual calendar
- Date (subsidiary dial at 6 o'clock)
- Day of the week (subsidiary dial at 9 o'clock; in French)
- Month (subsidiary dial at 3 o'clock; in French)
- Moon phases (aperture at 12 o'clock)

Yellow gold case

White enamel dial, painted Roman numerals, subsidiary seconds at 9 o'clock

Blued steel Poire hands; gold counterpoised seconds hand

Movement 19''', D. L. Golay ebauche, nickered, gold wheel train, counterpoised straight line lever escapement, compensation balance and Breguet balance spring

1866–1868

Inv. P-1532

H. 72.4 mm / Ø 51.7 mm / thickness 16.7 mm

Sold on November 29, 1868, to Philippe de Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, Prince of Belgium and Count of Flanders.

The back is enamelled with his initials surmounted by a royal crown.

The cuvette bears the portrait of his wife Marie, Princess of Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen, painted on enamel by Charles-Louis-François Glardon.





Pocket Watch with Chronograph

Patek, Philippe & C^{ie}, Genève

Hunter case, stem winding and setting, with the following complication:

- 1/6 second chronograph (activated by the rectangular pusher on the band)

Rose gold case, No. 219637

White enamel dial, painted Dauphine numerals, subsidiary seconds dial at 6 o'clock

Rose gold Louis XV hands; rose gold counterpoised seconds hand

Movement No. 94900, 19'''', Ambroise Duret ebauche, rhodium-plated, counterpoised straight line lever escapement, *à moustaches*, compensation balance with gold timing screws and balance spring with terminal curve

1891–1897

Inv. P-1361

H. 73 mm / Ø 51.3 mm / thickness 14.3 mm

Sold to Ferdinand I, Prince of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, Duke of Saxony, Prince of Bulgaria and Tsar of the Bulgarians on March 10, 1898. The front cover is engraved with his initials surmounted by a prince's crown; the back cover bears his coat of arms and a motto in Cyrillic.





Pocket Watch with Chronograph and 24-Hour Dial

Patek, Philippe & C^{ie}, Genève

Open-faced, stem winding and setting, with the following complication:

- 1/6 second chronograph (activated by the pusher on the winding crown); bolt locking the chronograph functions (slide between 1 and 2 o'clock)

Oxidised silver case, No. 219822; rose gold hinges, pendant neck, lips, bolt, crown and bow

White enamel dial with double numbering: painted black Roman numerals for the diurnal hours, painted red Dauphine numerals in gilt frames for the nocturnal hours, subsidiary seconds dial at 6 o'clock

Blued steel Poire hands; blued steel counterpoised seconds hand

Movement No. 97562, 19'', Ambroise Duret ebauche, rhodium-plated, counterpoised straight line lever escapement, à *moustaches*, compensation balance with gold timing screws and balance spring with terminal curve

1895–1896

Inv. P-1512

H. 75.7 mm / Ø 52.8 mm / thickness 17 mm

The oxidation of the case is achieved by applying a sulfur-based solution that causes a chemical reaction, creating a layer of black-coloured silver sulfide.



Minute Repeating Pocket Watch with Chronograph

Patek, Philippe & C^{ie}, Genève

Hunter case, stem winding and setting, with the following complications:

- Minute repeating on two gongs (activated by a slide on the band to the right of the pendant)
- 1/6 second chronograph (activated by the rectangular pusher on the band at 12 o'clock)

Rose gold case, No. 271 641

White enamel dial, painted upright Breguet numerals, subsidiary seconds dial at 6 o'clock

Rose gold Poire hands; blued steel counterpoised seconds hand

Movement No. 157 328, 19''', Victorin Piguet & C^{ie} ebauche, rhodium-plated, counterpoised straight line lever escapement, compensation balance with gold timing screws and balance spring with terminal curve

1911–1912

Inv. P-1278

H. 78.6 mm / Ø 56.2 mm / thickness 16.2 mm

The back and band are matted; the front cover bears a lion surrounded by foliage, chased in high relief.





**Minute Repeating Pocket Watch
with Chronograph and 30-Minute Register**

Patek, Philippe & C^{ie}, Genève

Open-faced, stem winding and setting, with the following complications:

- Minute repeating on two gongs (activated by a slide on the band to the left of the pendant)
- $\frac{1}{4}$ second chronograph (activated by the pusher on the winding crown); bolt locking the chronograph functions (slide between 11 and 12 o'clock)
- Instantaneous 30-minute register (subsidiary dial at 12 o'clock)

Yellow gold case, No. 405926; invisible hinge

White enamel dial, painted Dauphine numerals, subsidiary seconds dial at 6 o'clock

Blued steel Poire hands; blued steel counterpoised seconds hand

Movement No. 174143, 18''', Victorin Piguet & C^{ie} ebauche, rhodium-plated, counterpoised straight line lever escapement, compensation balance with gold timing screws and balance spring with terminal curve, eight adjustments

1913–1920

Inv. P-1597

H. 69.4 mm / \varnothing 49.5 mm / thickness 14.6 mm



**Minute Repeating Pocket Watch
with Split-Seconds Chronograph
and 30-Minute Register**

Patek, Philippe & C^{ie}, Genève

Open-faced, stem winding and setting, with the following complications:

- Minute repeating on two gongs (activated by a slide on the band to the left of the pendant)
- $\frac{1}{6}$ second chronograph (activated by the pusher on the winding crown); bolt locking the chronograph functions (slide between 11 and 12 o'clock)
- Split seconds (activated by the pusher on the band between 10 and 11 o'clock)
- Instantaneous 30-minute register (subsidiary dial at 12 o'clock)

Yellow gold case, No. 400 194

White enamel dial, painted upright Breguet numerals, subsidiary seconds dial at 6 o'clock

Yellow gold Louis XV hands; yellow gold counterpoised seconds hand

Movement No. 156 757, 18''', Victorin Piguet & C^{ie} ebauche, $\frac{1}{4}$ plate with offset centre wheel and split-seconds mechanism on the dial side of the plate, rhodium-plated, counterpoised straight line lever escapement, compensation balance with gold timing screws and balance spring with terminal curve, eight adjustments

1910–1914

Inv. P-316

H. 69.8 mm / \varnothing 50.5 mm / thickness 15.8 mm





**Minute Repeating Pocket Watch
with Split-Seconds Chronograph
and 30-Minute Register**

Patek, Philippe & C^{ie}, Genève

Hunter case, stem winding and setting, with the following complications:

- Minute repeating on two gongs (activated by a slide on the band to the right of the pendant)
- $\frac{1}{6}$ second chronograph (activated by the pusher on the band at 12 o'clock)
- Split seconds (activated by the pusher on the band between 1 and 2 o'clock)
- Instantaneous 30-minute register (subsidiary dial at 12 o'clock)

Yellow gold case, No. 410616

White enamel dial, painted upright Breguet numerals, subsidiary seconds dial at 6 o'clock

Blued steel Breguet hands; blued steel counterpoised seconds hand

Movement No. 197604, 18''', Victorin Piguet & C^{ie} ebauche, $\frac{1}{4}$ plate with offset centre wheel and split-seconds mechanism on the dial side of the plate, rhodium-plated, counterpoised straight line lever escapement, compensation balance with gold timing screws and balance spring with terminal curve

1921–1925

Inv. P-361

H. 73.1 mm / \varnothing 52.3 mm / thickness 13.5 mm





Half-Quarter Repeating Pocket Watch with Perpetual Calendar

Patek, Philippe & C^e, Genève, No. 27 053

Half hunter case, stem winding and setting, with the following complications:

- Half-quarter repeating on two gongs (activated by a slide on the band to the right of the pendant)
- Instantaneous perpetual calendar
- Date (subsidiary dial at 6 o'clock; gold hand)
- Day of the week (subsidiary dial at 9 o'clock; in French)
- Month (subsidiary dial at 3 o'clock; in French)
- Moon phases (aperture at 12 o'clock)

Additional mechanical complication:

- Metallic centigrade thermometer (semi-circular graduation at 12 o'clock)

Yellow gold case; engraved enamelled Roman numerals on the cover

White enamel dial, painted Roman numerals, subsidiary seconds dial at 6 o'clock

Blued steel Poire hands; blued steel counterpoised seconds hand

Movement 19''', D. L. Golay ebauche, gilt, counterpoised straight line lever escapement, compensation balance and Breguet balance spring
1866–1868

Inv. P-600

H. 73.9 mm / Ø 52.3 mm / thickness 16.5 mm



The back is enamelled with the initials of George Gregor Cantacuzene, Prince of Moldavia and Valachia and President of the Council of Romania, surmounted by an imperial crown; Cantacuzene purchased the watch on January 9, 1869.

The thermometer is considered a mechanical complication rather than a horological complication. The metallic thermometer for pocket watches was invented by Louis Urbain Jürgensen around 1800.

It appears that Patek Philippe produced only six watches with this particular type of horological complications:

- No. 27 037; sold on November 20, 1866.
- No. 27 053; the above watch.
- No. 27 081; sold on May 16, 1867, to Nawab Diler Jung Bahadoor.
- No. 27 173; sold on April 20, 1868, to the Prince de Polignac, Paris.
- No. 27 206; sold on May 21, 1869 (the thermometer appears to have been removed).
- No. 27 219; delivered on August 29, 1868, to watchmaker Paul Buhre, for the Russian market (made without thermometer).





Five-Minute Repeating Pocket Watch with Perpetual Calendar

Patek, Philippe & C^{ie}, Genève, No. 47 572

Open-faced, stem winding and setting, with the following complications:

- Five-minute repeating on two gongs (activated by a slide on the band to the right of the pendant)
- Instantaneous perpetual calendar
- Date (subsidiary dial at 6 o'clock; gold hand)
- Day of the week (subsidiary dial at 9 o'clock; in French)
- Month (subsidiary dial at 3 o'clock; in French)
- Age and phases of the moon (subsidiary dial with aperture at 12 o'clock, graduated from 0 to 29 ½)

Yellow gold case

White enamel dial, painted Roman numerals, subsidiary seconds dial at 6 o'clock

Blued steel Poire hands; blued steel counterpoised seconds hand

Movement 19''', D. L. Golay ebauche, gilt, counterpoised straight line lever escapement, compensation balance and Breguet balance spring
1873–1875

Inv. P-366

H. 74.9 mm / Ø 52.3 mm / thickness 16 mm





Minute Repeating Pocket Watch with Perpetual Calendar

Patek, Philippe & C^{ie}, Genève, No. 65 030

Hunter case, stem winding and setting, with the following complications:

- Minute repeating on two gongs (activated by a slide on the band to the right of the pendant)
- Instantaneous perpetual calendar
- Date (subsidiary dial at 6 o'clock; gold hand)
- Day of the week (subsidiary dial at 9 o'clock; in French)
- Month (subsidiary dial at 3 o'clock; in French)
- Age and phases of the moon (subsidiary dial with aperture at 12 o'clock, graduated from 0 to 29 ½)

Rose gold case

White enamel dial, painted Roman numerals, subsidiary seconds dial at 6 o'clock

Blued steel Poire hands; blued steel counterpoised seconds hand

Movement 19''', Piguet Frères ebauche, nickeled, counterpoised straight line lever escapement, compensation balance and Breguet balance spring
1881–1886

Inv. P-560

H. 79.4 mm / Ø 55.7 mm / thickness 18.2 mm

The front cover is engraved with initials surmounted by a crown. The cuvette is enamelled with a motto and a coat of arms, surmounted by a knight's helmet and a crown.





Minute Repeating Pocket Watch with Chronograph and Perpetual Calendar

Patek, Philippe & C^{ie}, Genève

Hunter case, stem winding and setting, with the following complications:

- Minute repeating on two gongs (activated by a slide on the band to the right of the pendant)
- $\frac{1}{4}$ second chronograph (activated by the rectangular pusher on the band at 12 o'clock)
- Instantaneous perpetual calendar
- Date (subsidiary dial at 6 o'clock)
- Day of the week (subsidiary dial at 9 o'clock; in French)
- Month (subsidiary dial at 3 o'clock; in French)
- Age and phases of the moon (subsidiary dial with aperture at 12 o'clock, graduated from 0 to 29 $\frac{1}{2}$)

Rose gold case No. 226 407

White enamel dial, painted Dauphine numerals, subsidiary seconds dial at 6 o'clock

Rose gold Louis XV hands; rose gold counterpoised seconds hand

Movement No. 111 543, 19'', Victorin Piguet & C^{ie} ebauche, rhodium-plated, counterpoised straight line lever escapement, compensation balance and Breguet balance spring

1899–1901

Inv. P-1225

H. 84.8 mm / \varnothing 60 mm / thickness 16.9 mm

The front cover is engraved and enamelled with Prince Wladimir Nikolaevich Orloff's coat of arms surmounted by a crown. The back cover is engraved and enamelled with his initials and a crown.



Five-Minute Repeating 24-Hour Dial Pocket Watch with 24-Hour and Quarter-Hour Striking, Chronograph, and Perpetual Calendar with Leap Year Indication

Patek, Philippe & C^{ie}, Genève

Hunter case, stem winding and setting, with the following complications:

- Five-minute and quarter repeating on two gongs (activated by a slide on the band to the left of the pendant)
- Chronograph (activated by the pusher on the winding crown), bolt locking the chronograph functions (slide at 23 o'clock)
- Perpetual calendar
- Date (subsidiary dial at 6 o'clock)
- Day of the week (subsidiary dial at 9 o'clock; in French)
- Month (subsidiary dial at 3 o'clock; in French)
- Age and phases of the moon (subsidiary dial with aperture at 12 o'clock, graduated from 0 to 29 ½)

Rose gold case, No. 212 850

White enamel 24-hour dial, graduated from 1 to 24 with black and red painted Arabic numerals, subsidiary seconds dial at 6 o'clock

Blued steel Poire hands; blued steel counterpoised seconds hand

Movement No. 97 443, 22'', rhodium-plated, counterpoised straight line lever escapement, compensation balance and Breguet balance spring
1891–1893

Inv. P-1707

H. 84 mm / Ø 60.1 mm / thickness 18.8 mm

The movement of this watch is specially constructed for a 24-hour indication. When the repeating mechanism is activated, it strikes the 24 hours, from 1 to 24, with 24 notes at midnight.

The perpetual calendar mechanism takes into account the leap years, although they are not indicated on the dial.





**Grand Complication Pocket Watch, with Minute Repeating,
Split-Seconds Chronograph, Perpetual Calendar and Retrograde Date**

Patek, Philippe & C^{ie}, Genève

Open-faced, stem winding and setting, with the following complications:

- Minute repeating on two gongs (activated by a slide on the band to the left of the pendant)
- $\frac{1}{2}$ second chronograph (activated by the pusher on the winding crown); bolt locking the chronograph functions (slide at 11 o'clock)
- Split seconds (activated by the rectangular pusher on the band between 10 and 11 o'clock)
- Instantaneous perpetual calendar
- Retrograde date (semi-circular graduation at 6 o'clock)
- Day of the week (subsidiary dial at 9 o'clock; in English)
- Month (subsidiary dial at 3 o'clock; in English)
- Age and phases of the moon (subsidiary dial with aperture at 12 o'clock, graduated from 0 to 29 $\frac{1}{2}$)

Yellow gold case, No. 262277

White enamel dial, painted upright Breguet numerals, subsidiary seconds dial at 6 o'clock
Blued steel Poire hands; blued steel counterpoised seconds hand

Movement No. 156723, 18", Victorin Piguet & C^{ie} ebauche, rhodium-plated, "Special" quality, counterpoised straight line lever escapement, compensation balance and Breguet balance spring, eight adjustments

1910

Inv. P-604

H. 69.8 mm / \varnothing 49.7 mm / thickness 15.2 mm

This appears to be the only watch produced by Patek Philippe with these complications, particularly the retrograde date.





Double-Dialled Grand Complication Pocket Watch, with Minute Repeating, Split-Seconds Chronograph, Perpetual Calendar and 30-Minute Register

Patek, Philippe & C^{ie}, Genève

Double-dialled, open-faced, stem winding and setting, with the following complications:

The first dial indicates:

- ½ second chronograph (activated by the pusher on the winding crown); bolt locking the chronograph functions (slide at 11 o'clock)
- Split seconds (activated by the rectangular pusher on the band between 10 and 11 o'clock)
- 30-minute register (subsidiary dial at 12 o'clock)

The second dial indicates:

- Instantaneous perpetual calendar
- Date (subsidiary dial at 6 o'clock)
- Day of the week (subsidiary dial at 9 o'clock; in English)
- Month (subsidiary dial at 3 o'clock; in English)
- Age and phases of the moon (subsidiary dial with aperture at 12 o'clock, graduated from 0 to 29 ½)

Additional horological complication:

- Minute repeating on two gongs (activated by a slide on the band to the left of the pendant)

Yellow gold case, No. 282 236; engine-turned band and bezel

First dial: white enamel, painted upright Breguet numerals, subsidiary seconds dial at 6 o'clock

Blued steel Poire hands; blued steel counterpoised seconds hand

Second dial: white enamel

Blued steel hands

Movement No. 174480, 19", Victorin Piguet & C^{ie} ebauche, rhodium-plated, counterpoised straight line lever escapement, compensation balance and Breguet balance spring

1914–1915

Inv. P-1529

H. 76.5 mm / Ø 53.8 mm / thickness 18 mm

This watch is accompanied by two additional crystals and two extra springs; one for the going train and one for the striking train.

This appears to be the only double-dialled watch produced by Patek Philippe with these particular horological complications.





Minute Repeating Pocket Watch with *Petite Sonnerie* and Westminster Chime on Five Bells

Patek, Philippe & C^{ie}, Genève

Hunter case, stem winding and setting, with the following complications:

- Westminster chime minute repeating on five bells (activated by a slide on the band to the right of the pendant, between 6 and 7 o'clock)
- *Petite sonnerie* ("strike/silence" lever between 11 and 12 o'clock)
- Twin barrel with differential winding

Yellow gold case, No. 257 696

Silver dial, applied gold upright stylised numerals, painted decorative motifs; the centre pierced, engraved and gilt, subsidiary seconds dial at 6 o'clock

Blued steel Louis XV hands; blued steel counterpoised seconds hand

Movement No. 138 285, 22 ½ "", rhodium-plated, two barrels and two wheel trains, counterpoised straight line lever escapement, compensation balance and Breguet balance spring

1909–1910

Inv. P-534

H. 93 mm / Ø 65.9 mm / thickness 20.9 mm

Sold on March 24, 1910, to P. G. de Cervantes, Spain, probably for Don Carlos Rincón Gallardo y Romero de Terreros, Marquis of Guadalupe, 3rd Duke of Regla and Marquis of Villahermosa de Alfaro.

The front cover bears the enamelled coat of arms of the Dukes of Regla; the back cover bears the coat of arms and motto of the Counts of Regla, painted on enamel by François Mauris.

Generally minute repeating watches strike the hours, quarters and minutes on demand; this watch is unusual in that it strikes the quarters, minutes, and then the hours.

The quarter hours are indicated by the tune played by the bells of Westminster Abbey in London. Groups of four notes are sounded on four bells, each one playing a different note (A, G, F, C). The minutes are struck on one of the four bells; in this case the second bell, G. The hours are then struck on a fifth bell, which is higher and louder (the note D, an octave higher).

Each group of four notes is composed of three short tones (quarter notes), followed by a longer note (a half note); this rhythm differentiates between the successive quarter hours:

- *The first quarter is sounded by four notes (A, G, F, C).*
- *The second quarter by eight notes (F, A, G, C; G, A, F).*
- *The third quarter by twelve notes (A, F, G, C; G, A, F; A, G, F, C).*
- *The fourth quarter by sixteen notes (F, A, G, C; F, G, A, F; A, G, F, C; G, C, A, F).*

When striking on demand, on the hour and during the minute that follows, the watch strikes the four quarters (sixteen notes) and then the hours. At other times, the watch strikes the quarter hours, the minutes, and the hours.

On the hour, when the lever is placed on "strike" (petite sonnerie mode), the watch automatically strikes the four quarters (sixteen notes), then the hours.

After the passage of the first quarter, the half hour, and the third quarter, the watch automatically sounds the elapsed quarter hours as follows:

- *For the first quarter, four notes.*
- *For the second quarter, eight notes.*
- *For the third quarter, twelve notes.*

This watch's grande and petite sonnerie mechanism was transformed to petite sonnerie by an isolating device. This transformation was probably made at the client's request



Singing Bird Box with Watch

Patek, Philippe & C^{ie}, Genève, No. 28 389

Singing bird activated on demand, watch key-wound and set

Partially gilt silver case

White enamel dial, painted Roman numerals

Blued steel Poire hands

Rectangular movement (L. 62 mm / width 19.5 mm), Patek Philippe ebauche, gilt, counterpoised straight line lever escapement, à *moustaches*, compensation balance with gold timing screws and flat balance spring

Singing bird movement (L. 84 mm / width 44 mm) attributed to Charles-Abraham II Bruguier, No. 295, gilt, with fusee and a set of eight cams

1866

Inv. P-651

L. 102.1 mm / width 64.3 mm / depth 37.7 mm

The singing bird is activated on demand by a lever on the right side of the box.

The box is entirely engraved and decorated with blue and black champlévé motifs.

The lid's medallion was removed at some point, probably due to damage.

Illustration of the box, above, 140%

