

A ceramic face for the Fifty Fathoms

Blancpain is reinterpreting its Fifty Fathoms, the iconic diver’s watch that has inspired the entire genre since its launch in 1953. The 2019 edition retains the sporty and distinguished character of its peers, to which it adds a touch of chic and high-tech with a red gold case and a ceramic dial.

The Fifty Fathoms is one of Blancpain’s inescapable models. Its roots in history are such that the Manufacture makes it a point of honour to continue developing it in such a way as to satisfy every expectation of diving and water sports enthusiasts. This year, Blancpain has opted to introduce a stylish version by opting for a precious case in satin-brushed red gold. For the first time in the collection, the dial of this new product is attired in blue ceramic. Through this unique combination of materials and colours, Blancpain achieves a bold double alliance.

Already used by Blancpain in the creation of bezels for its Bathyscaphe models, technical ceramics offer a multitude of advantages. Their hardness – six times greater than that of steel – endows them with exceptional qualities, including remarkable stability and longevity. Although particularly complex to produce and machine, this material has been chosen by Blancpain because of the chromatic depth it serves to achieve. The new Fifty Fathoms Automatic is thus adorned with a cobalt-like shimmer featuring a pleasing contrast between the sunburst dial centre and the matt chapter ring. The DNA of the collection remains identifiable at first glance: numerals, hour-markers and hands coated with luminescent material, a slightly curved scratchproof sapphire crystal and a ratcheted unidirectional rotating bezel recall the origins of this watch. Dictated by a long experience of diving, these decisive choices are the guarantee of perfect visibility in all circumstances.

Featuring a 45 mm diameter case and water-resistant to 300 metres, the new Fifty Fathoms Automatic beats to the rhythm of the 1315 movement. Stemming from a lengthy quest for precision and performance, it has been specially designed for sports watches. Blancpain has equipped it in this instance with a very dense red gold oscillating weight ensuring high winding efficiency for an optimal five-day power reserve when the watch is fully wound. This rotor is cut out as a nod to the history of the Fifty Fathoms, since this geometry made it more supple at the time in order to protect the movement from potential impacts.

Resolutely technical with its ceramic dial, as well as luxurious with its red gold case and the meticulous finishing of its movement, the new Fifty Fathoms Automatique is teamed with a blue calf leather strap, an additional detail evoking the inseparable link between Blancpain and the splendours of the sea bed.