

GIRARD-PERREGAUX



USER MANUAL

LA ESMERALDA TOURBILLON
«A SECRET»

LA ESMERALDA TOURBILLON

Girard-Perregaux is pleased to present an exceptional Esmeralda Tourbillon inspired by the Tourbillon with Three Gold Bridges pocket chronometer that won the gold medal at the Universal Exhibition in Paris in 1889. This majestic timepiece is the mechanical expression of an aesthetic quest dedicated to achieving the Maison's goal of ultimate accuracy.

The history of Girard-Perregaux has always been punctuated by innovations and technical feats. Renowned for the quality of its complication watches and for the care devoted to their finishes, the Manufacture pays particular attention to the aesthetics of its creations.

THE TOURBILLON WITH THREE GOLD BRIDGES - A REFLECTION OF THE MANUFACTURE'S EXPERTISE

Since founding his Manufacture and especially with the development of the first Tourbillon with Three Bridges in 1860, Constant Girard had been drawing ever closer to watchmaking perfection. In designing a benchmark caliber featuring a unique layout, Constant Girard immediately distinguished himself by inventing the concept of dramatizing mechanics. Thanks to his ambitious staging of the components, he succeeded in lending an artistic dimension to the tourbillon, previously considered to be a purely technical mechanism. In 1867, this almost minimalist layout won its first timekeeping award from the Neuchâtel Observatory and most likely enabled Girard-Perregaux, once the layout had been patented in 1884, to create the ethereal Tourbillon with Three Gold Bridges complication, an utterly unique signature.









This watch structure, which was already considered visionary at the time of its creation, enabled the pocket watch with a tourbillon, pivoted detent and three gold bridges, presented at the Universal Exhibition in Paris in 1889, to win the gold medal in its category. With its magnificent case engraved by renowned artist Fritz Kundert, then at the very pinnacle of his career, this piece - whose name "La Esmeralda" is derived from the name of the Paris and Mexico boutiques of Hauser, Zivy & Cie, the famous jeweler and watch merchant - was to become the property of General Porfirio Diaz, then President of Mexico.

With its exemplary finishes, this wonder embodied a watchmaking pinnacle in terms of graphic balance and became a supreme benchmark for both its finishes and its attention to detail. In 1970, thanks to a lucky chain of events, the piece reentered the collection of the Manufacture Girard-Perregaux Museum. Transcendent and majestic with its inimitable and unequalled design, the Tourbillon with Three Bridges caliber has earned a place in watchmaking history as the oldest watch movement still in production, since its overall layout has remained unchanged since 1860.

THE QUALITIES OF A TOURBILLON WITH THREE BRIDGES CALIBER

The stylistic minimalism of the Tourbillon with Three Bridges caliber has always been in harmony with the ideals of fine watchmaking. This consummate work of art, which presents a layout that respects the principles of the golden ratio, is assembled from start to finish by a master watchmaker, with its components finished and embellished by craftsmen who are experts in their art.

A truly successful blend of aesthetic, technical and symbolic principles, the mainplate features a barrel bridge, gear train bridge and tourbillon bridge made from solid gold. Their double-headed arrow design is entirely hand-decorated and doubtless inspired by the bridges of the historical Esmeralda. The surface of the arrows is mirror-polished, the edges are chamfered by hand and the flanks are drawn. To increase the visual contrast and to better catch the light, the arms of the bridges are delicately rounded by hand using a burnisher. In this strict spatial layout, the three bridges are positioned parallel to one another, creating a pleasing visual effect. The tourbillon carriage, which is comprised of 80 components, is entirely hand-finished and requires extreme skill from the watchmaker assembling it. With its characteristic hand-polished lyre, the signature of the Manufacture, this perfectly balanced organ that performs a simply captivating rotation once per minute houses a balance wheel which oscillates at 21,600 vibrations per hour (3Hz) and benefits from a large moment of inertia.

The three-part layout of the mainplate is apparent from the very first glance. All these components - the gold bridges visible on the front face, and even the number of arms of the tourbillon carriage - convey a message. A reminder that the number three and its multiples underlie the measurement of past, present and future time.

MASTERFUL ENGRAVING

Designed like a "secret" watch, the new interpretation of La Esmeralda Tourbillon 'A secret' features for the first time a cover protecting the back of the model. This element further adds to the precious nature of this creation and promotes a special sense of privileged intimacy with the wearer. The entirely hand-engraved case picks up the brilliantly executed motifs adorning the 1889 model. Three horses gallop across the outside of the cover, while the interior is engraved with the inscriptions "Tourbillon" and "La Chaux-de-Fonds".

Two hundred hours of patience and absolute concentration were required to craft the various motifs, along with the very essence of engraving: light and depth effects, the contrast between shiny and matt surfaces... and everything composing the heart and soul of this exceptional expertise.





GIRARD-PERREGAUX

ESMERALDA AUTOMATIC

N°001

SWISS TWENTY-SEVEN (27) JEWELS

Ref. 99276

TOURBILLON 3 PONTS

La Esmeralda
La Chaux de Fonds

GIRARD-PERREGAUX

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

WINDING

The self-winding system keeps your Tourbillon fully wound if you wear it at least 14 hours a day. If your watch has not been worn for some time, rewind it manually.

Crown in two positions:

0. Manual-winding position (crown not pulled out).
1. Time setting position (crown fully pulled out).

Manual-winding:

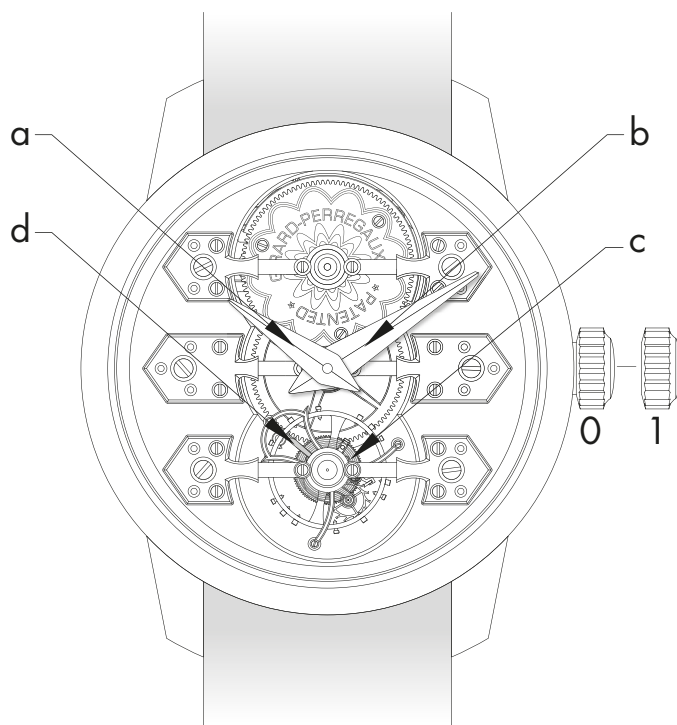
To wind, turn the crown backward and forward when it is in position 0). When fully wound, your watch has a power reserve of approximately 60 hours.

Warning: do not force the crown once the resistance increases as this could damage the movement.

SETTING THE TIME

1. Pull your crown out to the time setting position 1).
2. Turn your crown clockwise to position the hour and minute hands at the selected time. At the time signal, push the crown back to position 0). Your watch will restart immediately.

Warning: after making any setting, always return the crown to its original position, to preserve the water resistance of your watch and prevent any damage to the mechanism. To do so, press the crown against the case in position 0).



FUNCTIONS

- a | Hours
- b | Minutes
- c | Tourbillon
- d | Small seconds on the tourbillon

GIRARD-PERREGAUX GP09400 SELF-WINDING MECHANICAL MOVEMENT

Diameter:	36.60 mm (1.6")
Height:	8.40 mm
Frequency:	21,600 Vib/h - (3 Hz)
Jewels:	27
Power reserve:	min. 60 hours
Functions:	Tourbillon, hours, minutes, small seconds on the tourbillon

CASE

Diameter:	44.00 mm
Crystal:	sapphire anti-reflective 'box'
Case-back:	sapphire crystal 'box'
Water resistance:	30 metres (3 ATM)

