

# PRACTICAL INFORMATION

## CHAMPAGNE REGION - REIMS



### Tourism Office:

- [www.reims-tourisme.com/en/](http://www.reims-tourisme.com/en/)



### Attractions:

- Champagne tourist route: [www.tourisme-en-champagne.co.uk/route-du-champagne](http://www.tourisme-en-champagne.co.uk/route-du-champagne)
- Champagne Taittinger Rue de Tambour: [www.taittinger.com/en/visits-reims](http://www.taittinger.com/en/visits-reims)
- Veuve Clicquot 1 rue Albert Thomas: [www.veuvecliquot.com/en-int/visit-our-cellars](http://www.veuvecliquot.com/en-int/visit-our-cellars)

## RAMBOUILLET – VERSAILLES



### Tourism Office:

- Rambouillet: [www.rambouillet-tourisme.fr/en/](http://www.rambouillet-tourisme.fr/en/)
- Versailles: [en.versailles-tourisme.com/](http://en.versailles-tourisme.com/)



### Attractions:

- Chateau de Rambouillet: [www.chateau-rambouillet.fr/en](http://www.chateau-rambouillet.fr/en)
- Rambolitrain, Place Jeanne d'Arc. Tickets: [www.billetweb.fr/pro/museerambolitrain](http://www.billetweb.fr/pro/museerambolitrain)
- Versailles Palace & Gardens: [en.chateauversailles.fr/](http://en.chateauversailles.fr/)

## BOIS DE VINCENNES



### Tourism Office:

- [www.vincennes-tourisme.fr/en/fiche/bois-de-vincennes-en/](http://www.vincennes-tourisme.fr/en/fiche/bois-de-vincennes-en/)



### Attractions:

- Botanic Garden of Paris: [www.parcfloraldeparis.com/fr/acces](http://www.parcfloraldeparis.com/fr/acces)
- Parc Zoologique de Paris: [www.parczootologiqueparis.fr/en](http://www.parczootologiqueparis.fr/en)

## GIVERNY



### Tourism Office:

- [www.nouvelle-normandie-tourisme.com/en/](http://www.nouvelle-normandie-tourisme.com/en/)



### Attractions:

- Claude Monet's House & Gardens: <https://fondation-monet.com/en/>
- Giverny Museum of Impressionism: <https://www.mdig.fr/en/>



## CHANTILLY / PARC ASTERIX



### Tourism Office:

- [www.chantilly-senlis-tourisme.com/en/](http://www.chantilly-senlis-tourisme.com/en/)

### Attractions:

- Chateau de Chantilly, including the grounds and Stables, and the Condé Museum: [chateaudechantilly.fr/en/](http://chateaudechantilly.fr/en/)
- Park Astérix: Book park tickets and on-site hotels with [holidays@irishferries.com](mailto:holidays@irishferries.com)



## MEAUX / DISNEYLAND PARIS



### Tourism Office:

- Meaux tourism office: [www.meaux-marne-ourcq.com/en/](http://www.meaux-marne-ourcq.com/en/)

### Attractions:

- Saint-Étienne cathedral: Free entry
- Musée Bossuet & Gardens: <https://www.musee-bossuet.fr/en/>
- House of Brie de Meux: info/tickets available on Meaux tourism office website
- Musée de la Grande Guerre: <https://www.museedelagrandeguerre.com/en/home/>
- Disneyland Paris: Book park tickets and nearby hotels with [holidays@irishferries.com](mailto:holidays@irishferries.com)



## TRANSPORT AROUND PARIS

- Metro/RER: Information, maps ticket prices on <https://www.ratp.fr/en>
- TGV/TER/SNCF: [www.sncf-connect.com/en-en/](http://www.sncf-connect.com/en-en/)
- Car: Paris is part of a permanent low-emissions zone (ZCR), designed to reduce CO<sup>2</sup> emissions in major cities
  - Some very polluting vehicles may have restrictions including being banned from entry, check your car here: <https://certificat-air.gouv.fr/simulation>
  - Display of a "Crit'Air" sticker is required to be allowed entry during certain times, even for foreign registered cars
  - Apply ahead of time on the official website [www.certificat-air.gouv.fr/](http://www.certificat-air.gouv.fr/)



# GREAT ESCAPES

## WITHIN 1 HOUR OF PARIS



### GIVERNY

Car: 3 hours from Cherbourg and Calais ports  
Train: Vernon to Paris St. Lazare from 55 minutes (Vernon 7km by car, bus or taxi to Giverny)



### REIMS / CHAMPAGNE

TGV: Reims → Paris Gare de l'Est, from 46 minutes



### RAMBOUILLET / VERSAILLES

TER: Rambouillet → Paris Gare de Montparnasse, from 36 minutes  
RER Line C: Versailles Château River Gauche station



### BOIS DE VINCENNES

Metro Line 1: Château de Vincennes station



### CHANTILLY / PARC ASTERIX

TER: Chantilly Gouvieux → Paris Gare de Nord, from 24 minutes  
Parc Astérix: A1 motorway, between exits 7 & 8. Park shuttle Paris CDG T3 RER Line B



### MEAUX / DISNEYLAND PARIS

TER: Meaux → Paris Gare de l'Est, from 39 mins  
Disneyland Paris:  
Car: Blvd de Parc, 77700 Coupvray  
Train: RER Line A to Marne-la-Vallée/Chessy



IRISH FERRIES

Sea travel differently

Want to combine Paris with your France family holiday but without the cost of staying in central **Paris** and the hassle of driving into the city? Here's our guide to some great locations just outside Paris, whilst allowing you to easily access the sights and delights of the capital city. Base yourself in the calm and beauty of these lovely areas, whilst also enjoying the key Parisian landmarks - the **Eiffel tower** or the **Champs Élysées** spanning from the **Arc de Triomphe** to the **Place de la Concorde**, and much, much more.



Arc de Triomphe

### Giverny

On the way from the ferry port to the environs of **Paris**, **Giverny**, on the banks of the river **Seine** in **Normandy**, is well worth a stop.

Claude Monet lived here for many years until his death in 1926, and his house and exuberantly colourful gardens, including his famous Japanese inspired water garden complete with lily ponds, can be visited. In the small village of **Giverny**, stop by the **Museum of Impressionism**, built on a hillside, in the very place where Monet painted his famous "Haystacks" in the 1890s. A few steps away is the **Hotel Baudy**, an old boarding house visited by artists like Cézanne and Rodin, and now a café and restaurant. Finally, further on **Claude Monet street** is **Sainte-Radegonde church**, the final resting place of Monet where you can pay homage at his flower filled family grave, as well as visit some WWII memorials.



Giverny Gardens

### Reims

Next stop is the famous **Champagne** region, which surrounds **Paris** on the northeast side, with the city of **Reims** the gateway to the region. Easily accessible from **Paris** by TGV, it's hillside vines, houses and cellars are considered so special that they are on the UNESCO World Heritage List.

In the heart of the historic city centre,



Cathédrale Notre-Dame de Reims

is one of the most impressive gothic cathedrals in Europe, **Cathédrale Notre Dame de Reims** and the place where 25 French monarchs were crowned King of France. Even older is the **Porte de Mars**, a 3<sup>rd</sup> century triumphal arch and the widest remaining Roman archway in the world.

**Reims** was badly affected by World War I, but with the rebuilding effort in the 1920's and 1930's, wonderful Art Deco architecture can be enjoyed in the market area of **Halles du Boulingrin**, the **Carnegie Library**, and the **Opera of Reims**.

Visiting some of the world-famous **Champagne** houses is essential to the region, with an extensive **Champagne Tourist Route** to discover, fully mapped among the vineyards and terraced hillsides where villages, châteaux, and churches are nestled.



Champagne Tourist Route

Within **Reims**, focus on Saint Nicaise Hill where you can visit famous producers such as **Tattinger**, **Veuve Clicquot** or **Pommery**.



Château de Rambouillet

### Rambouillet

Or head south to the royal town of **Rambouillet**, which lies on the edge of a vast 200km<sup>2</sup> forest, and is famous for its historical castle, the 14<sup>th</sup> century **Château de Rambouillet**, which used to be King Louis XVI's residence in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Outside are magnificent grounds featuring canals, as well as formal landscaped gardens.

And not to be missed by train enthusiasts - the **Rambolitrain** museum devoted to model railways and toy trains, with an exhibition of no fewer than 4,000 collector's pieces!



Rambolitrain

**Paris** is less than 1 hour from **Rambouillet**, and it's also perfectly located for visits to the nearby magnificent **Versailles** and its royal

palace and gardens, as well as its equestrian academy.

### Bois de Vincennes

Closer to Paris is the **Bois de Vincennes**, on the southeastern edge of the capital and the largest public park in the city. It houses the city's Zoo **Parc Zoologique de Paris**, as well as the magnificent **Parc Floral de Paris**, a botanical park with exciting playgrounds for older children. Previously royal hunting grounds, there is a royal château, **Château de Vincennes**, with massive fortifications and a moat, boats to rent on the lakes and ample green lawns to picnic on. It's a great base on the outskirts of **Paris** away from the concrete of the city, but still on the city's metro line.



Bois de Vincennes

### Chantilly

Why not base yourself less than 30 mins from Paris by train in **Chantilly**, the place that gives its name to the sweet, whipped cream (believed to have been created by a chef in the town's château kitchens in the 17th century) but also famous for its equine heritage and racecourse. That chateau is the beautiful **Château de Chantilly** which along with its Great Stables featured prominently in the



Château de Chantilly



Condé Museum

Bond movie "A View to a Kill". It is home to the **Condé Museum**, one of the greatest art collections in France, and the **Museum of the Horse** dedicated to equine art and culture and with plenty of fascinating facts about horses.

Just 20 kms away is **Parc Astérix**, the 2nd largest theme park in France with up to 50 attractions and live shows as well as on-site hotels. Based on the comic book series, it is especially renowned for its thrilling roller coaster rides, incorporating themes from the history depicted by cartoon character **Astérix the Gaul**.

### Meaux

Not far is **Meaux**, a former episcopal

city with a wealth of well-preserved heritage, situated on the **Marne** river and famous for its **Brie de Meaux**, as well as its mustard. The town's landmark site in the historic centre is the gothic **Saint-Étienne** cathedral built from the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> centuries, and the nearby **Bossuet museum**, a former episcopal palace now dedicated to the art and history of the city, complete with stunning formal gardens, the **Jardin Bossuet**. Also in the town is the famous **Musée de la Grande Guerre** - the largest museum in Europe on World War 1 and a must-see attraction for history buffs.

For those more interested in gastronomy, the **Maison of Brie de Meaux** gives the history of this famous cheese, and showcases the different stages of production, from the milk harvest to maturing in the cellar.



Brie de Meaux cheese

Just 20 minutes away in the Marne valley, and needing little introduction, is the magic of **Disneyland Paris**, where young and old can be enthralled in the 2 parks (**Disneyland Park** and **Walt Disney Studios Park**), as well as the **Disney Village** with its shops, restaurants and shows.



Meaux on the Marne river