

results when the watch was worn on the wrist for more than two weeks. This was later confirmed on a timing machine.

The H1837 is 26 mm in diameter and 3.7 mm in height. It is comprised of 193 parts: two more than Bulgari's Caliber BVL 191. The balance and its balance spring (the latter from Atokalpa, owned, like Vaucher, by the Sandoz Family Foundation) run at 28,800 vph and can be finely adjusted via a Triovis system. Our rate results showed that this particular piece could have benefited from some fine tuning. The movement is available in two versions, both with the same name: the one in the watch we reviewed has a central sweep-seconds hand and a date display at 6; the other has a subdial for the seconds at 6 and no date display. In our version, the date indicator advances almost exactly at midnight.

*The Bulgari BVL 191 has Geneva waves on its rotor and balance bridge that give it a technical look.*

The Bulgari movement has a technical look to it. Precisely placed Geneva waves decorate the rotor and the bridge of the automatic winding mechanism as well as the visible alternator train for the winding rotor, which runs on ceramic ball bearings and winds the mainspring in both directions. The technical appearance also comes from the asymmetric balance bridge, beneath which a Glucydur balance runs at 28,800 vph. It contains a Nivarox balance spring that can be finely adjusted via an index system.

The rate of Bulgari's caliber was more accurately adjusted than its counterpart from Hermès. Our timing machine found that the BVL 191 gained an average of 1.5 seconds per day. After the watch was allowed to run for 24 hours without receiving any additional energy, our calculations showed that it did not deviate

at all. Worn on the wrist for two weeks, it posted an average daily gain of 3.6 seconds: a solid performance for a newly developed *manufacture* caliber. Bulgari's movement is just 0.2 mm larger in diameter and 0.1 mm thicker than Hermès's H1837, but its power reserve is only 42 hours. The date display advances almost instantaneously and does so within an interval from 3 minutes before to 3 minutes after midnight. This caliber is equipped with a so-called "switch-off system" that is designed to reduce wear on the gears and save energy when the winding system is activated via the crown or the oscillating weight.

## SPECS

### BULGARI BULGARI

**Manufacturer:** Bulgari s.p.A., Lungotevere Marzio, 11, 00186 Rome, Italy

**Reference number:** 101923/BB41WSSD

**Functions:** Hours, minutes, central seconds, date

**Movement:** BVL 191, automatic, 28,800 vph, Glucydur balance, Incabloc shock absorption, 26 jewels, diameter = 26.2 mm, height = 3.8 mm, 42-hour power reserve

**Case:** Stainless steel, curved sapphire crystal, sapphire caseback, water resistant to 50 m

**Bracelet and clasp:** Stainless steel with double-folding clasp

#### Rate results:

Deviations in seconds per 24 hours  
(Fully wound/after 24 hours)

Dial up +4.5 / +2.8

Dial down +4.8 / +4.0

Crown up -2.2 / -3.7

Crown down +2.9 / +1.7

Crown left -2.6 / -4.8

Greatest deviation 7.4 / 8.8

Average deviation +1.5 / 0

#### Average amplitude:

Flat positions 300° / 286°

Hanging positions 259° / 241°

**Dimensions:** Diameter = 41.5 mm, height = 9.9 mm, weight = 147 g

**Variations:** With alligator strap (\$6,600); rose-gold case with alligator strap (\$19,900)

**Price:** \$7,250





The Hermès Caliber H1837 has a special "H" pattern on the winding rotor, the underlying bridges and the balance cock.

**THANKS TO ITS DISTINCTIVE** double-logo bezel, the Bulgari Bulgari has become a symbol of the Bulgari brand. The inspiration for the bezel can be traced to the inscriptions that surround an emperor's portrait on Roman coins. The cylindrical shape of the case came from studying ancient architecture and the columns of Roman temples. Bulgari considers the Bulgari Bulgari a classic design and has changed it very little since its debut. Alterations have been made to the ergonomics of the case: its back has a sophisticated curvature that perfectly conforms to the shape of the wrist, and on the front, the bezel and sapphire crystal arc across an imaginary horizontal line connecting the 3 and the 9. This adds to the watch's excellent fit, as does the harmonious shape of the lugs, which are angled slightly downward and have built-in connective components that accept a linked bracelet made up of alter-

nately glossy and matte elements. Each of the bracelet's H-shaped links holds a pair of middle pieces and leads around the wrist to a double-folding clasp secured by a snap fastener. The Bulgari Bulgari watch has a serene look to it, with just enough boldness to add some excitement.

The watch's dial has elongated Arabic numerals at 6 and 12, along with 10 glossy, applied indexes. Together with skeletonized and faceted dauphine hands, these elements can cause glaring reflections, so the wearer sometimes needs to take a closer look at the dial before he can clearly read the time. The lengths of the hands may seem arbitrary at first glance, but closer scrutiny shows that their span is related to the hour index at 3 o'clock. The tip of the minutes hand reaches precisely to the inner end of this shorter index. The hour hand extends from the center of the dial to the left-hand edge of

## SPECS

### HERMÈS DRESSAGE

**Manufacturer:** Hermès Paris, 24 rue du Faubourg Saint-Honoré, 75008 Paris, France

**Reference number:** 037799WW00

**Functions:** Hours, minutes, central seconds, date

**Movement:** H1837, automatic, 28,800 vph, Glucydur balance, Incabloc shock absorption, 28 jewels, diameter = 26 mm, height = 3.7 mm, 50-hour power reserve

**Case:** Stainless steel, curved sapphire crystal with nonreflective coating on top, sapphire caseback, water resistant to 50 m

**Bracelet and clasp:** Stainless steel with double-folding clasp

#### Rate results:

Deviations in seconds per 24 hours (Fully wound/after 24 hours)

Dial up +24.6 / +20.8

Dial down +27.3 / +25.6

Crown up +5.1 / +3.3

Crown down +14.9 / +11.0

Crown left +1.7 / +2.3

Greatest deviation 25.6 / 23.3

Average deviation +14.7 / +12.6

#### Average amplitude:

Flat positions 305° / 287°

Hanging positions 272° / 262°

**Dimensions:** Diameter = 40.4 mm x 38.4 mm, height = 10.2 mm, weight = 156 g

**Variations:** With alligator strap (\$8,050)

**Price:** \$9,150

the date window, so the date display is never covered by the hour hand.

The Bulgari Bulgari has grown gradually larger and thus more legible over the years and its bezel appears narrower: this gives a slightly more elegant look to the double inscription, which is written in capital letters.

**THE DESIGN OF** the Hermès watch brings to mind the close connection between the house of Hermès and horses: the company was founded as a harness and saddle workshop. Our watch's linked stainless-steel bracelet, a type not often found at Hermès, is integrated into the lugs with an elongated tapering shape