

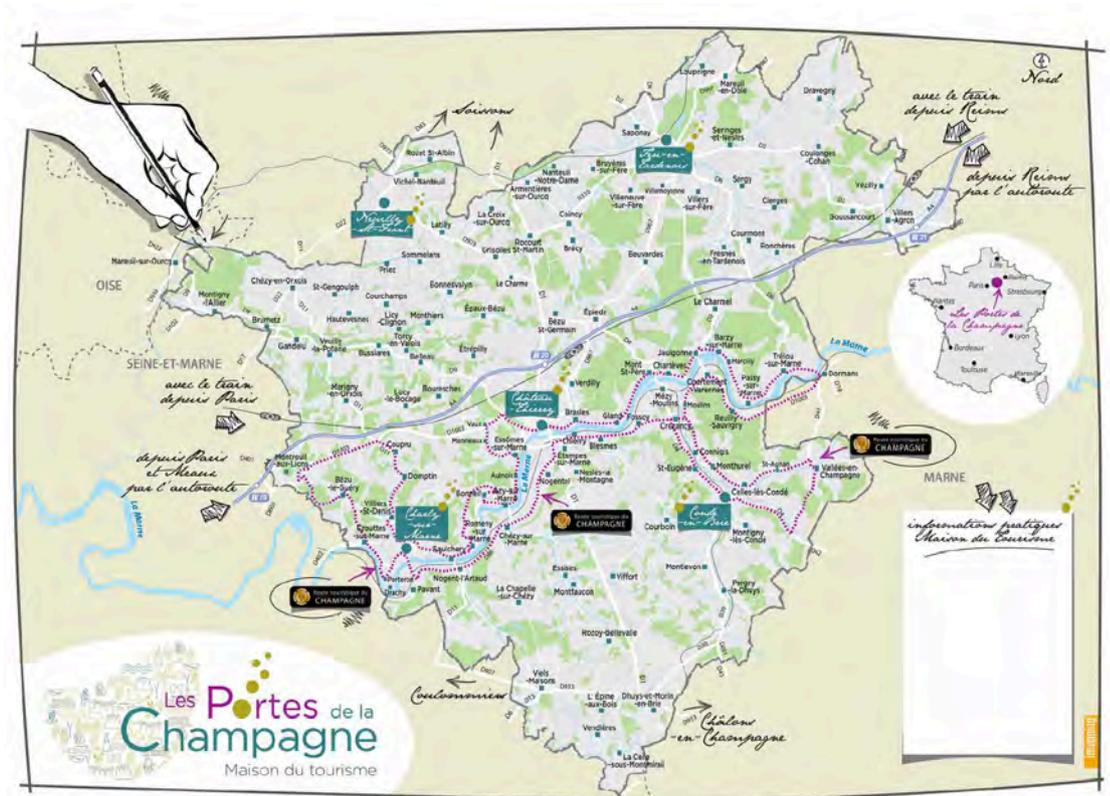
Welcome to the Champagne Gate

Located in the very South of the so-called region Hauts-de-France, the Champagne Gate is a perfect spot on the A4 highway, **halfway between Paris (70km) and Reims (35km).**

Located in the heart of two regions, Champagne-Ardenne and Ile-de-France, the South of Aisne offers a unique identity crossroad: Brie Plains, Champagne vineyards, renowned characters et Marne river embody some of the local treasures.

On this land of famous writers, get a sneak peek at the **Jean de La Fontaine** house, or **Paul Claudel**'s house, before hearing about her sister **Camille Claudel** while walking on a theme path in Villeneuve-sur-Fère, and at the Devil Mount in Coincy.

Open the doors of the rich castle held by the Princes of Condé in Condé-en-Brie. Here, **history and arts are intimately related**, a cultural delight! Unless you prefer to wander on the Surlmelin and Marne rivers shores, kingdom of fishermen, swans and ducks, a true haven of peace. **This territory fulfilled with nature, history, and local products**, has undeniable major assets and gathers all the conditions to offer you **an unforgettable journey in a privileged environment.**



A land of Queen Nature

Crossed from West to East by a long French river, **the land of Champagne lives at the same pace as the Marne river**. Sometimes calm and peaceful, sometimes changing and surprising, here the seasons follow each other but do not look alike.

One constant thing: this land offers all along the year to its visitors a true greenery cocoon, highly appreciated for its peace and its serenity. Here, villages are dotted with gardens, aligned with the seasons' tempo. From Fère-en-Tardenois to Condé-en-Brie, **Nature sets its own pace!**

The Champagne Gate transcends elements. For instance, **the Devil Hill** (“Hottée du Diable” in French), is a site which has been at a time an inspirational spring for Camille Claudel, a home-grown artist. Nowadays, this place offers still an exceptional surrounding, **ideal for recharging one's batteries.**

The Champagne Gate is located at a junction between three distinctive geological identities which create a great diversity of landscapes. From the Tardenois Plateau, and its endless panoramic views, to the Briard valleys, in which peaceful villages curl up into it around Condé-en-Brie, and going through Champagne hillsides which meander along the rivers... **The variety of sceneries of Champagne Gate often are astonishing!**

As an example, in the heart of a nature's jewel, the natural park of Bruyères, and its quiet stretches of water, provides an ideal spot for hiking, biking, in order to keep in shape, fresh air, **as well as sensorial pleasures, and authenticity.**



A land of passion

A so-called Champagne Gate would not have gotten its name if its core product wasn't **the Kings' beverage**.

Indeed, 10% of the worldwide production of Champagne comes from our vineyards which gracefully curve into the hillsides along the Marne river and its tributaries.

Located about an hour from Paris, the Champagne vineyard spreads over 34 000 hectares, and the grapes (mostly Pinot Meunier) are collected by hand, and sent to pressing in order to obtain **this wine of Kings which is worldwide famous for its delicate bubbles**.

The Champagne Gate includes more than a hundred of winemakers proud to be "chamenois", and who will welcome you all along the year.

A promising sparkling experiment!

The cherry on the cake is that, since 2015, "Champagne slopes, Houses and Cellars" are **included on UNESCO's World Heritage list... A must see!**

Beyond Champagne, our land includes a great amount of meat producers, greengrocers, or cheesemakers, all passionate by their work, and involved into organic actions as well as local productions.



Dive into History

At his time, the renowned Jean de La Fontaine said “I am a man of Champagne”. **The most famous French writer was indeed born in Château-Thierry.** He left a great number of marks in our land where he spent a long time walking through castles and forests.

Beyond Jean de La Fontaine, **Camille Claudel, the famous sculptor,** student, muse, and mistress of Auguste Rodin, was born here as well. All her life, she stayed attached to her cherished country.

Also, the local heritage can be seen through the countless castles which witness the Champagne Gate’s history throughout the centuries. From Fère-en-Tardenois to Nesles, stopping by Château-Thierry and Condé-en-Brie, **all architectural styles and histories are there!**

Finally, the Champagne Gate represents an important place of remembrance. Indeed, in 1918, German, French, and American troops fought here, during **the Second Battle of Marne which put an end to the World War I.**

Today, several sites still witness this period, and provide to visitors as many as remembrance sites, places of contemplation, and peace.



Share your crush with your loved ones

Guided tours and scavenger hunts in the castles especially made for kids, but also walks into parks and forests for the whole family, shows, scavenger hunts into the vineyards, or in the heart of Champagne cellars, and guided tours of workshops, educational farms and wine-growing houses... **The Champagne Gate has an abundant selection of activities to offer for all public, especially youth.**

It is an ideal place to welcome all types of visitors, regardless of affinities, or desires.



Where to stay?

Best Western Île-de-France ***

The Best Western Ile-de-France Hotel offers high quality services in Château-Thierry. Its structure built around **a gym and a wellness center** is an undeniable asset if we consider welcoming a sport delegation.

This **3 Stars' Hotel** provides good quality services. Located on the hills of Château-Thierry, it is accessible due to **a close proximity with A4 highway**. The breathtaking view on the Marne Valley allows perfect conditions to disconnect and recharge one's batteries.

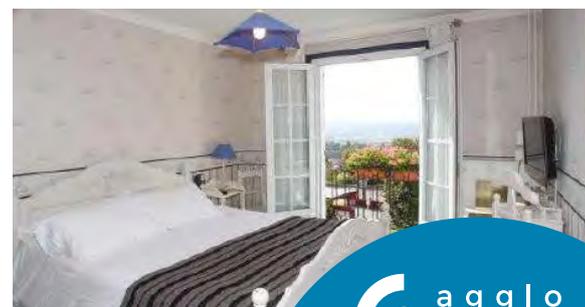
Nowadays, this hotel includes 38 rooms with private bathroom (shower or bath), which are in a rehabilitation process (paint, furniture, bed, air conditioner).

The Hotel Ile-de-France recently owns the gym as well as the wellness center which is located right next to the building. This center includes a pool, a Jacuzzi, a Hamman (steam room), saunas, weight-lifting room, cardio room, and two rooms dedicated to massage.

On the second floor, clients can enjoy adaptable meeting rooms.

This structure is **perfect to welcome a sport delegation as it will allow relaxation and muscular stretch in a private and preserved environment**.

Perks: party hall, conference hall, closed and secure parking lot, pool and spa, wellness center, traditional French cuisine available in the hotel's restaurant.



Where to stay?

Castle of Fère-en-Tardenois *****

The Castle of Fère-en-Tardenois – a **5 Stars accommodation** - offers high quality services in a preserved area. Located on a secure parcel, away from the flow of spectators and visitors, the castle **provides an exclusive and privileged surrounding, with all the necessary facilities.**

This institute provide high quality services. Affiliated to the chain “Chaine Small Luxury Hôtel”, it includes 29 rated bedrooms with shower. Among these 29 bedrooms, it offers 6 suites, 3 family bedrooms (for 4 people), and 2 bedrooms for disable people. The whole capacity of this institute reaches up to 61 beds.

The Castel of Fère provides **a great amount of facilities to turn the journey of its visitors into a great experience:** not only meeting rooms with amenities, reception hall, but also Spa including a shallow pool water, a Hammam, a sauna as well as a wellness space. Finally, the castle has an outdoor pool.

The Castle of Fère runs its own restaurant, which represents a great advantage for welcoming a foreign delegation. **A chef and his staff are staying in to answer all the visitors' expectations.** The food is made out of **a high quality gastronomic and traditional cuisine.** The restaurant reaches a 90-person seating capacity, distributed into 3 rooms, and 20 more seats are available in the terrace.

The quality of service is well known and referenced into renowned guides such as the **“Gault et Millau”, “Michelin”, or “Guide Rouge” ...**

In addition, the hotel is listed into the “Vineyard and Discovery” Label [“Vignoble et Découverte” in French] which highlights the local savoir-faire in wine tourism.





Les Portes de la
Champagne
Maison du tourisme

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