

Épernay, Champagne, France

The world's most celebrated wine street runs directly above 110 km of chalk cellars holding 200 million bottles. Épernay is where Champagne is born — and your best chance to drink it at the source.

Barge/river dock (Marne River)

Typical call: full day

Euro (€)

French

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____ Arrive: _____ All aboard: _____

Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Luxury barges moor at Épernay quay or Cumières (10 min away); large river ships coach in from Paris or Château-Thierry

Best For: Champagne tastings, cellar tours, vineyard walks, classic French cuisine

Walk to center: 10–20 min from barge dock to Avenue de Champagne; train station drop-off is 5 min

Don't Miss: Underground cellar tour at Moët & Chandon or Mercier — book months in advance

Getting around: Taxi €8–€20 · Rideshare Uber, Bolt

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Moët & Chandon Cellar Tour** — The world's most famous Champagne house opens its 28 km of chalk cellars to guided tours.
 - Champagne Mercier Train-Ride Tour** — Mercier's audio-guided electric train winds through 18 km of cellars, passing a giant oak cask that holds the equivalent of 200,000 bottles.
 - Balloon Flight over the Champagne Vineyards** — A tethered helium balloon at the foot of the Avenue de Champagne lifts you 150 m above
- the Marne Valley for 360° views over the UNESCO-listed...

 - Grower Champagne & Cheese Tasting at C-Comme** — Ditch the big houses for an afternoon at C-Comme, Épernay's celebrated Champagne bar.
 - Pressoria Sensory Museum (Aÿ-Champagne)** — A 10-minute taxi ride to neighbouring Aÿ reveals this immersive museum in a former Pommery press house.

BEST WALKS

- Avenue de Champagne Stroll** 1.5 km · Flat · 30–45 min walking — Start at the Moët & Chandon gatehouse and walk the full length of the Avenue de Champagne past grand 19th-century Champagne house mansions — Pol Roger, Perrier-Jouët...
- Town Center & Park Loop** 2 km · Flat · 45 min — From the train station, walk to the Parc de l'Hôtel de Ville for the manicured English garden and lake, then detour to Église Notre-Dame for its 16th-century stained...

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		59°	42°	9d
Jun		73°	57°	11d
Aug		76°	59°	10d
Sep		70°	54°	8d
Oct		61°	48°	12d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 6:53AM–8:36PM · Jun 5:39AM–9:50PM · Aug 6:36AM–8:59PM · Sep 7:21AM–7:56PM · Oct 8:05AM–6:53PM

Euro (€)

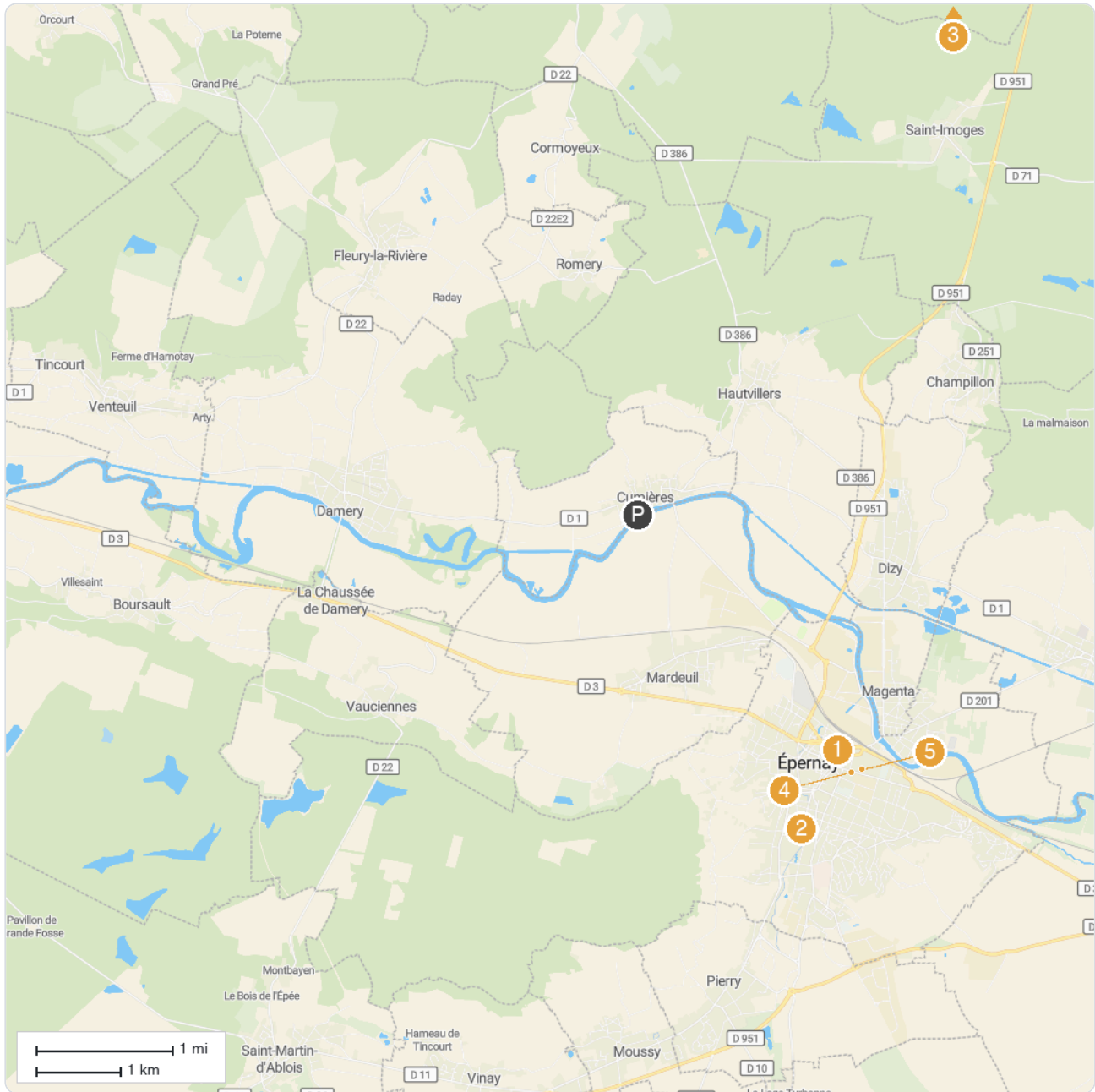
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Book cellar tours before you sail. Moët & Chandon, Mercier, and Perrier-Jouët sell out weeks in advance — especially in summer. Reserve online before your cruise departs.
- Bring a layer for the cellars. Underground Champagne cellars hold a constant 10–12°C (50–54°F) with high humidity year-round. A light jacket and scarf are essential even in July.
- Wear sturdy flat shoes. The Avenue de Champagne and historic cobblestone streets are beautiful but uneven. Leave heels on the ship.
- Avoid Sundays and Mondays for boutiques. Many smaller Champagne houses and local restaurants close mid-week; the major houses (Moët, Mercier) stay open most days but verify hours.
- Consider a grower Champagne. The big houses are iconic, but Épernay's bars and wine shops stock hundreds of small-producer (récoltant-manipulant) Champagnes you can't find at home — often better value too.
- Hautvillers is worth the short cab ride. Dom Pérignon's village (10 min from Épernay) has sweeping vineyard views and a beautiful abbey — a perfect add-on if you have a full day.

Épernay, Champagne, France — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



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| 1 Our Lady Church of Épernay | Historic Catholic church in Épernay's town center. | 2 Église Saint-Pierre et Saint-Paul d'Épernay | Another historic church dedicated to Saints Peter and Paul. |
| 3 Parc naturel régional de la Montagne de Reims | Vast regional natural park for hiking and nature exploration. | 4 Ecomuseums of Œuilly | Rural ecomuseums showcasing local Champagne heritage and traditions. |
| 5 Statue de Dom Perignon | Statue honoring Dom Pérignon, the father of Champagne. | 6 Château Perrier | Historic château, former home of the Perrier-Jouët Champagne house. |
| P Cruise port / terminal | | | |