



# French Wine EXPLORERS



## Great Estates of Champagne & Burgundy

Travel to Champagne for VIP tastings at exclusive Champagne houses, including a very special private tour and tasting of the latest Dom Perignon vintage at Moët and Chandon. Enjoy private tastings at some of the most prestigious estates of Burgundy's Côte d'Or, including Premier and Grand Crus in legendary appellations like Vosne Romanée, Chambertin and Meursault. Discover Burgundy's rich cultural heritage in the medieval city of Beaune with its beautiful Renaissance architecture and famous Hospices, and at the historic Chateau de Clos de Vougeot, where winemaking began in this region. This luxurious voyage includes exceptional dining and beautiful first-class accommodations. An unforgettable wine and food vacation for the discriminating wine lover!

### DAY 1

#### *Paris-Reims*

**L**

Pick up at your Paris hotel by your English-speaking, wine expert guide/driver at 8am. Depart for **Champagne**, just a 1 ½ hour drive from Paris. Arrive in **Reims**, the "capital" of the Champagne region, where you'll visit the spectacular Reims Cathedral, where the Kings of France were crowned for 800 years. Visit one of the best major Champagne houses in Reims: **Veuve Clicquot, Pommery, Ruinart, Taittinger or Mumm**. You'll visit their majestic cellars, most dating back to Roman times with huge chalk pits and miles of galleries; then enjoy a tasting of their fine Champagnes and some time for shopping in their boutique. Enjoy a lovely welcome lunch at a casual local bistrot in the heart of Reims. This afternoon, you'll travel into the beautiful **Champagne vineyards** to visit one of the top boutique Champagne houses, like **Tarlant, Billecart Salmon or Vilmart** (these visits are usually with the winemaker him or herself). Check in late afternoon to your **luxury 4-star hotel, Chateau Hotel Les Crayeres** conveniently located in Reims. Enjoy a delicious dinner at your hotel's excellent restaurant (reservations only).

### DAY 2

#### *Grand Crus of the Cote des Blancs*

**B, L**

Today you'll explore the finest (and loveliest) winegrowing region of **Champagne, the Côte des Blancs** ("hillsides of the whites"), which are covered with Chardonnay grapes. Visit and taste at two of the finest boutique producers of the **Côtes des Blancs**, like **Champagne Agrapart et Fils, Gimmonet or Varnier-Fanniere**. Enjoy lunch along the way. Explore the charming hilltop village of Hautvillers. Here you will visit the abbey and tomb of Dom Perignon, the famous monk so well-known for his contributions to the development of Champagne as we know it today. End the afternoon in Epernay with a tour of the legendary Champagne house of **Moët et Chandon**. Here, you'll have a **private tour devoted to the cuvée Dom Perignon**, which is only made in the best vintage years from 100% Grand Cru grapes. **A tasting of one of the finest vintages of Dom Perignon** will close your visit, **in a private salon with one of Moët's distinguished sommeliers**. Dine once again at your hotel's excellent restaurant (reservations only).

### DAY 3

#### *Reims, Chablis and Burgundy*

**B**

The morning is yours to **discover Reims** or simply relax and enjoy the views and amenities of your hotel. Check out and head towards Burgundy. We'll stop along the way in **Chablis**. Known for its dry white wines made from **100% Chardonnay grapes**, these wines are among the most elegant and sought-after in France. Continue to **Beaune** in the heart of Burgundy. Check into the elegant **4-star Luxury Hotel Le Cep**, ideally located in the very center of Beaune, just around the corner from the Hôtel Dieu (Hospices). You have the evening free tonight to enjoy this charming town and discover its great restaurants, with our suggestions.

**DAY 4***Cote de Nuits***B, L**

Your exploration of Burgundy starts in the place where winemaking first began in this region, the historic **Clos de Vougeot**. This beautiful 13th century monastery is now owned by the **Confrérie du Tastevin**, the famous wine brotherhood of Burgundy. During a fascinating guided tour of the Clos, learn how wine was made in the Middle Ages and see their massive 13th century wine presses that still work to this day! Afterward, you'll taste **Premier and Grand Cru** wines at one of the best producers of Grand Cru appellation Clos de Vougeot. **Lunch will be at the charming country inn (wines included)**. This afternoon includes tastings at two star producers of the **Côtes de Nuits** (we often visit Domaine Henri Rebourseau, Anne Gros, Domaine des Lambrays, among others). You have the evening free tonight to enjoy this charming town and discover its great restaurants, with our suggestions.

**DAY 5***Cote de Beaune***B, L**

Depart for a day in the Côte de Beaune with a visit and tasting at one of the finest domains of appellations like **Meursault, Puligny Montrachet or Volnay**. Enjoy a fun and informative **wine tasting lunch** of delicious local specialties at a local domaine, with up to **12 wines** beautifully paired with your meal. This afternoon you will have your choice of one or two more tastings in the **Côte de Beaune's** most famous appellations. Return to your hotel for an evening on your own.

**DAY 6***Transfer to Dijon***B**

Your program ends after breakfast with a transfer to the Dijon train station, with fond memories of Champagne & Burgundy.

**LEGEND FOR MEALS INCLUDED IN YOUR TOUR: B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner**

*\* Itinerary subject to change: every effort will be made to keep the itinerary as close as possible to what appears here; however, the final itinerary may vary due to wine producer schedules, availability and factors beyond our control.*

---

### **YOUR 6 DAY, 5 NIGHT luxury tour of CHAMPAGNE & BURGUNDY INCLUDES:**

- Deluxe air-conditioned transportation throughout
- Private transfer on the last day of the tour
- The services of an English-speaking wine expert guide throughout the tour
- 2 nights at 4-Star Luxury Relais & Chateau member Les Crayeres in Reims, double occupancy, in Deluxe room
- 3 nights at 4-Star Luxury Hotel le Cep in Beaune, double occupancy, in Junior Suite
- Buffet breakfast each day
- 4 lunches with premium wines, including a special wine tasting lunch with up to 12 wines
- Admission and guided tour at the Clos de Vougeot
- All VIP tours and tastings at the best estates of these regions
- A full packet of information on the region and wine tasting
- All local taxes

**Price based on 2 guests, double occupancy: US \$ 4900 per person**

**Price based on 4 guests, double occupancy: US \$ 3700 per person**

**Price based on 6 guests, double occupancy: US \$ 3200 per person**

*Subject to availability. Single supplement: please inquire. For groups of 7 or more guests: please contact us for a price quote.*

**Not included:** *any personal expenses, or any service not specifically mentioned above as included in the price of your tour.*

#### **WINE CHATEAUX AND ESTATES**

We include only top-quality wine chateaux and estates in our programs. Chateau visits are scheduled by special arrangement, and some chateaux or estates, including any mentioned in the Itinerary, may not be available on your dates. Once you book your program with us, we will contact the estates to determine which are available. If there are specific chateaux or estates you would like to visit, please let us know, and we will contact your preferences first when arranging visits and tastings for you.

### **TO BOOK YOUR TOUR**

Contact us at [info@wine-tours-france.com](mailto:info@wine-tours-france.com) or **1-877-261-1500**.

We accept VISA, MasterCard, American Express, Discover Card or checks or money orders in US Dollars.