

**Press Release** 

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#### Patek Philippe reasserts its grand complications expertise

With the enrichment of the current collection by three models – the new Ref. 5303 as the first Patek Philippe minute repeater that presents the striking mechanism on the dial side as well as a reinterpretation of the legendary Ref. 5370 Split-Seconds Chronograph and the redesigned classic Ref. 5270 Perpetual Calendar Chronograph – the Genevan manufacture yet again leverages its virtuosity in the king's class of watchmaking artistry. These three timepieces represent a perfect meld of tradition and innovation. Paired with beautiful finesse in looks and features, they enrich the already extensive lineup of grand complications.

As far back as 1839, when the company was founded, one of the first timepieces crafted in the manufacture was a quarter repeater that can now be admired at the Patek Philippe Museum in Geneva. As the 19th century continued to unfold, Patek Philippe further pursued its passion for grand complications, crafted many watches of this type, and received several patents for technical optimizations. In the 20th century, the manufacture earned a legendary reputation for so-called supercomplicated pocket watches that were made for the American collectors James Ward Packard and Henry Graves Jr. and featured chiming functions as well as elaborate astronomical displays. At the same time, Patek Philippe was involved in miniaturizing grand complications so they could be worn on the wrist, as evidenced in 1925 by the first known wristwatch with a perpetual calendar. In the last decades of the 20th century, the manufacture again celebrated a milestone in this exceptional watch category and presented two pocket watches that the world had never seen before: the Calibre 89 (33 complications) that would be the world's most complicated portable mechanical timepiece for 25 years, and the Star Caliber 2000 with 21 complications. In 2001, the art of miniaturizing highly elaborate mechanisms found its ultimate expression with the launch of the Sky Moon Tourbillon (12 complications) and subsequently, in 2014, with the Grandmaster Chime that with 20 complications would become Patek Philippe's most complicated wristwatch.

### An especially challenging philosophy

Today, Patek Philippe has one of the most comprehensive collections of regularly produced grand complications, including minute repeaters with perpetual calendars, astronomical watches, timepieces with tourbillons and models that combine several of these highly coveted functions. As the outcome of know-how transfers from one generation to the next and underpinned with the results of high-end research, these watches follow two fundamental principles that are highly important to Patek Philippe. One of them is to rise to the challenge of





accommodating a maximum of technical complexity in a minimal volume (smallest possible height and diameter), allowing the design of very slender cases that project timeless elegance. Secondly, each complication – no matter how elaborate – must be simple to operate for the user and be a role model of convenience, functional integrity, and legibility. The three grand complications of 2020 illustrate this philosophy very convincingly. They embody a level of craftsmanship that makes each Patek Philippe a precious work of art.

## Ref. 5303R-001 Minute Repeater An extravaganza for eyes and ears

Since it made its first pocket watch with a minute repeater (1845), Patek Philippe has established itself as one of the gifted interpreters of the music of time. This remarkable knowhow comes to the fore even in the most extraordinary creations, such as the Sky Moon Tourbillon wristwatch featuring a minute repeater with cathedral gongs or the Patek Philippe Grandmaster Chime with five chiming functions including two patented global debuts. The manufacture also offers the broadest selection of regularly produced minute repeaters, watches with classic or cathedral gongs and models featuring a minute repeater with or without additional complications (perpetual calendar, tourbillon, World Time, chronograph). But never before had Patek Philippe crafted a minute repeater with a striking mechanism that was visible on the dial side.

The Ref. 5303 was unveiled in 2019 in a limited edition of 12 watches as a world debut on the occasion of the "Watch Art Grand Exhibition Singapore 2019".

Now, a slightly modified version of the Ref. 5303 Minute Repeater Tourbillon has become part of the current Patek Philippe collection. This new complication for enthusiasts of repeater timepieces stands out with its open architecture without a conventional dial. The repeater mechanism – for the first time with the hammers and gongs – can be admired in action without removing the watch from the wrist. This is a further expression of Patek Philippe's customercentric development philosophy. The transparency aspect also applies to the tourbillon: the back side of its cage can be seen beneath the seconds subdial at 6 o'clock. In this veritably perfect composition, the filigreed steel parts glisten against the backdrop of the rose gilt plate.

The aesthetic of the manually wound caliber R TO 27 PS was subtly reworked to emphasize its appeal. For instance, certain components were pierced, as is common for skeletonized movements. Of course, Patek Philippe also mobilized its heritage in the manual finissage of movement parts: it decorated the plate with Genevan circular graining, applied a delicate perlage to the recesses, and decorated the hammers with a circular satin finish.

The inimitable rose-gold case sports a wide, cambered and polished bezel as well as white-gold inlays with foliage engravings that grace the caseband and the strap lugs. The white-gold slide in the left-hand case flank that activates the minute repeater features the same motif. The hour circle is black-lacquered sapphire-crystal rim with powdered rose-gold markers. The movement can be admired through the sapphire-crystal case back and is framed by a white-gold rim. Its open-worked decoration echoes the case inlays and the repeater slide.





This fantastic lesson in watchmaking artistry, elegance, and manual finissage is complemented with the unique sound that is typical of Patek Philippe repeater timepieces. As is the case for every Patek Philippe minute repeater, this melody of time is personally rated with great care by manufacture president Thierry Stern.

# Ref. 5370P-011 Split-Seconds Chronograph A new face with a blue *Grand Feu* enamel dial

Apart from the minute repeater and the tourbillon, the triad at the pinnacle of the most elaborate horological complications also includes the split-seconds chronograph (movement No. 124'824); since 1923, it occupies a preferential position in Patek Philippe's wristwatch collection. The Ref. 5370, the first split-seconds chronograph endowed with the proprietary caliber CHR 29-535 PS was launched in 2015 with a platinum case and a black enamel dial. Coveted by connoisseurs, this grand complication has now been subtly upgraded with a new blue face with glossy finish that reflects Patek Philippe's proud tradition in *Grand Feu* enamel dials. It is an oeuvre of unmatched chromatic intensity that is made by hand on the basis of an 18K gold dial plate.

The dial is superbly legible as befits an instrument with a decidedly technical personality. The hours and minutes are tracked by slender leaf-shaped hands with luminous coatings and applied Breguet numerals in white gold. The results of short-time measurements are readable with the same precision and speed: the sweep chronograph and rattrapante hands as well as the instantaneous 30-minute counter hand contrast as clearly against the blue dial as do the white-printed scales.

The two-phase chronograph movement with two pushers for the chronograph functions and a rattrapante pusher integrated in the crown at 3 o'clock is an impressive example of how tradition meets innovation. The classic elements of the basic architecture are the manual winder, dual-column-wheel control, and the horizontal wheel clutch. Nonetheless, it is a 21st-century movement endowed with extensive optimization details and patented innovations as well as an advanced rattrapante mechanism.

The elegant polished platinum case with a concave bezel and satin-finished flank recesses is worn on an alligator strap in shiny night blue secured by a platinum fold-over clasp.

As is the case with all of Patek Philippe's platinum wristwatches, the new Ref. 5370P-011 is graced with a small diamond between the lugs at 6 o'clock. It replaces its predecessor with the black enamel dial, presenting a new combination of superb craftsmanship and watchmaking artistry.

# Ref. 5270J-001 Perpetual Calendar Chronograph A majestic classic with a new yellow-gold personality

As the heir of Patek Philippe's grand 1941 classic (Ref. 1518), the Ref. 5270 Perpetual Calendar Chronograph has been available since 2018 in platinum with a golden opaline dial



and a rose-gold version with a gold "goutte"-style bracelet. Now, the manufacture is extending its regular collection of this grand complication by the Ref. 5270, cased in yellow gold for the first time. It is a very elegant outfit for this timeless watch that pairs a concave bezel with two-tier lugs.

The silvery opaline dial with applied baton indexes and leaf-shaped hands in yellow gold assures excellent legibility. The displays of the perpetual calendar are tastefully balanced with an analog date at 6 o'clock and a double aperture for the day and month at 12 o'clock. They are complemented with two small round apertures for the day/night indicator and the leap year cycle as well as the typical moon-phase window.

The caliber CH 29-535 PS Q is the first chronograph movement with a perpetual calendar developed in 2011 and crafted entirely by Patek Philippe. It combines traditional architecture (horizontal clutch, column wheel and manual winder) with six patented innovations for the chronograph functions and stands out with its extremely thin calendar mechanism (1.65 mm for 182 parts). The movement can be admired through the sapphire-crystal case back. A solid back in 18K yellow gold is part of the scope of delivery.

The new Ref. 5270J-001 is worn on a hand-stitched matt chocolate brown alligator strap with large square scales secured with a yellow-gold fold-over clasp. It joins the previous platinum and rose-gold models to accommodate the individual preferences of aficionados of Patek Philippe grand complications.





#### **Technical data**

#### Ref. 5303R-001 Minute Repeater Tourbillon

**Movement:** Caliber R TO 27 PS

Manually wound mechanical movement, minute repeater, tourbillon

and subsidiary seconds

Diameter: 31.6 mm Height: 8.35 mm Number of parts: 356 Number of jewels: 29

Power reserve: Min. 40 hours, max. 48 hours

Frequency: 21,600 semi-oscillations per hour (3 Hz)

Balance: Gyromax<sup>®</sup>
Balance spring: Breguet
Balance spring stud: Adjustable

Functions: Two-position crown:

Pushed in: To wind the watchPulled out: To set the time

Displays: Center hour and minute hands

Subsidiary seconds at 6 o'clock

Activation of

minute repeater: Slide in left-hand case flank

Hallmark: Patek Philippe Seal

**Features** 

Case: 18K rose gold 5N with inlays in 18K white gold

Sapphire-crystal case back

Case protected against moisture and dust, not water-resistant

Case dimensions: Diameter: 42 mm

Height: 12.13 mm

Width between lugs: 20 mm

Dial: Hour circle in black-lacquered sapphire-crystal with white printed

minute scale and powdered rose-gold markers

Leaf-shaped hour and minute hands in 18K white gold, pierced and

lacquered in black

Subsidiary seconds with leaf-shaped hand in 18K rose gold 5N



Strap: Alligator leather with large square scales, hand-stitched, shiny black, fold-over clasp in 18K rose gold 5N







#### **Technical data**

#### Ref. 5370P-011 Split-Seconds Chronograph

Movement: Caliber CHR 29-535 PS

Manually wound mechanical movement, split-seconds chronograph with two column wheels, wheel clutch (horizontal), and instantaneous 30-minute counter, sweep chronograph and

split-seconds hands, subsidiary seconds

Diameter: 29.6 mm
Height: 7.1 mm
Number of parts: 312
Number of jewels: 34

Power reserve: Min. 65 hours with chronograph stopped

Balance: Gyromax<sup>®</sup>

Frequency: 28,800 semi-oscillations per hour (4 Hz)

Balance spring: Breguet
Balance spring stud: Adjustable

Functions: Two-position crown:

Pushed in: To wind the watchPulled out: To set the time

Displays: Center hour and minute hands

Sweep chronograph and split-seconds hands

30-minute counter at 6 o'clock Subsidiary seconds at 9 o'clock

Pushers: Chronograph start and stop at 2 o'clock

Chronograph reset at 4 o'clock

Rattrapante start and stop at 3 o'clock (pusher integrated in

crown)

Hallmark: Patek Philippe Seal

Patents: Optimized toothing profile (No. EP 1437633 - 2009)

Improved precision adjustment of mesh depth (No. EP 1947531 -

2009)

Improved synchronization of clutch brake (No. MPM/DF/15484

CH - 2009)

Piercing of minute-counter cam (No. MPM/DF/15483 CH - 2009)

Self-adjusting hammers (No. MPM/DF/15482 CH - 2009)



Hammers suspended between jewel bearings (No.

MPM/DF/15481 CH - 2009)

**Features** 

Case: 950 platinum

Sapphire-crystal case back and interchangeable solid platinum

back

Flawless rare white Top Wesselton diamond between the lugs at

6 o'clock

Water resistant to 30 meters (3 bar)

Case dimensions: Diameter: 41 mm

Height: 13.56 mm

Width between lugs: 22 mm

Dial: Blue *Grand Feu* enamel on white gold, glossy finish

Applied Breguet numerals in 18K white gold

Scales for tachymeter and chronograph counter printed white Leaf-shaped hour and minute hands in 18K white gold with

luminous coating

Leaf-shaped subsidiary seconds hand in 18K white gold

Chronograph and split-seconds hands in steel, sandblasted and

rhodiumed

Leaf-shaped hand for the 30-minute counter in 18K white gold

Strap: Hand-stitched alligator leather with large square scales, shiny

night blue, fold-over clasp in 950 platinum





#### **Technical data**

#### Ref. 5270J-001 Perpetual Calendar Chronograph

Movement: Caliber CH 29-535 PS Q

Manually wound mechanical movement, chronograph with column wheel, chronograph hand, instantaneous 30-minute counter and

subsidiary seconds

Perpetual calendar with day, month, leap-year cycle and day/night

indication in apertures, analog date Moon phases

Diameter: 32 mm

Height: 7 mm (of which 1.65 mm for the perpetual calendar mechanism)

Number of parts: 456 (of which 182 for the perpetual calendar mechanism)

Number of jewels: 33

Power reserve: Min. 55 hours – max. 65 hours with chronograph stopped

Balance: Gyromax<sup>®</sup>

Frequency: 28,800 semi-oscillations per hour (4 Hz)

Balance spring: Breguet
Balance spring stud: Adjustable

Functions: Two-position crown:

Pushed in: To wind the watchPulled out: To set the time

Displays: Center hour and minute hands

Sweep chronograph hand

Subsidiary dials:

30-minute counter between 3 and 4 o'clockSubsidiary seconds between 8 and 9 o'clock

Date at 6 o'clock

Aperture displays:

- Day and month, in-line at 12 o'clock

Moon phase at 6 o'clock

Day/night indication between 7 and 8 o'clockLeap year cycle between 4 and 5 o'clock

Correctors: – Day of week between 10 and 11 o'clock

Month between 12 and 1 o'clockMoon phase between 6 and 7 o'clockDate between 11 and 12 o'clock

Delivered with correction stylus in ebony and 18K yellow gold



Pushers: – Chronograph start and stop at 2 o'clock

- Chronograph reset at 4 o'clock

Hallmark: Patek Philippe Seal

Patents: Optimized toothing profile (No. EP 1437633 - 2009)

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Improved synchronization of clutch brake (No. MPM/DF/15484 CH -

2009)

Piercing of minute-counter cam (No. MPM/DF/15483 CH - 2009)

Self-adjusting hammers (No. MPM/DF/15482 CH - 2009)

Hammers suspended between jewel bearings (No. MPM/DF/15481

CH - 2009)

**Features** 

Case: 18K yellow gold

Sapphire-crystal case back and interchangeable solid back in 18K

yellow gold

Water-resistant to 30 meters

Case dimensions: Diameter: 41 mm

Height: 12.4 mm

Width between lugs: 21 mm

Dial: Silvery opalescent

12 applied baton markers in 18K yellow gold

Leaf-shaped hour and minute hands in 18K yellow gold

Counterbalanced chronograph hand, arrow-shaped, Pfinodal, yellow-

gold plated and sandblasted

Subsidiary dials offset, pierced:

- Subsidiary seconds with baton hands in 18K yellow gold

- 30-minute counter with baton hand in 18K yellow gold, sandblasted

- Analog date with baton hand in 18K yellow gold

Strap: Hand-stitched alligator leather with large square scales, matt

chocolate brown, with fold-over clasp in 18K yellow gold