

## FB 1.3-1 “SAPPHIRE BLUE” CHRONOMETRE

**A NEW VERSION OF CHRONOMÉTRIE FERDINAND BERTHOUD’S ICONIC, INAUGURAL FB 1 CHRONOMETER IS NOW AVAILABLE, SPORTING A SUBTLE, CONTEMPORARY LOOK AND FEATURING A UNIQUE COMBINATION OF PLATINUM, GREY CERAMIC, AND A TRANSLUCENT BLUE DIAL; ONLY FIVE SUCH PIECES WILL BE MADE.**

Step by step, Chronométrie Ferdinand Berthoud is producing all-new variations to its collections as it adds carefully thought-out touches to its timepieces. The new FB 1.3-1 “Sapphire Blue” model is no exception. Comprising just 5 numbered watches, this edition offers a new chromatic harmony, structured around an intense, silky translucent blue dial. Its understated sheen pervades every line and detail of the 44 x 13 mm 950 platinum case, featuring mounted grey ceramic lugs.

The inner workings are also redolent with the magic of this new finishing. Seasoned collectors will appreciate all the detailing that characterises the exclusive nature of this limited edition: the timepiece has been fitted with the FB-T.FC-2 calibre, featuring chamfered sapphire crystal half-bridges. The arrow-shaped tourbillon bridge is blue-tinted – a finishing achieved by means of Chemical Vapor Deposition (CVD), a process in which thin films are laid down in a vacuum, ensuring high performance over time and preserving all the finesse and details of the finishes. In addition to this colouring, the new blue dial is decorated with fine lines echoing the blue-tinted hours and minutes hands – as well as the indicator hand for the 53-hour power reserve, located at 9 o’clock.

As can be expected, the chronometric properties of the FB 1.3-1 “Sapphire Blue” movement are outstanding. Drawing inspiration from marine chronometers, of which Ferdinand Berthoud was one of the most legendary clockmaker, the FB-T.FC-2 calibre is regulated by a centre seconds tourbillon and a fusee and chain constant force mechanism. The barrel and inverted fusee are suspended, and in a patented arrangement, are held in place on just one side. As is usual with fusee and chain mechanisms, the barrel is fitted with a Maltese Cross stop system. This limits the number of winding turns of the mainspring to half a dozen or so, ensuring that only the most stable part of the spring is used; this technique increases the timepiece’s accuracy, as certified by the Official Swiss Chronometer Testing Institute (COSC).

The architecture of the FB-T.FC-2 calibre is unique in contemporary watchmaking. The manual wind movement features 15 bridges and 3 half-bridges in chamfered sapphire crystal, held in place by polished titanium pillars supporting the mechanical components. This structure, characteristic of eighteenth-century marine chronometers, allows the four portholes of the FERDINAND BERTHOUD FB 1.3-1 chronometer to reveal the innards of the watch. The same stylistic requirement has been applied to the design of all the components, and more especially to ensure the symmetrical visual balance of the movement’s main assemblies.

The power reserve indication mechanism on the FB 1.3-1 model is very sophisticated. A truncated cone travels up and down an endless screw connected to the barrel. At the tip of this suspended cone sits a feeler spindle: an arm with a jewel on the end, its position on the cone indicating how wound up the watch is. This feeler spindle is in turn linked to the power reserve hand; the corresponding graduations are engraved on the mainplate and viewed through an opening in the dial. This audacious mechanism, showcased by its sapphire crystal bridges, allows the movement’s power reserve to be indicated with great precision.



The FB 1.3-1 chronometer has also been fitted with a hand-stitched, rolled-edged alligator leather strap, made from a single piece of leather, together with a two-strand adjustable-length PT950 platinum folding safety clasp.

Irrespective of their position and function, all the components have been fully hand-finished using traditional tools in Chronométrie FERDINAND BERTHOUD's workshops. To ensure a highly detailed inspection of the finishings, a 6x magnifying glass is used to carry out quality control. At that level of magnification, no detail, however minuscule, can go unnoticed – and no error, flaw, or imperfection is tolerated. Therein lies the ethos of watchmaking excellence so dear to the heart of Chronométrie FERDINAND BERTHOUD, purveyor of chronometers for explorers.



**REF. FB 1.3-1**  
**NUMBERED FIVE-PIECE LIMITED EDITION IN PLATINUM**

**CASE**

- Octagonal platinum (PT 950) case with anthracite grey ceramic lug elements

Total diameter . . . . .	44 mm
Thickness . . . . .	13 mm
Water resistance . . . . .	30 metres
Crown diameter . . . . .	9 mm
Numbered edition . . . . .	1/5 to 5/5

- Dynamometric crown (uncoupling system) in platinum (PT 950) with anthracite grey ceramic medallion
- Octagonal case fitted with four watertight portholes in glareproofed sapphire crystal
- Screw-in exhibition back fitted with a glareproofed sapphire crystal pane
- Domed “chevée” sapphire crystal glareproofed on both sides

**DIAL**

- Translucent blue dial with vertical satin finishings
- Open dial centre and power-reserve indicator hand-bevelled, with rhodium-plated chamfers
- Offset white hours and minutes subdial with black Arabic numerals
- Translucent sapphire seconds track
- Power-reserve indication engraved on the mainplate: “0\_1/4\_1/2\_3/4\_1”
- Autonomy indicated by an arrow pointing to the words “HAUT” (high) and “BAS”(low)
- “Chronomètre Val-de-Travers Suisse” inscription

**HANDS**

- 18-carat blued gold dagger-shaped faceted cut-out hours and minutes hands
- 18-carat blued gold arrow-shaped power-reserve hand
- Rhodium-plated bronze central seconds hands

**STRAP AND CLASP**

- Hand-stitched rolled-edge alligator leather made from a single piece of leather (115 x 75 mm, with a 20 mm buckle) – Various sizes available on request
- Double-blade length-adjustable folding clasp in platinum (PT 950) – Pin buckle available on request



**INDICATIONS**

- Hours, minutes, seconds and power reserve

**MOVEMENT**

Mechanical manual winding . . . . .	Calibre FB-T.FC-2
Diameter . . . . .	35.50 mm
Thickness . . . . .	7.96 mm
Lignes . . . . .	15 ¾
Jewels . . . . .	45
Frequency . . . . .	21,600 vph (3 Hz)
Power reserve . . . . .	53 hours

**TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS**

- Tourbillon with fusee-and-chain (constant-force) transmission
  - Suspended fusée – differential winding system (PATENT)
  - Suspended barrel – Maltese cross stopwork system (PATENT)
  - Suspended power reserve – mobile cone system (PATENT)
  - Tourbillon with direct-drive seconds (PATENT)
- Variable-inertia balance wheel featuring four rhodium-plated nickel silver inertia blocks
- Balance spring with hand-crafted steel Phillips outer terminal curve (overcoil)
- Swiss lever escapement
- Three chamfered and engraved transparent sapphire half-bridges, fitted on stylised titanium pillars
- Hand finishing in keeping with the highest watchmaking standards

Components . . . . .	1,119 (including the chain)
Chain . . . . .	790 components
Length of the chain . . . . .	285 mm
Half-bridges . . . . .	18 including 3 in sapphire
Pillars . . . . .	6

**TOURBILLON**

Rotation . . . . .	1 /minute
Components . . . . .	67
Tourbillon carriage . . . . .	Ø 16.55 mm (titanium)
Tourbillon carriage fixed to . . . . .	3 polished titanium pillars
Tourbillon carriage poised by . . . . .	2 inertia blocks made of 18-carat gold
Balance wheel . . . . .	Ø 12 mm in copper-beryllium

**Officially chronometer-certified by the COSC**