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The Manufacture Audemars Piguet

The Vallée de Joux: cradle of the watchmaker's art

n the heart of the Swiss Jura, around 50 kilometres north of Geneva, nestles a landscape which has retained its natural charm to this day: the Vallée de Joux. Around the mid-18th century, the harsh climate of this mountainous region and soil depletion drove the farming community settled there to seek other sources of income. With their high degree of manual dexterity, inexhaustible creativity and enormous determination, the inhabitants of the valley, known as Combiers, were naturally drawn to watchmaking.

Due to their high quality, the movements they produced acquired great popularity with the Geneva firms which used them to create complete watches.

From 1740 onwards, watchmaking developed into the principal industry of the Vallée de Joux. This region was thus transformed, as an 1881 chronicle put it, "into a land of milk and honey, in which poverty has rapidly disappeared".

Two names for a great adventure

n 1875, two young men passionate about Haute Horlogerie — Jules-Louis Audemars and Edward-August Piquet — decided to pool their skills to design and produce watches with complications

in the Vallée de Joux, the cradle of Haute Horlogerie. Determination, imagination and discipline led them to instant success. A branch in Geneva was their next move in about 1885 and new commercial links were forged at the 1889 Paris World Exposition, where they exhibited complication pocket watches. The Audemars Piquet factory continued to expand as the years went by. Its creations represented major milestones in the history of Haute Horlogerie, like the first minute repeater wristwatch in 1892 and the smallest five-minute repeater movement ever

From 1918 onwards, the founders passed the reins of the business onto their sons. who in turn perfected their expertise in manufacturing men's and ladies' wristwatches as well as designing new sophisticated, ultra-thin movements. Perseverance and initiative were the

made in 1915.

watchwords: while the Wall Street crash in 1929 was a bitter blow, the company directors were soon designing so-called skeleton watches before embarking on chronograph production. But this new momentum was abruptly interrupted by the Second World War. Re-organisation was necessary in the aftermath of the conflict. The factory focused on creating top-of-therange items in keeping with its tradition of innovation.

> A strategy that would prove its worth, especially since it was backed by outstanding creative

daring.

Audemars Piquet continued to build on its now international reputation with creative designs. 1972 saw the launch of the Royal Oak, the first, immediately successful high-quality sports watch in steel, followed in 1986 by the first ultra-thin tourbillon wristwatch with automatic winding. The creative spirit of the Manufacture has not faltered since. offering aesthetically original timekeepers with outstanding movements. Thus it brought watches with complications back into fashion at the end of the 1980s. launching its extraordinary Tradition d'Excellence collection in 1999. All the signs of a bold spirit rooted firmly in tradition and auguring well for the future.





The automatic calibre 2325/2810

Calibre 2325/2810 is a selfwinding movement. Wrist movements produce the energy required for it to function.

This energy, harnessed by a 21 carat gold oscillating weight, is transmitted to the mainspring by a gear-train.

As it gradually winds around the barrel-arbor, the spring accumulates energy that is then transmitted to the watch movement at a steady rate.

The maximum power reserve is reached after a period of time varying from several hours to some days, depending on the owner and the amount of physical activity.

Views of the movement

Calibre 2325/2810

Bridge side



Dial side



Technical data of the movement

Total thickness: 4.60 mm

Total diameter: 26.60 mm

Frequency: 28,800 vibrations/hour (4 Hz)

Number of jewels: 31 rubies

Minimal power reserve: approx. 40 hours

Unidirectional automatic winding (on the watch winder, the watch must turn clockwise - dial side)

Gold-plated barrel with gold copper and cadmium alloy coating

Balance with variable inertia blocks

Flat balance-spring

Mobile stud-holder

Number of parts: 215

Specificities

Stop balance when setting time (stops second hand)

Oscillating weight mounted on an unlubricated ceramic ball bearing, with one segment of the weight made of 21-carat gold

Watch indications and functions

(see figure on the inside cover)

- 1 Hour hand
- 2 Minute hand
- 3 Day of week hand
- 4 Date hand

Your watch features two or three crown positions:

- A Crown in "screwed down" position (only the models concerned)
- **B** Crown in position for winding movement manually
- Crown in position to set the time, adjust the day of the week or correct the date

Caution: On certain Royal Oak models, the crown must be unscrewed to access the different settings. Afterwards, carefully screw the crown back into position **A** to ensure water resistance.



Setting the time

For models with a screw-type crown, it is essential to unscrew the crown anti-clockwise before use.

Pull the crown to position **C**. You may now set the time by winding in either direction without risk of damaging the movement. Recommendation: make sure to set the time precisely by carefully moving the hands forward to the time desired.

Warning: Be careful not to confuse noon and midnight, due to the change of date.

Winding the watch

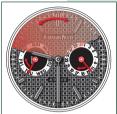
For models with a screw-type crown, it is essential to unscrew the crown anti-clockwise before use. The unscrewed crown will automatically position itself at **B** .

Turn the crown at least 30 times to wind the watch. The movements of the wearer's wrist will then activate the automatic system and keep the watch running.

Warning: the automatic winding system will not work if the watch is not worn and the watch will stop after about two days.

Correcting the day of the week and the date

For models with a screw-type crown, it is essential to unscrew the crown anti-clockwise before use. To correct the **day of the week** or the **date**, pull the crown into position **C**.



Set the hands to 21:30. Turn the crown clockwise until the hands reach 02:00. Turn the crown anticlockwise to bring the hands back to 21:30 and repeat as often as necessary. The day and date hands will move forward one day with each repetition.



To adjust the **date only:** Set the hands to 21:30 then move them clockwise to 00:10. Repeat this operation as many times as necessary.



To adjust the **day only:** Set the hands to 23:30 then move them clockwise to 02:00. Repeat this operation as many times as necessary.

Push the crown back into position B (on models with a screw-type crown, screw the crown back into position A).

Guarantee and care

All details concerning the guarantee and care instructions of your watch are provided in the certificate of origin and guarantee attached.

