

## Recommends: Paris day trip to Épernay The big Champagne houses

Last updated April 14, 2023

Take the fast and comfortable <u>SNCF Train</u> from Paris to Épernay, the capital of Champagne, and then a sevenminute walk to Avenue de Champagne. Recommend avoiding Monday and Tuesday as some wineries are closed.

## Itinerary:

- 9:55am Arrive Épernay (check prices for 2<sup>nd</sup> vs 1<sup>st</sup> class because sometimes the difference can be 3€)
- 10:15am Balloon (Esplanade Charles De Gaulle)
- 10:45am Museum (Château Perrier, 13 Av. de Champagne)
- 11:45am Tasting at Moet & Chandon (20 Av. de Champagne)
- 1:30pm Lunch/Tasting at Perrier-Jouet (26 Av. de Champagne)
- 2:30pm Tasting at Champagne Paul-Etienne Saint Germain (51 Av. de Champagne)
- 3:30pm Tasting at LeClerc Briant (67 chemin de la Chaude Ruelle)
- 4:29pm Leave Épernay

<u>Transportation</u> 8:36am from Paris Est arriving gare d'Épernay 1 hour 19 minutes later at 9:55am. For the return, recommend the 4:29pm from Épernay arriving in Paris Est at 5:53pm. Walk to the Avenue de Champagne and start your day at the balloon to get a 360 view of the area then visit the Champagne Museum.

Up to 29 people can take a 14 minute (14€) trip on the <u>Le Ballon d'Epernay</u> and travel 100 feet up in the air (while still tethered to the ground) for a 360 view of Reims Mountain, the Marne Valley, western hillside vineyards, mansions and the town of Épernay.

A visit to the <u>Musée du vin de Champagne et d'Archéologie régionale</u> (9,50€) will elevate your Champagne wine knowledge. The museum details the soils, early settlement, creation/history of wine as well as the explorers of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and the Belle Époque.

## **Champagne houses**

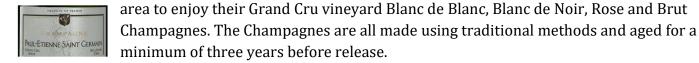
• <u>Moet & Chandon</u>: Explore 17 miles of underground caves in the largest Champagne house in the world.



Recommend booking the 1 hour 30-minute Grand Vintage tour (50€) to learn about the history and production of their Moët Impérial, Rosé Impérial, Ice Impérial Rosé, Ice Impérial and their Grand Vintage Champagnes.

• Perrier-Jouët: One of the oldest Champagne houses in the world, Perrier-Jouët has a lovely outdoor tasting area set in a garden environment serving their Champagne but also cocktails, spirits, tea or coffee and serving appetizers and delicious small plates.

• Champagne Paul-Etienne Saint Germain: A small mom and pop operation that offers a nice outdoor seating



• LeClerc Briant: A smaller Champagne house with a relaxed outdoor tasting area. They offer a variety of

CHAMPAGNE
LECLERC
BRIANT

Champagnes and have Le 25bis, a 5-room hotel, each with its own style with prices ranging
from \$400-\$500 and a dedicated concierge service to help plan your trip.