



ARNOLD & SON

SINCE 1764

TE8

**Timeless elegance and innovative technology:
Arnold & Son's TE8 Tourbillon**

True to English watchmaking heritage, Arnold & Son unveils two new references of its TE8 Tourbillon, with the hand-finished A&S8000 calibre. This defining timepiece heralds in the Royal Collection that combines classic styling with leading-edge technology.



TE8

Exclusive Arnold & Son tourbillon movement A&S8000, hand-wound, black open dial,
18-carat white gold case, diameter 44 mm

© Arnold & Son

The tourbillon is one of the most elegant and inspired complications in the history of watchmaking. As simple in principle as it is difficult to make, the mechanism was designed to eliminate the errors of rate caused by gravity on a pocket watch carried in a vertical position. Weighing mere fractions of a gram, it consists of a mobile cage that contains all the parts of the escapement, with the balance at the centre. The cage completes one revolution around its own axis every minute, thus ensuring that the balance wheel oscillates at different positions in the course of its 360° journey and that the rate remains as constant as possible.

The TE8 Tourbillon heralds the Royal Collection that combines classical styling with innovative, state-of-the-art technology. The letters "TE" stand for tourbillon escapement. Some of its more distinctive features are obvious at first glance. Compared with other more conventional tourbillons found today, the TE8's movement is said to be "inverted": in other words, most of the technical elements and visually interesting features can be seen on the dial side, when they would normally be hidden away on the reverse.



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Exclusive Arnold & Son tourbillon movement A&S8000, hand-wound, black open dial, 18-carat white gold case, diameter 44 mm

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Exclusive Arnold & Son tourbillon movement A&S8000, hand-wound, anthracite open dial, 18-carat red gold case, diameter 44 mm

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The timepiece also boasts a number of typically English technical idiosyncrasies that will interest even the most discerning watch connoisseur. Take the symmetrical layout of the movement, for instance: the barrel spring and the tourbillon cage are centred along the watch's longitudinal axis. The main jewels are held by screwed gold chatons. They are a reminiscence of the finest *Haute Horlogerie* mechanical watches of the good old days and contribute to the beauty of the movement. In addition to their esthetical appeal, gold chatons also allow to replace damaged jewels without modifying the boreholes in the plates and bridges. A closer examination of the winding system and the gear train reveals a traditional construction used in high-end pocket watches that involves the use of "wolf-teeth", an asymmetrical tooth system featuring both long and narrow spokes used primarily to improve the smoothness of the overall movement and to enhance its elegant design.

From an aesthetic point of view, however, the feature that sets Arnold & Son's TE8 Tourbillon apart is its singularly English design. Some of the more obvious elements include the meticulously positioned three-quarter barrel bridge with its large wave-shaped cut-out and a lavish decoration unique to Arnold & Son, the triangular tourbillon and motion-work bridges, and the three-spoke design of the wheels, which are shaped with such distinctive flair. Needless to say, every detail of this striking piece, such as the black and brushed polishing, bevelling and movement decoration, is painstakingly hand-finished by Arnold & Son's master watchmakers.



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A&S8000
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This unique tourbillon timepiece will be produced in a limited edition of 25 pieces of each version, in a 44 mm 18-carat white gold and 18-carat red gold case with either a movement with NAC grey treated bridges and black ruthenium treated main plate or rhodium treated bridges and NAC grey treated main plate. Each watch case is individually numbered and engraved.

Historical Context



John Arnold and A.-L. Breguet, silver cased chronometer with tourbillon and spring-detent escapement,
London, England, 1774 and Paris, France, 1808
© The Trustees of the British Museum

The tourbillon movement, one of the most elegant complications in the world of *Haute Horlogerie*, has played a crucial role in Arnold & Son's history. An exceptional watchmaker, John Arnold was an active participant in one of the most extraordinary partnerships in the world of innovative horology. Indeed, both he and A.-L. Breguet worked closely, sharing both their knowledge and passion. Evidence of their partnership is A.-L. Breguet's first ever tourbillon mounted in John Arnold's No. 11 movement, a watch that can be found today in London's British Museum.



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Main technical characteristics

Calibre: A&S8000

Exclusive Arnold & Son mechanical tourbillon movement, hand-wound, 19 jewels, diameter 32.6 mm, thickness 6.25 mm, power reserve 80 h, 21,600 vibrations/h

Functions: hours, minutes, tourbillon

Movement decoration: 18-carat white gold case model:
nickel-silver movement, NAC grey treated bridges and black ruthenium treated main plate with superlative *Haute Horlogerie* finishing: hand-chamfered bridges with polished edges, fine circular graining and A&S specific waves decoration, circular satin-finished wheels with hand-chamfered and polished edges, screwed gold chatons, mirror-polished tourbillon cage and bridge, screws with bevelled and mirror-polished heads

Movement decoration: 18-carat red gold case model:
nickel-silver movement, rhodium treated bridges and NAC grey treated main plate with superlative *Haute Horlogerie* finishing: hand-chamfered bridges with polished edges, fine circular graining and A&S specific waves decoration, circular satin-finished wheels with hand-chamfered and polished edges, screwed gold chatons, mirror-polished tourbillon cage and bridge, screws with bevelled and mirror-polished heads

Dial: black or anthracite open dial

Case: 18-carat white gold or 18-carat red gold, diameter 44 mm, cambered sapphire with anti-reflective coating on both sides, case back see-through sapphire, water-resistant to 30 m

Strap: hand-stitched black or brown alligator leather

Limited edition: 25 pieces

References: 1SJA.W.B02A.C113A, 18-carat white gold case
1SJA.R.G01A.C112A, 18-carat red gold case

For **high resolution images** please find here the link:
<http://www.arnoldandson.com/home/news-events/press-corner.aspx>

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