



**DE BETHUNE**

L'ART HORLOGER AU XXI<sup>e</sup> SIÈCLE

**DB28 Kind of Blue Tourbillon  
Milky Way**

*Geneva, February 24th 2020*





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## **DB28 Kind of Blue Tourbillon Milky Way**

2020 marks a special tribute to the colour blue and a certain idea of the night-time sky and the cosmos – two keystone elements of De Bethune's identity. DB28 Kind of blue Tourbillon Milky Way is the first piece to render the magnificent Milky Way on another De Bethune hallmark, the central delta-shaped bridge on the dial side.

At De Bethune, the colour blue has a deep and sweeping significance. Evoking water, sky and space at the same time, it is viewed by Denis Flageollet, Master Watchmaker and Founder of the brand, as a luminous pulsation. At De Bethune, each colour thus corresponds to a different kind of energy.

*"The cosmos, the sky... When you want to see the progress of time and have no instruments, you look to the sky. This is one of the recurring themes in watchmaking,"* explains Denis Flageollet, Master Watchmaker and founder of De Bethune. For some years now, starry skies and the Milky Way have been an integral part of the company's history.

An icon in the making, De Bethune's latest, the DB28 Kind of Blue Tourbillon Milky Way features an elegant 43 mm case in polished grade 5 titanium, mounted on two revisited medium-sized floating lugs, complemented by redesigned, prominent and more contemporary bullets for superior user comfort.

Fully visible on the dial side, the mechanical hand-wound calibre features a domed "De Bethune Delta" minute bridge – the Maison's signature – in mirror-polished titanium, hand-finished, naturally. This is the first piece to depict the Milky Way, rendered here using delicate laser surface texturing enhanced by 24-carat gold microinlays across the minute bridge.

The DB28 Kind of Blue Tourbillon Milky Way enshrines time in De Bethune's high-frequency, ultra-fast tourbillon. The lightest in the world with its tiny 0.20 grams for 63 components, it beats to a tenth of a second and completes a full rotation in 30 seconds. Its latest-generation titanium/white gold balance wheel, the spiral with the exclusive De Bethune flat terminal curve, and its silicon escapement wheel vibrating at 28,800 vibrations per hour – it all comes together in superlative chronometry as the two self-regulating barrels, also developed in-house, ensure constant torque. The result is not only an aesthetic success: This constellation increases the power reserve by more than 20%.

A torque indicator is located between 2 and 3 o'clock. The power reserve can be read on the back of the specially beaded plate. The hours are indicated by skeletonized hands on polished steel arrowhead hour markers.

All finishes are by hand. The hand-decorated components feature several types of fine watchmaking finishes, with spiral barrel ratchets and, on the back, a plate with "De Bethune" type beading. The hours are marked by pink gold arrow indices and, "*luxe oblige*," indicated by skeleton hands fashioned from the same precious metal.

Contact  
[press@debethune.com](mailto:press@debethune.com)



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## About De Bethune

*Founded in 2002, Manufacture De Bethune is an independent watchmaker that develops and produces all its own timepieces.*

*While its production remains extremely modest in terms of volume, De Bethune displays peerless inventiveness and is distinguished by the highest level of quality and innovation within the extremely exclusive sphere of Swiss Haute Horlogerie.*

*Since its founding, De Bethune has developed no less than 26 calibres, presented 30 or so world firsts, filed a number of patents and launched around 150 one-of-a-kind models. Its timepieces have won awards in major international competitions.*

*Through its creations, De Bethune is perpetuating the work of the great 18th century master watchmakers in their quest for perfect time measurement backed by a sense of supreme aesthetic beauty. Leveraging cutting-edge scientific and technological discoveries, its efforts are devoted to inventing unique, innovative and high-performance solutions.*

*Not doing more, but doing better; drawing inspiration from the past so as to perpetually reinvent it and create bridges with other fields of knowledge: such are the principles guiding De Bethune in developing horological mechanisms and expressing artistic creativity.*

*Testifying to this quest for perfection and this tireless pursuit of beauty, the pure style, taut lines and slenderness of the cases embody a contemporary interpretation of the watchmaking art according to De Bethune.*

*Shaping 21st century watchmaking while safeguarding the finest traditions, firmly rooted in history and resolutely looking to the future, De Bethune pursues an outstanding approach effectively combining art and science.*



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## **DB28 Kind of Blue Tourbillon Milky Way**

### Technical specifications

Name:	DB28 Tourbillon Kind of Blue
Reference:	DB28TBMW
Vintage:	Limited edition of 5 pieces
Functions:	Hours, minutes, 30" indicator through the ultra-light silicon and titanium De Bethune tourbillon cage at 6 o'clock, Power reserve on case back
Movement:	DB2019
Type:	Mechanical hand-wound movement
Adjustment:	Using the crown (2 positions) for winding, and setting the time

### **Technical features of calibre DB2019**

Number of parts:	298
Jewelling:	39 jewels
Diameter:	30 mm
Power reserve:	5 days, ensured by a self-regulating twin barrel <i>De Bethune Innovation (2004)</i>
Technical features:	Silicon balance wheel encircled with a white gold ring <i>De Bethune Patent (2010)</i>
curve	"De Bethune" balance-spring with flat terminal <i>De Bethune Patent (2006)</i>
	Silicon escape wheel
	Ultra-light 30 second De Bethune Tourbillon in silicon and titanium – <i>De Bethune Innovation (2008)</i>
Frequency:	36,000 vibrations per hour
Adornment:	Motion works bridge and cover plate in grade 5 titanium, mirror-polished and blued by hand Bridge cover on the barrel decorated in grade 5 mirror-polished and blued titanium, encrusted by hand with stars in white gold Rose-work grinding by hand on the barrels Decoration on power reserve indicator in grade 5 titanium "De Bethune" concentric graining and blued by hand Steel parts bevelled and flame-blued by hand



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## **Display**

Display: Hand-polished rose gold hands  
De Bethune 30" ultra-light tourbillon in silicone and titanium at 6 o'clock – *De Bethune Innovation (2008)*

Dial: Blued grade 5 polished titanium hours ring with rose gold hour-markers  
Blued grade 5 satin-polished titanium minutes ring  
Milky Way patterns produced by laser beam micro milling, gilded with 24-carat gold leaf

## **Case and strap**

Case material: Blued grade 5 mirror-polished titanium  
Case diameter: 42.60 mm  
Case thickness: 9.20 mm  
Lugs: Short or long floating lugs in grade 5 polished and blued titanium – De Bethune Patent (2006)  
Crystal: Sapphire (1800 Vickers hardness), with double anti-reflective coating  
Case back: Screwed case back in polished pink 5N gold and open on a linear power reserve indicator in pink 5N gold  
Sapphire crystal (1800 Vickers hardness), with double anti-reflective coating  
Water resistance: 3 ATM  
Strap: Extra-supple alligator leather, alligator lining  
Buckle: Folding clasp in blued titanium and rose gold