



Ref. 4864 (1997)
Travel Time

In 1997 Patek Philippe launched the Travel Time, in men's and women's versions. Its ingenious mechanism allows the wearer to see the time in two different time zones in a simple, functional and extremely elegant way. The display combines two completely independent hour hands, distinguishable by their different colours – gold for home time and black for local time. When the time zone function is inactive, only one hand is seen, because they move around the dial together in perfect unison, one hidden behind the other. The hour of the second time zone can be set very easily using the two corrector pushers integrated into the caseband of the watch, which move it forwards or backwards (an innovation that was awarded a patent back in 1959). This Travel Time watch, an instant hit with the ladies, marked the inauguration of Patek Philippe's vast women's complication programme, which was to be expanded regularly and frequently over the following two decades.



Ref. 4857 (1998)
Moon phase and small seconds

In 1998, Patek Philippe unveiled a new women's complication in a classic Calatrava case. This new watch was fitted with the manufacture's smallest mechanical movement, which was nevertheless exquisitely executed (at the time it bore the Geneva Hallmark, since replaced by the Patek Philippe Seal). The watch showcased a completely new display, with the moon phase and small seconds arranged side by side.



Ref. 4936 (2005)
Annual calendar and moon phase

In 1996, Patek Philippe launched its famous Annual Calendar, a patented and therefore exclusive complication. Practical, legible and easy to use, but highly technically sophisticated, the Annual Calendar was a runaway success. In 2005, for the first time, Patek Philippe put this complication into a women's watch with delicate, feminine styling. It featured a natural mother-of-pearl dial, and the bezel was set with 156 round diamonds in two different sizes, arranged in twin staggered rows. Its 39 mm diameter made the indications more readable (hours, minutes, seconds, day, month, date, power reserve and moon phase). It required adjustment just once a year, at the end of February.



Ref. 7071R (2010)
Ladies First Chronograph

2010 was a landmark year: it was the year Thierry Stern marked the start of his presidency in Paris's Place Vendôme with the launch of a new hand-wound chronograph movement, the Calibre 29-535 PS, entirely developed and manufactured in-house. It is a traditionally constructed column wheel movement, with six patents to attest to its functionality, high reliability, precision (-3/+2 sec/day) and ease of use. This brand new movement debuted in the Ladies First Chronograph. As its name suggests, this was the first time Patek Philippe had launched a new calibre and a new complication in a model destined for female wrists. It proved hugely popular. So much so that Patek speeded up its production of new complications for women – twenty more were released between 2010 and 2018.



Ref. 7140 (2012)
Ladies First Perpetual Calendar

In 2012, following on from two extra-thin ladies' complications (a flyback chronograph and a minute repeater), it was time for a perpetual calendar, the first complication of this kind to be offered as part of the company's current collections for women. It had all the ingredients of an ultra-feminine timepiece: a round 35.10 mm Calatrava case in rose gold, a lustrous creamy white dial, delicate curved lugs, and a diamond-set bezel and clasp. The hour, minute, date, day, month, leap year, 24-hour indicator and moon phase display are beautifully arranged in the space, making the watch eminently legible. The watch comes with two interchangeable casebacks – one in solid rose gold and the other made of sapphire, through which the architecture and finish of the extra-thin 240 Q calibre, one of the watchmaker's flagship movements, can be admired.



Ref. 7130 (2017)
Universal Time

After a preliminary outing in 2011, the Universal Time Reference 7130 returned in 2017 in a particularly elegant new version of one of Patek Philippe's most iconic complications. The white gold case, diamond-set bezel, cities disc and ring bearing the 24 time zones all draw the gaze towards the centre of the delicately worked guilloché dial in shades of blue and grey. Local time is displayed on the hands in the centre of the dial, and the name of the associated city appears above the little red arrow at twelve o'clock, showing the hour and whether it is day or night. The hours of the other 23 time zones can be read at a glance off the 24-hour disc, which rotates anti-clockwise inside the city disc. To select a different time zone, one simply presses the pusher at 10 o'clock to bring the chosen city into the 12 o'clock position. Intuitive, harmonious and effortlessly classy.

