

Bonjour!
 ('Good Day', Greeting in French)



Champagne Region of France



Luxurious bubbles to remember!

- Visit the Moët & Chandon cellars – home of “Dom Perignon”
- Learn the Art and Culture of Champagne Production
- Marvel over the grandeur of Notre Dame Cathedral in Reims

New!
 LOWER PRICE for 2010
€79

April 10	July 17
May 22	August 14
June 26	September 11

Champagne Region of France

Join RTT for an unforgettable excursion to the Champagne Region of France! The unique combination of climate, altitude, chalky hillsides and miles of underground limestone cellars are what make the production of this bubbly, blended wine possible.

Wines from the Champagne region have been well known since the Middle Ages. Since the 18th century European royalty have appreciated the Champagne wines. The still wines were used in religious sacraments and for anointing the French kings in Reims. It was the association with the royal coronations which led to the popularity of champagne as we know it today - bringing the status of luxury and power. There are many sparkling wines which claim to be champagne, but only wines produced in this region are given the honoured title of "champagne". Even today champagnes are associated with luxury, festivities and rites of passage.

ITINERARY

Travel directly to **Epernay**, home to the famous cellars of **Moët & Chandon** where the champagne of the stars, **Dom Perignon** is made. Upon arrival in Epernay, descend into the 250 year old cellar where over a million bottles of champagne are made and aged. The English-speaking guide will explain the history of this prestigious house and the methods employed to make the famous Moët & Chandon champagnes. During the tour you will see how this famous wine variety is developed, changed and aged. Explanations will be given about development of champagne bottles and corks, aging of champagnes, and the different sizes of champagne bottles. End with a tasting of champagne (included). The in-house boutique provides the opportunity to purchase all their champagnes (and associated luxury articles), including the esteemed Dom Perignon.

Our next stop will be **Reims**, the famous town of the Champagne region, where we take a couple of hours for a traditional French lunch (not included), shopping, or other tour opportunities. Historically significant for French ruling lineages, the city's suffering in WWI, and its role in ending WWII, the city of Reims offers more than shopping and food. Here you will find the beautiful old bishops' palace, now the Palace of Tau archeological museum; the Basilica and Abby Museum of St. Remi (first major convert to Christianity and baptizer of the first Christian king of France), some Roman remains; and splendid collections in the Museum of Fine Arts. Take a stroll to the famous **Cathedral of Notre Dame** in Reims. This massive Gothic structure is famous for being the coronation place of French kings and stands as a superb example of 13th century Gothic architecture. The choir clock is ornamented with curious mechanical figures and famous Russian artist Marc Chagall's 1974 stained glass work can be admired in the cathedral apse.

Our final stop in **Reims** will be at the **Museum of Surrender**, which commemorates the collapse of German military power in 1945. This museum marks one of the most significant moments in the history of modern warfare, when the German commanders signed a surrender agreement and effectively gave up their grip on Europe. On May 7th 1945, this room was being used as General Dwight Eisenhower's war control room, and it was here in Reims that the surrender document was signed. The museum is full of interesting artefacts and documents, and still has the original maps on the walls from the war.

From here, we depart Reims at about 5:30 p.m. to return directly to points of origin by approximately 8:30 p.m.

TOUR PRICE INCLUDES:

- Round trip transportation by deluxe motor coach, non-smoking
- Tour of Moët & Chandon Cellar and champagne tasting
- The Museum of Surrender
- Notre Dame of Reims Cathedral
- Services of an RTT guide

NOT INCLUDED:

- Meals and beverages
- Items of a personal nature

CHILDREN:

- Children 12-17 years: €79
- Children 3-11 years: €69
- Not recommended for children under 3 years of age

CURRENCY:

- Euros

DOCUMENTS:

- All travellers must possess a valid U.S tourist passport
- Non-U.S. citizens must meet proper VISA requirements – check with your respective consulate or RTT.

CANCELLATION FEES: (per person)

- Up to 2 weeks prior to tour – €15
- Until COB 1 day prior to tour - 50% of the tour price
- Later, no refund!

DEPARTURE POINTS AND TIME:

- Autobahn A6, Kaiserslautern Centrum Park & Ride: 6 a.m.
- Autobahn A6, Shell Autohof at Landstuhl-Ost: 6:15 a.m.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

- Cellars are cool – dress appropriately
- Travel over mealtimes – snacks are suggested

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*Book your tour by **PHONE** or **INTERNET**
from wherever you are -
Have your **CREDIT CARD** handy!*



RTT Travel Ramstein

KMC Center, Bldg. 3336

APO AE 09094

66877 Ramstein Flugplatz, GE

DSN: 480-6330/6650

Tel: 06371-46360

Fax: 06371-44323

Make your reservations: www.RTTtravel.com