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Time Limits

What are some truly rare timepieces made available

**What are some truly rare timepieces made available for this part of the world?
TIMMY TAN has the story.**

ARE you shopping around for some truly collectible and rare timepieces? If so, then the first priority is to look out for limited edition pieces. The problem is, truly limited editions of a few hundred pieces or less have to be allocated on a worldwide basis and by the time Malaysia comes to mind, perhaps only one piece or less than ten pieces will be offered to the watch collectors here (depending on the total number of limited edition pieces). Even if you do have the means, acquiring such rare watches is never guaranteed. It happens, especially if and only if, you have access to the right channels or distributors.



Only 10 pieces of this TAG Heuer Carrera Calibre 360 All Black will be made available

One solution to improve the odds is to make special limited editions for a specific country or event. That way, higher allocations can be made, which will be a delight to watch collectors. For example, did you know that there will be a special watch which features an ancient map drawn around 1660 of Malaysia on its dial? Made by German brand Glashütte Original, this is one piece peculiar to Malaysia. Known as the *1957 Malaysia*, it commemorates the birth year of the country's independence. The watch will be encased in five different versions: in platinum, rose gold, rose gold set with diamonds, white gold and white gold set with diamonds. Only five pieces will be made for each version. In other words, pictures of 25 pieces will be made available.

The *Star BizWeek* was granted the privilege to publish the prototype of the '1957 Malaysia'. According to Kelvin Lim, vice president, Glashütte Original (Southeast Asia), the first series numbered 1 out of 5 of the platinum version will be presented to the nation, an apt gift considering Malaysia's 50 years of nationhood. *[Editor's note: The actual piece will be featured by The Star Bizweek once it is completed at a later date.]*



Bvlgari Assioma Tourbillon
Automatic Tourbillon with
Perpetual Calendar and Two
Time Zones. Only 20 will be
made for the worldwide
market.

Watch collectors who enjoyed last year's 'Conquest of Time' watch exhibition held in Kuala Lumpur, organised by watch specialist Sincere Watch, may also want to head south to Singapore in September and October for two very important watch events this year. First, there is the Bvlgari exhibition to be held in October, which will showcase current and historical pieces. One particular Bvlgari piece worth viewing in its true physical form is the Assioma Automatic Tourbillon with Perpetual Calendar and Two Time Zones with an open worked dial. This is among the first in-house high-end complications from this Italian brand. This particular piece is not meant for a specific market and only 20 such watches will be made for the global market. This is one example of a truly rare piece and you can imagine how difficult it will be to ever spot one on anyone's wrists.



Richard Mille RM16
All Black. Limited to
10 pieces.

Then there is Tempus - The Temple of Time organised by watch distributor and retailer The Hour Glass. If you are seeking limited editions, this exhibition, to be held at Raffles City Convention Centre in Singapore, is the place to view them.

For this event, seven brands will offer limited edition pieces themed 'Tempus - All Black Commemorative Collection'.

As the name implies, black is the colour theme which explains why all the cases and most of the dials of these watches are in black. As mentioned earlier, higher allocations of such rare pieces are possible only because of an event and that is Tempus.

Rather than say more, we would rather you'd enjoy the visuals on this page. Our only advice: better hurry as there will be many others desiring such pieces. With demand far outstripping supply, the time to decide is now!