
THE IWC SCHAFFHAUSEN PORTUGIESER TOURBILLON RÉTROGRADE CHRONOGRAPH IN 18-CARAT ARMOR GOLD® WITH AN OBSIDIAN-COLOURED DIAL

Schaffhausen, 3rd July 2025: IWC Schaffhausen introduces the Portugieser Tourbillon Rétrograde Chronograph. Limited to 100 pieces, this masterwork of fine watchmaking combines a flying minute tourbillon with a retrograde date display and a flyback chronograph. Its 43.5-millimetre case is crafted from 18-carat Armor Gold®, a material offering significantly better hardness values than conventional gold alloys. The Obsidian-coloured dial is crafted in a complex process, including the application of 15 layers of transparent lacquer. The IWC-manufactured 89900 calibre with a solid gold oscillating mass can be viewed through the sapphire glass case back.

In 2024, IWC Schaffhausen introduced new design codes to its Portugieser collection, including a range of new signature colours. Called Horizon Blue, Dune, Obsidian and Silver Moon, these colours reflect the eternal cycle of day and night and the constant flow of time. The Swiss luxury watch manufacturer now presents a new model with three complications featuring an Obsidian-coloured dial.

Limited to 100 pieces, the **Portugieser Tourbillon Rétrograde Chronograph** (Ref. IW394009) features a case, pushers and crown meticulously crafted from 18-carat Armor Gold®. Thanks to an improved microstructure, this material boasts significantly better hardness values than conventional gold alloys. The Obsidian-coloured dial is manufactured in a complex process comprising 60 individual steps. Fifteen layers of transparent lacquer give it an incredible optical depth and an almost three-dimensional effect. The dial is complemented by gold-plated hands and solid gold appliques. The watch is fitted with a black alligator leather strap from the Italian leather artisan Santoni with an 18-carat Armor Gold® folding clasp.

A STATE-OF-THE-ART FLYING MINUTE TOURBILLON

The tourbillon is one of the most spectacular complications in fine watchmaking, both for the complexity of its design and its striking visual appeal. This intricate mechanism places the pallet lever and the escape wheel inside a small cage that rotates around its axis once every minute. The continuous rotation reduces the effects of gravity on the watch's oscillating system and contributes to a more precise rate. Weighing only 0.675 grams in total, the flying minute tourbillon at 6 o'clock consists of 56 individual parts. With the integrated tourbillon stop, it can be brought to a complete halt and the time set with down-to-the-second accuracy. The pallet lever and the escape wheel are made of silicone and coated using IWC's proprietary Diamond Shell® technology. This special coating reduces friction and improves the flow of energy in the movement, contributing to the generous power reserve of 68 hours.

**RETROGRADE DATE DISPLAY AND
FLYBACK CHRONOGRAPH**

In addition to the flying minute tourbillon, the Portugieser Tourbillon Rétrograde Chronograph also features a retrograde date display located at 9 o'clock on the dial. A small hand points to the current date on an arch-shaped scale ranging from the 1st to the 31st. After reaching the end of the month, the hand will jump back to the starting position. The third complication is the flyback chronograph, displaying the stopped hours and minutes combined in a totaliser at 12 o'clock. The flyback chronograph enables very rapid restarting of the chronograph function while it is running. When the chronograph button is pushed, the chronograph hands will immediately reset to zero and start a new timing.

The Portugieser Tourbillon Rétrograde Chronograph is powered by the IWC-manufactured 89900 calibre, a highly sophisticated automatic movement comprising a total of 375 individual parts. Elaborately decorated with Geneva stripes and circular graining, the movement can be observed through the sapphire glass case back. The oscillating mass of the automatic winding system is crafted from solid gold.

PORTUGIESER TOURBILLON RÉTROGRADE CHRONOGRAPH

REF. IW394009

FEATURES

Mechanical chronograph movement – Pallet lever and escape wheel with Diamond Shell® technology – Flying hacking minute tourbillon at 6 o'clock – Retrograde date display – Stopwatch function with hours, minutes and seconds – Hour and minute counters combined in a totaliser at 12 o'clock – Flyback function – 18-carat gold oscillating weight – See-through sapphire glass back – Limited to 100 pieces

MOVEMENT

IWC-manufactured calibre	89900
Frequency	28,800 vph / 4 Hz
Jewels	42
Power reserve	68 h
Winding	Automatic

WATCH

Materials	18-carat Armor Gold® case, Obsidian-coloured dial, gold-plated hands, solid gold appliques, black alligator leather strap by Santoni
Glass	Sapphire, arched edge, antireflective coating on both sides
Water-resistant	3 bar
Diameter	43.5 mm
Height	15.9 mm

IWC SCHAFFHAUSEN

IWC Schaffhausen is a leading Swiss luxury watch manufacturer based in Schaffhausen in the north-eastern part of Switzerland. With collections like the Portugieser and the Pilot's Watches, the brand covers the whole spectrum from elegant to sports watches. Founded in 1868 by the American watchmaker and engineer Florentine Ariosto Jones, IWC is known for its unique engineering approach to watchmaking, combining the best of human craftsmanship and creativity with cutting-edge technology and processes.

Over its more than 150-year history, IWC has earned a reputation for creating professional instrument watches and functional complications, especially chronographs and calendars, which are ingenious, robust, and easy for customers to use. A pioneer in the use of titanium and ceramics, IWC today specialises in highly engineered watch cases manufactured from advanced materials, such as coloured ceramics, Ceratanium®, and titanium aluminide.

A leader in sustainable luxury watchmaking, IWC sources materials responsibly and takes action to minimise its impact on the environment. Along the pillars of transparency, circularity, and responsibility, the brand crafts timepieces built to last for generations and continuously improves every element of how it manufactures, distributes, and services its products in the most responsible way. IWC also partners with organisations that work globally to support children and young people.

DOWNLOADS

Images of the Portugieser Tourbillon Rétrograde Chronograph can be downloaded free of charge from press.iwc.com

FURTHER INFORMATION

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