



**DE BETHUNE**

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

**DB28 Kind of Blue  
Milky Way**

*Geneva, February 24th 2020*





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## **DB28 Kind of Blue 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 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 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.

It is equipped with the 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.

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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  
Milky Way**

Technical specifications

Name:	DB28 Kind of Blue
Reference:	DB28BMW
Vintage:	Limited edition of 10 pieces
Functions:	Hours, Minutes, Spherical moon phase at 6 o'clock. Power reserve on case back, Performance indicator between 2 and 3 o'clock
Movement:	DB2115V4
Type:	Mechanical hand-wound movement
Adjustment:	Using the crown (2 positions) for winding, and setting the time Using a corrector for the spherical moon phase

**Technical features of calibre DB2115V4**

Number of parts:	297
Jewelling:	39 jewels
Diameter:	30 mm
Power reserve:	6 days, ensured by a self-regulating twin barrel <i>De Bethune Innovation (2004)</i>
Technical features:	Titanium balance wheel with white gold inserts, optimised for temperature differences and air penetration <i>De Bethune Patent (2016)</i>
curve	“De Bethune” balance-spring with flat terminal <i>De Bethune Patent (2006)</i>
	Silicon escape wheel
	Spherical moon phase indicator with precision of one lunar day every 122 years – <i>De Bethune Patent (2004)</i>
	Blued triple pare-chute shock-absorbing system <i>De Bethune Innovation (2005)</i>
Frequency:	28,800 vibrations per hour



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**Adornment:** Handmade, blued grade 5 mirror-polished titanium motion works bridge  
Plate cover and bridge cover on the barrel in grade 5 blued titanium, adorned with "Côtes De Bethune"  
Barrels decorated with rose-work grinding  
Power reserve indicator in grade 5 titanium, hand decorated with "De Bethune" concentric graining and blued by hand  
Steel parts beveled, polished and flame-blued by hand

### **Display**

**Display:** Rose gold hands  
Spherical moon phase indicator in palladium and flame-blued steel with precision of one lunar day every 122 years at 6 o'clock – *De Bethune Patent (2004)*  
Performance indicator between 2 and 3 o'clock

**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 mirror-polished grade 5 titanium  
**Case diameter:** 43 mm  
**Case thickness:** 9.30 mm  
**Lugs:** Short or long floating lugs in blued grade 5 mirror-polished titanium – De Bethune Patent (2006)  
**Crystal:** Sapphire (1800 Vickers hardness), with double anti-reflective coating  
**Case back:** Screwed case back in blued grade 5 polished titanium that opens on a linear power reserve indicator in rose gold Sapphire crystal (1800 Vickers hardness) with double anti-reflective coating  
**Water resistance:** 3 ATM  
**Strap:** Extra-supple alligator leather, alligator lining  
**Buckle:** Buckle in blued grade 5 mirror-polished titanium and ardillon in rose gold