



VACHERON CONSTANTIN  
GENÈVE



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Traditionnelle Tourbillon  
Under the favourable auspices  
of the Qilin

# Traditionnelle Tourbillon

## Under the favourable auspices of the Qilin

### Overview

– Fine line and pounced ornament engraving carve the face of time

– The Qilin, a highly symbolic creature

– Calibre 2260, an exceptional tourbillon

### Summary

– Technical data

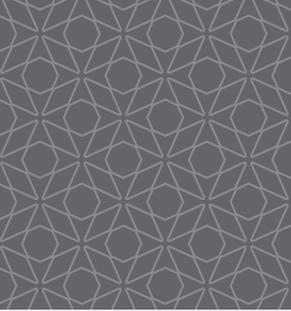
- Haute Horlogerie and artistic crafts unite in an 18-piece numbered limited edition.
- A hand-guiloché dial gold dial adorned with two Qilin, symbols of wisdom, prosperity and peace, created using the pounced ornament technique.
- An 18K 5N pink gold case entirely engraved by hand.
- An exceptional tourbillon manual-winding movement with a 14-day power reserve, Calibre 2260.

Geneva, 30 November 2020 – Its appearance is an auspicious omen, its depiction a pledge of peace and prosperity. Heralding good news as well as conveying both wisdom and bliss, the Qilin deploys its fantastic powers at the heart of the Traditionnelle Tourbillon. Under the favourable auspices of this fabled creature reproduced on two appliques engraved using the *ramolayé* pounced ornament technique, Vacheron Constantin brings to life a masterpiece of sophistication skilfully combining Haute Horlogerie and artistic crafts.

The Traditionnelle collection is distinguished by an avant-garde technical repertoire served by eminently classical codes inherited from 18<sup>th</sup> century Geneva Haute Horlogerie. At the confluence of aesthetic creativity and high mechanical complication, the Traditionnelle Tourbillon reveals a new facet of its personality through the prism of artistic crafts. Stemming from a blend of patience and meticulous workmanship, the expertise of Vacheron Constantin's engraving craftsmen is powerfully expressed here. The result is a masterful staging of the path of time, under the benevolent gaze of two Qilin, noble fantasy creatures from Asian mythology.

This Traditionnelle Tourbillon timepiece is issued in an 18-piece numbered limited edition, exclusively available in Vacheron Constantin boutiques.

  
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### Fine line and pounced ornament engraving carve the face of time

Emerging from the hand-guilloché gold dial and finished with a black galvanic treatment, two gold appliques represent the fabled Qilin figure with extraordinary finesse. These genuine miniature sculptures are created by dint of extremely precise work using the *ramolayé* pounced ornament technique. The latter consists of pushing back the material by cutting into, scraping or softening it in order to give volume to a two-dimensional drawing. To achieve this, artisans use their own individual methods and self-made tools – small stones, brushes, paper or files – serving as an exact extension of their hand.

This irreversible work is a delicate, skilful blend of softness and strength, revealing an infinite world of details on a gold surface no more than 0.4 mm thick. Rhythmically punctuated by raised and hollowed areas, flat and curved surfaces, matt and polished finishes, the coat and scaly skin of the Qilins is revealed in a strikingly realistic manner, accentuated by a subtle play on light and shade.

The fine line engraving technique adorning the stepped sides of the case (emphasised by a fluted caseback), the slim bezel and the curved lugs, sets the scene for a lucky-charm cloud motif. This pattern contributes to enriching the aesthetic appeal of this elegant watch, embracing the wrist with a black alligator leather strap.



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### The Qilin, a highly symbolic creature

The Qilin belongs to the pantheon of figures populating Asian mythology, and it only appears during periods of peace and prosperity. In the Chinese tradition, this fantastic creature reigns over furry animals, just as the Phoenix reigns over feathered animals, the Dragon over animals with scales and the Turtle over those with a shell. Often depicted as a duo – Qi meaning the male and Lin, the female – its appearance betokens a happy omen. The mythical creature is a combination of different animals, and every part of it is a symbol of auspices and beauty in the ancient society. For example, a body of the deer stands for power, the skin of fish stands for affluence, a tail of the ox stands for devotion, etc. Qilin's benevolence and gentleness are among its greatest virtues. So much so that it does not move across any living creature, including plants, for fear of damaging it, generally preferring to travel on water or clouds.

For this reason, the two Qilin engraved on the dial of the Traditionnelle Tourbillon appear on a bed of lucky clouds, a traditional motif adorning ancient Asian artefacts. As a final detail, the two Qilin respectively stand one of their hooves on one traditional Chinese item. The Qi (male) on the globe, a symbol of authority and prosperity; and Lin (female) on an ingot, a harbinger of good fortune.



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### Calibre 2260, an exceptional tourbillon

To bring this timepiece to life, Vacheron Constantin has chosen its in-house mechanical manual-winding Calibre 2260. Designed to compensate for the adverse effects of the Earth's gravity on the movement, the tourbillon is considered to be one of the most sophisticated mechanisms in the realm of Haute Horlogerie.

On the dial of this model, it is majestically revealed at 6 o'clock in its openworked mobile carriage shaped like a Maltese cross, topped by an entirely hand-chamfered bar. This ingenious construction conceals two sets of series-coupled barrels measuring a total 2.20 metres in length and endowing the movement with an exceptional two-week power reserve. For the sake of balance and harmony, the latter is indicated along the same axis as the tourbillon, on a 280° sector. The show continues through the case-back enabling one to admire the meticulous finishing of the movement adorned with a "Côte de Genève" motif.

  
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Vacheron Constantin unveils a masterpiece of technical and aesthetic refinement embodying the perfect blend of Haute Horlogerie and artistic crafts. The hand-engraved *guilloché* dial and 18K 5N pink gold case of the Traditionnelle Tourbillon timepiece are further enhanced by the talent of the Maison's engraving artisans. Their sure, deft touch is illustrated by the use of pounced ornament and fine line engraving techniques to depict the Qilin, a fabled animal symbolising wisdom, peace and prosperity. Beating steadily behind the scenes is the in-house mechanical manual-winding tourbillon Calibre 2260 with its exceptional two-week power reserve. A world of details and sophistication converging this highly symbolic watch exclusively available from Vacheron Constantin boutiques in an 18-piece numbered limited edition.



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### TECHNICAL DATA

#### Traditionnelle Tourbillon

<b>REFERENCES</b>	89000/000R-B645
<b>CALIBRE</b>	2260 Developed and manufactured by Vacheron Constantin Mechanical, manual-winding 29.1 mm (1 1/4") diameter, 6.8 mm thick Approximately 336 hours of power reserve (14 days) 2.5 Hz (18,000 vibrations/hour) 231 components 31 jewels Hallmark of Geneva certified timepiece
<b>INDICATIONS</b>	Hours, minutes Small seconds on tourbillon carriage Tourbillon Power-reserve indicator
<b>CASE</b>	18K 5N pink gold 42 mm diameter, 12.22 mm thick Hand-engraved bezel, case-band and lug sides Transparent sapphire crystal caseback Water-resistance tested at a pressure of 3 bar (approx. 30 meters)
<b>DIAL</b>	Hand-guiloché, black galvanic treatment Hand-engraved 22K 5N pink gold applied Qilin
<b>STRAP</b>	Black <i>Mississippiensis</i> alligator leather strap with alligator leather inner shell, hand-stitched, saddle-finish, large square scales
<b>CLASP</b>	18K 5N pink gold folding clasp Polished half Maltese cross-shaped

Limited Edition of 18 pieces, individually numbered.  
Only available in Vacheron Constantin Boutiques.





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Founded in 1755, Vacheron Constantin is the world's oldest watch Manufacture in continuous production for over 265 years, faithfully perpetuating a proud heritage of watchmaking excellence and stylistic sophistication through generations of master craftsmen.

At the pinnacle of Haute Horlogerie and understated elegance, the Maison creates timepieces with unique technical and aesthetic signatures, and an extremely high level of finishing touches.

Vacheron Constantin brings to life unparalleled heritage and a spirit of innovation through its collections: Patrimony, Traditionnelle, Métiers d'Art, Overseas, Fiftysix, Historiques and Égérie. It also offers its discerning clientele of connoisseurs the rare opportunity to acquire unique and bespoke timepieces by means of its "Les Cabinotiers" department.

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