

Reference 5249

Caliber 31-260 PS HMD AU



Self winding wristwatch with on demand retrograde hour and minute display by automaton. Rare Handcraft

Reference 5249 is the first automaton wristwatch in Patek Philippe contemporary history. Inspired by Jean de La Fontaine's most famous 17th century fable, "The Crow and the Fox", the fascinating animation of time plays out on the surface of the rose gold Officer's-style case equipped with a turban-style crown. The dial is composed of an 18K gold plate in a "Matara" brown color with an opaline finish, adorned with 12 gold appliques, of which 9 are hand-engraved. Each watch requires 150 hours of manual work to engrave all the appliques. The fox's mobile muzzle and paw serve to indicate the hours, while the titanium minutes hand features a yellow gilt tip resembling a piece

of cheese. The hours and minutes scales and the Patek Philippe arc-shaped cartouche are made of rhodium-plated yellow gold with a circular satin finish and transfer-printed indications in black. Finally, the dial also bears a decorative small seconds set with a diamond in its center, the only element on the dial that is constantly in motion, indicating that the watch is running. A brown alligator leather strap with a triple-blade rose gold fold-over clasp complements the extreme refinement of this horological fable, powered by the self-winding 31 260 PS HMD AU caliber visible through a sapphire crystal case-back protected by a hinged cover.

Indications, functions and settings



DISPLAYS

- 1- RETROGRADE HOUR INDICATION
- 2- RETROGRADE MINUTE INDICATION
- 3- DECORATIVE SMALL SECONDS

2-POSITION CROWN

- I- TO WIND THE WATCH
- II- TO SET THE TIME (CLOCKWISE)

PUSHER

- A- ON DEMAND DISPLAY OF THE HOURS AND MINUTES

WINDING

Please wind the watch before performing any adjustments (about 20 clockwise turns of the crown).

When it is on your wrist, your watch is wound automatically by your arm movements. When fully wound and off the wrist, your watch has a power reserve of at least 38 hours. If your watch stopped because you set it aside for an extended period of time, you can wind it manually with about 20 clockwise turns of the crown.

We advise you to wind the watch before you put it on. This way, you can avoid lateral pressure on the winding stem which, in the course of the years, could damage the stem tube.

ON DEMAND RETROGRADE DISPLAY FOR HOURS AND MINUTES

The ingenious on-demand retrograde hours and minutes system reveals the current time in an extremely poetic way displaying the hours and minutes along two arcs.

To display the time, simply press the pusher at 2 o'clock, which activates the moving appliques on the dial:

The Fox's paw indicates the hours between midnight and 06:59 (conversely, it also indicates the hours between noon and 18:59).

The Fox's muzzle indicates the hours between 07:00 and 11:59 (conversely, it also indicates the hours between 19:00 and 23:59).

The hours are indicated on a scale graduated in one-hour increments. The minutes are indicated on a scale graduated in five-minute increments.

When the pusher at 2 o'clock is released, the hands return to their initial resting position.

The only element on the dial that rotates continuously is the decorative small seconds: a star-shaped indicator set with a diamond, which confirms the movement is running.

Never activate the pusher or the crown in a humid environment or underwater, as the water resistance of the watch would no longer be guaranteed under these conditions.

SETTING THE TIME

We advise you to set your watch before you put it on. Use your fingernails to pull the crown out and turn it gently between two fingertips. This way, you can avoid lateral pressure on the winding stem which, in the course of the years, could damage the stem tube.

Although your watch displays the hours and minutes on demand, the time still must be set manually, by pulling the crown out to position I.

In this position, the time is displayed on the dial and you are able to adjust it by turning the crown clockwise.

As this timepiece is equipped with a retrograde display, when setting the time, the hour and minute hands move exclusively backwards — from 12 to 0 for the hours, and from 60 to 0 for the minutes.

Note that a patented safety mechanism disengages the minute gear-train if you attempt to set the time counter-clockwise.

Maintenance

CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN

Your watch is delivered with a certificate of origin that indicates the movement and case numbers. The certificate is valid only if it is dated, signed by an Authorized Patek Philippe Retailer, and completed with your name. It guarantees the authenticity of your watch and validates your warranty privileges. The unique movement and case numbers of each watch are transcribed into the workshop journals. With this information, you may have yourself entered in the «Patek Philippe Register of Owners» and will obtain the International Patek Philippe Magazine free of charge.

PATEK PHILIPPE SEAL

As an all-encompassing hallmark of quality, the Patek Philippe Seal applies to the entire watch, including the movement, case, dial, hands, pushers, strap, and clasp as well as to all other facets that contribute to the precision and aesthetic perfection of the timepiece. It covers the technical, functional, and aesthetic factors, but also rate accuracy, dependability, and customer service quality. Additionally, it reflects the maker's know-how and all other assets needed for the development, production, and long-term maintenance of an extraordinary timekeeping instrument.

QUALITY CONTROL

The movements and completely assembled watches are subject to a series of technical tests and visual inspections to verify their rate accuracy, power reserve, reliability, water resistance, and overall appearance. After it was assembled, your manually wound watch will already have run for 14 days before leaving the workshops; it fully complies with the stringent criteria of the Patek Philippe Seal.

RATE ACCURACY

The rate accuracy of Patek Philippe watches is verified in several phases of manufacturing, both with uncased and fully cased movements. The final test is performed with a wrist motion simulator and the results must conform to the following Patek Philippe precision benchmarks: The rate accuracy of calibers with a diameter of 20 mm or larger must range within -1 and +2 seconds per 24 hours. The precision of a watch is determined by how accurately it keeps the time. A watch that is fast or slow is considered precise if the amount by which it is fast or slow remains constant. Such a deviation can be easily corrected. The last test of accuracy takes place on your wrist. Your temperament or the nature of your physical activities can cause slight irregularities. Fluctuations in position, temperature, or air pressure, as well as vibrations and other factors may also affect its accuracy. If you notice that your watch exhibits such irregularities, please do not hesitate to take it to an Authorized Patek Philippe Retailer or an Authorized Service Center where no effort will be spared to assure that it is adjusted to meet your expectations.

WATER RESISTANCE

Your watch is fitted with different types of seals to protect the movement against the ingress of dust and moisture and to prevent damage if it is immersed in water. However, if your watch receives a blow to the crown or the crystal, its water resistance may be impaired. Additionally, we recommend that you prevent direct contact with water if your watch has a leather strap.

CHANGING THE CASE BACK OR HINGED COVER

Your watch comes with a sapphire-crystal case back and a hinged cover.

Only qualified master watchmakers at the Patek Philippe workshops in Geneva are authorized to exchange case backs or hinged covers.

SERVICE

We recommend that you have your watch serviced every 8 to 10 years. For this purpose, we suggest that you bring or send your watch to an Authorized Patek Philippe Retailer or an Authorized Service Center. This gives you the assurance that your watch will be entrusted to hands of a qualified Patek Philippe watchmaker in Geneva. The watchmaker will completely disassemble the movement and then clean and inspect all parts and lubricate them in the reassembly process. All functions of the watch will also be tested in detail and the escapement regulated if necessary. Finally, its rate accuracy will be monitored and precision-adjusted for a further period of two weeks. The entire process may take several weeks because each watch must undergo a complete series of tests to fulfill the strict quality criteria of Patek Philippe.

If you have any questions regarding the maintenance of your watch, contact the Authorized Patek Philippe Retailer nearest you or our International Customer Service department in Geneva, or visit www.patek.com

Movement technical data



CALIBER:	31-260 PS HMD AU
DIAMETER:	33.8 MM
HEIGHT:	4.00 MM
NUMBER OF PARTS:	267
NUMBER OF JEWELS:	28
POWER RESERVE:	MIN. 38 HOURS, MAX 48 HOURS
WINDING ROTOR:	PLATINUM OFF-CENTER MINI-ROTOR
	BALANCE: GYROMAX®
BALANCE:	GYROMAX®
FREQUENCY:	28,800 SEMI-OSCILLATIONS PER HOUR (4 HZ)
BALANCE SPRING:	SPIROMAX®
HALLMARK:	PATEK PHILIPPE SEAL