

# BR 01 SKULL BRONZE

LIMITED EDITION OF 500 PIECES



## THE TALISMAN WATCH

In 2009, Bell & Ross made a lasting impression by breaking with traditional watchmaking codes with its first "Skull" BR 01. This year, the brand presented a surprising variant, the BR01 SKULL BRONZE.

This new version, with its distinctive character, pays tribute to the epic of the parachutists of the Second World War. On their jumpsuits, these elite fighters proudly wore a crest bearing a skull and these words: "Death from Above". Falling from the sky at dawn on

6 June 1944, the troops of the 101st and 82nd American airborne divisions played a vital role in the Normandy landings.

From time immemorial, the most formidable fighters have demonstrated their courage by sporting such skulls, both to intimidate their adversaries and to ward off bad fortune.

Today, while it continues to figure on a lot of military equipment – such as uniforms, emblems and aeroplanes –, the famous "Jolly Roger" as decorative element appears as a talisman or a rebel symbol.



## THE SYMBOLISM OF MILITARY CODES

Faithful to the spirit of the 1944 parachutists and their emblem, the BR 01 SKULL BRONZE boldly displays a skull and crossbones formed by the bezel and the screws, which resembles the pirate flags of the past.

Sporting the colour black, which symbolises death, the "phantom" monochrome dial features other traditional military codes as its hour and minute hands: the dagger and the sabre.

The bronze colour of the case and the aged look of the leather strap reinforce the vintage and warrior aspects of the watch, which is certain to win over collectors and watchlovers of character.



## THE COLOUR OF TIME

To give the new BR 01 SKULL BRONZE a unique look, Bell & Ross chose to produce its case using bronze with a microblasted finish.

In perfect compliance with watchmaking quality standards, this alloy of copper (92%) and tin (8%) offers excellent resistance to wear while sporting a very distinctive colour. Initially presenting a shade suggesting tones of pink or red gold, bronze acquires a patina over time, which gives it an incomparable ancient look.

This aged appearance is the result of bronze adapting to its environment (temperature, humidity, friction, etc.). Without impacting

the solidity and longevity of the material, this patina, which varies depending on the climate and the season, gives the BR 01 SKULL BRONZE a particular colouring that makes every watch an absolutely unique piece.

While bronze has resolutely survived many millennia, Bell & Ross is bringing it into the modern age by combining it with grade 5 titanium, which gives the case back hypoallergenic properties and extreme lightness, making it very comfortable to wear.



*Examples of patina or corrosion making each piece unique.*

## ALL THE CHARMS OF RETROFUTURISM

With its use of bronze and the reference to legendary military codes, the BR 01 SKULL BRONZE constitutes a new icon. Yet this watch is also thoroughly contemporary; the famous 46 mm square case of the BR 01 contains a self-winding movement which combines accuracy, solidity and performance. A screw-down crown gives the watch a water resistance of up to 100 m, while the sapphire crystal stands out with its golden indices in the shape of spikes, obtained by plating the inside with metal.

To preserve the purity of the design and the aesthetic balance of the watch, its mechanism was designed to enable the hand spindle to be positioned at the exact centre of the skull. This is a distinctive position, as demonstrated by the decentred crown.

In a nod to charmingly vintage technology, the skull in the middle of the dial glows in the dark thanks to the use of appliqué B-light photoluminescent pigment.

Finally, a specific tanning technique to create worn-effect leather and tone-on-tone stitching give the brown strap its old-fashioned look.

BR 01 SKULL BRONZE: a prehistoric metal brought up to the present day in a Steampunk (\*) style, for a collector's watch released as a limited edition of 500 pieces.

(\*) A retrofuturistic cultural movement.

# BR 01 SKULL BRONZE

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BR 01 SKULL BRONZE  
BR0192-SKULL-BR

## Technical specifications

<b>Movement:</b> automatic mechanical. BR-CAL.302.	<b>Crystal:</b> sapphire with anti-reflective coating.
<b>Functions:</b> hours and minutes.	<b>Water resistance:</b> 100 m.
<b>Case:</b> 46 mm in diameter. Bronze CuSn8. Screw-down crown.	<b>Strap:</b> aged brown calfskin.
<b>Dial:</b> black. Photoluminescent skull. Gilt hands. Gilt metal index underneath the crystal.	<b>Buckle:</b> pin. Bronze PVD* coated steel.

\*PVD: Physical Vapor Deposition

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