

## Summertime STYLES

This season's best marine watches



### Top to bottom:

Breitling Superocean Heritage B01 Chronograph 42mm, £7,400; Panerai Luminor Marina 44mm, £7,600; TAG Heuer Aquaracer Professional 200 30mm, £3,050; Tudor Black Bay 54 Lagoon Blue 37mm, £3,590; Ulysse Nardin Diver Atoll 39mm, £13,920. All [watches-of-switzerland.co.uk](http://watches-of-switzerland.co.uk)



# Dive in

TAKE THE PLUNGE THIS SUMMER  
WITH OCEAN-INSPIRED JEWELLERY,  
WRITES AMY WAKEHAM

### DEEP SEA TREASURES

**Clockwise from above:** 18kt yellow-gold enamelled ring set with pearls, £9,850, Cece Jewellery; 18kt gold ring set with a white pearl and white diamonds, £8,193, 18kt gold ring set with a Tahitian pearl and white diamonds, £8,300, Bibi van der Velden; some of Tiffany & Co's Sea of Wonder pieces are inspired by Jean Schlumberger's designs; 24kt gold-plated bronze talisman necklace, £250, Alighieri x J Crew; life on the Portuguese coast sparked Bibi van der Velden's interest in jellyfish; 18kt rose-gold Tahitian pearl, white quartz and white diamond drop earrings, £7,867 (for one), Bibi van der Velden; Tiffany & Co's new sea-turtle brooch

The swoop and plunge of crashing waves; the splash and scuttle of sea life; the sun-baked symphony of life on and near the water. This season, jewellery designers have turned to the ocean for inspiration, taking notes from the magnetic, unknowable life force of the deep.

Leading the way is Tiffany & Co. The maison's 2025 Blue Book high jewellery collection is titled Sea of Wonder, inspired by magical sealife. It features pieces based on the work of Jean Schlumberger, a jewellery designer renowned for his ability to capture the motion and spark of the natural world ([tiffany.co.uk](http://tiffany.co.uk)).

In the new collection, Nathalie Verdeille, Tiffany's chief artistic officer, uses purple sapphires, moonstones and blue sapphires to reimagine Schlumberger's famed 1968

seahorse brooches, as well as aquamarines and turquoise for a one-of-a-kind sea-turtle pin.

"Rather than revisiting [Schlumberger's] iconic pieces directly, we aim to embrace his philosophy and poetic vision, building upon his work to create an artistic movement at Tiffany," says Verdeille. "If I were to distill this movement into a single idea, it would be the sea and its mysteries as an endless source of inspiration, explored through dynamic volumes and textures that suggest movement."

Another designer who often looks to the sea is Cece Fein-Hughes, founder of Cece Jewellery, which specialises in intricate hand-enamelling, a rare art form these days ([cecejewellery.com](http://cecejewellery.com)).

"Marine-inspired jewellery has a way of blending elegance with storytelling," she explains on why she gravitates to aquatic

motifs, which often have a folkloric quality. "The ocean and its creatures hold so much meaning to so many people, from its calming presence to stirring memories of seaside adventures." Her pieces combine enamel art with pearls, diamonds and other stones to create talismans bearing lobsters, octopuses and sharks.

Bibi van der Velden, who celebrates the 20th anniversary of her brand this year, was inspired by the jellyfish in the ocean by her Portuguese home for her new collection. Their unique form has been captured in Tahitian pearls and 18kt rose gold ([bibivandervelden.com](http://bibivandervelden.com)).

"I surf most days and we often see washed-up jellyfish on the beach," says van der Velden. "Their different colours, translucence and globular forms are absolutely captivating, there's something otherworldly about them. The shapes they make when they move are very sculptural, which appeals to me as an artist."

Meanwhile, Anabela Chan's Mermaid's Tale collection features pieces that artfully recall the movement of seaweed or the shape of a ray. Made from ocean waste, the sale of her pieces fund the planting of mangrove trees to restore coastal habitats. Her Paraiba Oceanis earrings are made from recycled aluminium and vibrant lab-grown gemstones ([anabelachan.com](http://anabelachan.com)).

Other designers have also worked to recreate the essence of summer days spent by the water, like Alighieri, which has collaborated with J Crew, the American brand anchored

in water-borne preppiness: sailing, swimming, rowing. The collection features fishy charms, medallions and maritime motifs, all made in London's Hatton Garden ([alighieri.com](http://alighieri.com)).

"Inspired by summer days on the water, I wanted this capsule to celebrate the magic of seaside fun, a life unlocked at sea, in oversized white shirts and molten gold fish," says Rosh Mahtani, the brand's founder and designer.

Luxury British brand Augustine Jewels often turns to the shimmering, azure waters of the Mediterranean, Adriatic and Aegean seas for its evocative designs. The Santorini range features cobalt kyanite, pearls, diamonds and sculpted gold to conjure the sea breezes and swooping shorelines of the Grecian island. Its South of France collection, meanwhile, uses pastel-hued citrine, amethyst, topaz and rose quartz gems – to embody the soft light of the French Riviera ([augustinejewels.com](http://augustinejewels.com)).

But what about jewellery you can happily wear near a body of salt water? Waterproof jewellery is another growing trend, allowing wearers to style layers of necklaces, bracelets, rings and earrings with their swimwear – and not need to remove them to take the plunge.

Brands such as Atolea, Hey Harper and D.Louise are leading the charge with affordable, on-trend chains, pearl chokers and stackable ring sets that are swim, shower and sweat proof. They're made from stainless steel

plated with gold using a new PVD coating technique, which increases durability and prevents tarnishing. So, now you can dive in without a care in the world. ■



PHOTOGRAPHS: BIBI VAN DER VELDEN; TIFFANY & CO; CECE JEWELLERY; ALIGHIERI