



Instructions for use  
Mode d'emploi

LARGE DATE  
AND TOURBILLON

Calibres 2886 & 2909  
Hand-wound

**AP**  
**AUDEMARS PIGUET**  
*Le maître de l'horlogerie depuis 1875*



**ENGLISH**

Quick-link contents page (see opposite).

Simply click on the relevant title or subheading to following the link to your chosen section.

Click on the white “English” to return to the main contents page.

## 1. Introduction p 29

The Manufacture Audemars Piguet

About the watch

The tourbillon

The large date display

## 2. Watch description p 36

Views of the movement

Technical data of the movement

Specificities

Watch indications and functions

## 3. Basic functions p 42

Setting the time

Time-zone adjustments

Winding the watch

Procedure for date correction

## 4. Additional comments p 45



## The Manufacture Audemars Piguet

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

**I**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-18<sup>th</sup> 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 Combiens, 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

**I**n 1875, two young men passionate about Haute Horlogerie — Jules-Louis Audemars and Edward-August Piguet — 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 Piguet 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 made in 1915.

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 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-the-range 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 Piguet 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.



## About the watch

We congratulate you on becoming the fortunate owner of a superb example of watchmaker's art. This hand-wound watch with tourbillon, large-size date and a power reserve that exceeds 70 hours will prove to you that our passion for watchmaking knows only one limit: a strict respect for the noblest of traditions. Finishing work such as chamfering and polishing, then component construction and assembly are all carried out solely by hand. Indeed, it is only by hand that this tourbillon and large-size date can be brought to life.

### The tourbillon

The most outstanding watchmakers have been striving to improve timing accuracy since the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The desire to achieve an identical setting for a timepiece in all positions is a major challenge. Under the Earth's pull, the tiniest variations in equilibrium have a negative influence on the regulating part (balance/balance-spring) when positioned vertically, thus causing running differences in the watch.

In 1801 the watchmaker Abraham Louis Breguet thought up a tourbillon regulating system that balanced the running differences in all positions.

The operating principle has remained largely the same to this day: the escapement parts (wheel, pallet and balance) are held in a movable frame rather than being fixed in the movement. By rotating on its axis every minute with the escapement parts, this frame enables all the parts



to change position constantly, thereby offsetting the running differences caused by the effects of gravitation.

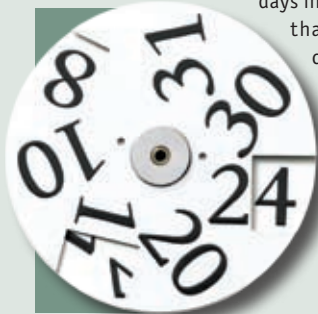
185 years later, in 1986, Audemars Piguet successfully fitted this system for the first time into a production wristwatch with an ultra-thin automatic mechanical movement. The Manufacture in Le Brassus has since built on this success by presenting many tourbillon models combined with all watch complications.

The Manufacture, still one of the select few mastering the secrets of this complication, offers more than 25 different tourbillon movements.

### **The large date display**

This AP mechanism was first incorporated in the Cabinet No. 2 model in the “Tradition d’Excellence” series, as a large date display with perpetual calendar. In calibres 2886 and 2909, the large date functions without taking account of the number of

days in the month. This means that the wearer has to correct the end of any month with less than 31 days, using the pusher pin.





## Views of the movement

Calibre 2886

Bridge side



Dial side



### Movement technical data

Total thickness: 6.53 mm

Total dimensions: 27.10 mm x 32.90 mm

Frequency: 21,600 vibrations/hour (3 Hz)

Number of jewels: 20

Minimal power reserve: approx. 72 hours

Manual winding

Balance with variable inertia screws

Breguet (Phillips) hairspring

Mobile stud-holder

Number of parts: 222

### Specificities

Rectangular movement

Manual finishing on both bridges and mainplate

Manual finishing of the cut out parts (polished bevels, grained finishing on top and Matt "brouillé" finishing underneath)

## Views of the movement

Calibre 2909

Bridge side



Dial side



### Movement technical data

Total thickness: 6.53 mm

Total diameter: 33 mm

Frequency: 21'600 vibrations/hour (3 Hz)

Number of jewels: 19

Minimal power reserve: approx. 72 hours

Manual winding

Balance with variable inertia screws

Breguet (Phillips) hairspring

Mobile stud-holder

Number of parts: 228

### Specificities

Manual finishing on both bridges and mainplate

Manual finishing of the cut out parts (polished bevels, grained finishing on top and Matt "brouillé" finishing underneath)

## Watch indications and functions

(see figure on the inside cover)

- ① Hour hand
  - ② Minute hand
  - ③ Seconds hand at 6 o'clock on tourbillon spindle
  - ④ Large date
- E Pushbutton for date correction

Your watch is fitted with a two-position crown:

- A Crown in manual winding position
- B Crown in time-setting position



## Setting the time

Pull the crown to position **B**. 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:** do not confuse noon and midnight.

## Time-zone adjustments

The ideal moment for correcting the perpetual calendar mechanisms is between 0:30 am and 9 pm.

If you set the hands back to before midnight, you will notice that the date remains ahead by one day. This difference is temporary and does not require correction.

## Winding the watch

Your watch is fitted with a mechanical hand-wound movement.

We recommend that you rewind your watch completely every two days at the same time (crown in position **A**). Take great care not to overwind (never force it when fully wound).

## Procedure for date correction

### Precautions

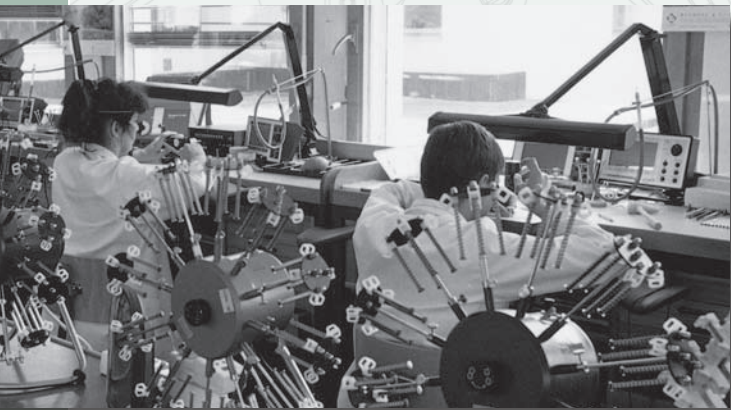
Pull the crown to position **B**. Before using the corrector, use the crown to turn the hands until the date indicator moves 1 day forward. Continue to turn the hands clockwise until they are positioned at 12h. In this position the mechanism is at rest and the correctors may be activated with no risk of damaging the calendar mechanism.

Push the date correction button **E**, pressing until the correct date is displayed.

### Setting stylus

We strongly recommend that you only use the tool delivered with your watch to actuate the correction button.





## **Guarantee and care**

---

All details concerning the guarantee and instructions on caring for your watch are provided in the enclosed certificate of origin and guarantee.

