

CHRONOMÈTRE SOUVERAIN

The stunning simplicity of a high-precision wristwatch

Pared down for performance, the Chronomètre Souverain provides a fine example of the versatility of the François-Paul Journe style, in this antithesis of complicated watchmaking.

The model, inspired by early 19th century marine chronometry, confirms a watchmaker at the top of his craft through two superbly executed horological illusions.

On the dial, François-Paul Journe created a pleasant balance and harmony by playing with the size of the numerals, a game played with such subtlety that the ruse is not noticeable at first glance.

Through the transparent caseback, the balance and escapement are mysteriously detached from the movement, beating without apparent driving force. François-Paul Journe has placed the going train under the dial, leaving only the center wheel to emphasise the isolation of the balance.

The mechanical hand-wound movement, housed in a 40 mm case in Platinum or 18K 6N Gold, beats at a frequency of 21'600 vibrations per hour. The 18K rose Gold plate and bridges clearly demonstrate that the simplest mechanisms are often the most attractive. Two barrels, according to the classic configuration of precision watches, operate in parallel to provide a force that remains stable throughout the 56 hours of power reserve. The free-sprung balance, with inertia adjustment on four opposing weights, is dynamically adjusted in six different positions.

François-Paul Journe designs his watches starting from the dial, paying the price for beauty with treasures of mechanical ingenuity to find technical solutions. As an example, placing the power reserve indicator at 3 o'clock on the dial meant its mechanism had to co-exist with the winding system.

The Chronomètre Souverain reflects all the inventiveness and discipline of true horology. François-Paul Journe demonstrates his ability to create harmony from different elements of striking originality that draw attention not to themselves, but to the beauty of the timepiece as a whole.

CHRONOMÈTRE SOUVERAIN_ Technical Specifications

Movement

Calibre 1304
Manuel winding
18K rose Gold
22 Jewels

Dimensions of the Movement

Overall diameter:	30.40	mm
Casing-up diameter:	29.60	mm
Overall height:	4.00	mm
Height of winding system:	2.30	mm
Diameter of stem thread:	S0.90	mm

Balance

Balance with 4 inertia weights
Flat Anachron micro-flamed spring
Mobile stud holders
Free-sprung
Nivatronic laser-welded to the collet
Pinned GE stud
Frequency: 21'600 VPH, 3Hz
Inertia: 10.10 mg x cm²
Angle of lift: 52°
Amplitude: 0h dial up : > 320°
24h dial up : > 280°

Main characteristics

Two barrels in parallel
Time setting via crown in position 2
In-line lever escapement, 15 teeth
Two position crown

Indications

Central hours and minutes
Small second at 7h30
Power reserve at 3h00

Power reserve

56 ± 2 hours

Decoration

Partly circular grained baseplate, with barleycorn guilloché
Polished screw heads with chamfered slots
Pegs with polished rounded ends

Case

Platinum or 18K 6N Gold
Diameter: 40.00 mm
Total height: 8 mm

Dial

Whitened Silver with 18K white Gold or 18K 5N Gold appliqué
mirror-polished numerals, or whitened guilloché Silver

Hands

Rhodium-plated, 5N gilt or blued Steel.

Number of parts

Movement without dial:	161
Cased-up on leather strap:	198