

## REVIEWS

PUBLISHED ON JANUARY 17, 2020 — LEAVE A COMMENT

### REVIEW: ROYAL CHAMPAGNE HOTEL & SPA, FRANCE



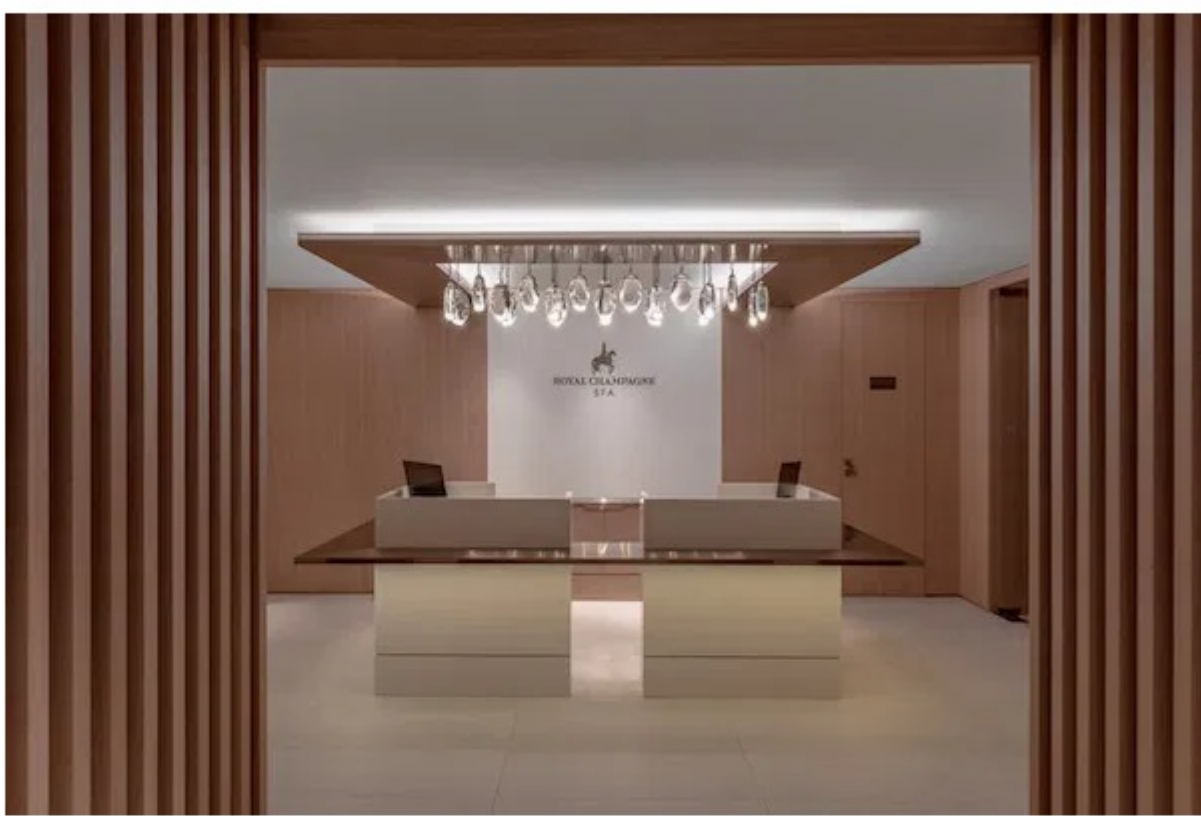
The Royal Champagne Hotel & Spa has set a new standard for contemporary luxury spa and wellness in the Champagne region of Northern France. Set on a hill overlooking the town of Epernay and the small villages of Champillon and Hautvillers, the hotel is within easy reach of Paris (around an hour) and a world away from the hustle and bustle of the city. It offers a real retreat, a destination in itself. Yes it's a great place to explore the region, but you could easily stay for a few days without leaving and feel totally and thoroughly at peace.



Opened in mid 2018, the Royal Champagne Hotel & Spa has just 47 rooms set over two floors with two dining delights sited on the top floor. You are in for a gastronomic treat overseen by two Michelin star executive chef Jean-Denis Rieubland. For fine dining reserve a table at the Michelin star Le Royal, and for a more casual, all-day restaurant, Le Bellevue is the place to be. Champagne is the order of the house and there are 257 varieties on offer including small producers and bio and organic options. The staff are well versed in the intricacies of production and tasting can be arranged during your stay.



The hotel is built to maximise the view and it does with at every opportunity. The rooms (all simply and elegantly decorated) look out across the landscaped draped in vineyards. The super comfy beds ensure a perfect night's sleep and each room has a large footprint which feels spacious and comfortable.



#### The spa at Royal Champagne Hotel & Spa

The spa is modern, flooded with natural day light and ever so chic. It's a massive space covering 1500 sqm. The panoramic windows offer the most magnificent views across the vineyards of Champagne. It's hard to beat. You can spend your days lazing by the pool or relaxing on a sunlounger on the terrace. The 25metre indoor pool is ideal for serious swimming or you can take a more leisurely dip in the infinity edge pool. It's impressive at every turn. On the upper floor you will find the eucalyptus infused sauna, and hamman steam room resplendent in gold mosaic tiles. The relaxation lounge with another hot tub –on this level also offers more magnificent views. There's a great yoga studio on site and a well-equipped studio with the latest Technogym kit. You can opt for a manicure or pedicure, book time in the couple's suite or enjoy one of the unique highly customised facials from acclaimed French brand Biologique Recherche. My facial was excellent. Targeted, personalised and detailed. I loved it.



The French brand Kos is used for the body therapies and it's great to discover another brand. Pre-massage you are offered four different blends for the massage. It used long flowing strokes and was gentle and relaxing.

The nine treatment rooms are very spacious and decorated in pale wood and gold mosaics. This colour theme runs through the spa and ensures that at every turn you are bathed in a warming golden honey toned light. Even on a grey dull day – the light floods the spa and gives a warming effect. It's a delight.



#### The best bits at Royal Champagne Hotel & Spa

Biologique Recherche customised facial

Swimming in the infinity edge pool overlooking the vineyards

Relaxing with herbal tea looking at the incredible views

Being able to swim full lengths in the 25-metre indoor pool

Cycling through the forest to Hautvillers on the e-bike (borrow from reception).



#### Room to improve

Great to see metal straws in the restaurant, but there were small plastic bottles of water in the gym and hotel room. Would be great to ditch those.

Sauna and steam room are quite away from the main wet areas and the positioning of a hot tub in the relaxation area is odd.



#### The details:

The nightly room rate starts from €385 in an entry-level Garden Junior Suite, which is currently approx. £326, B&B. The customised facial starts from €125 for one hour (Mon-Fri) or from €145 (weekends and Bank Holidays) [www.royalchampagne.com](http://www.royalchampagne.com)

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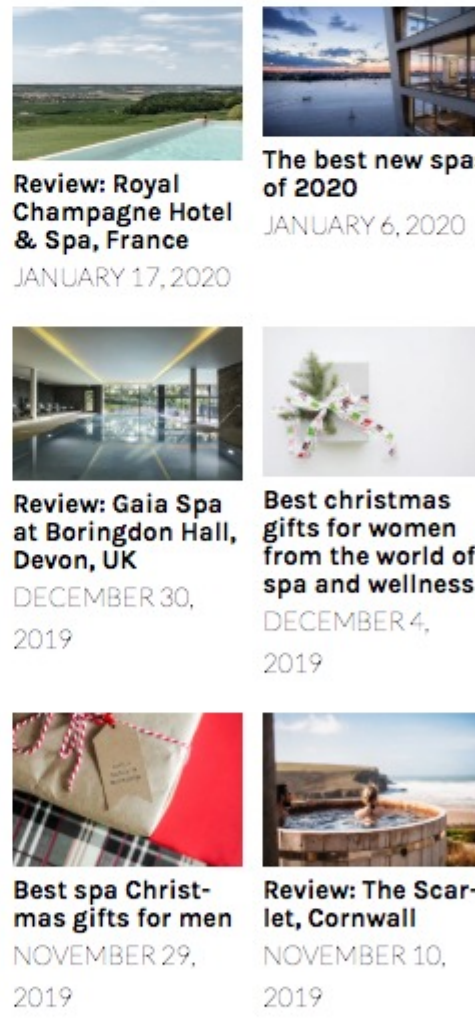
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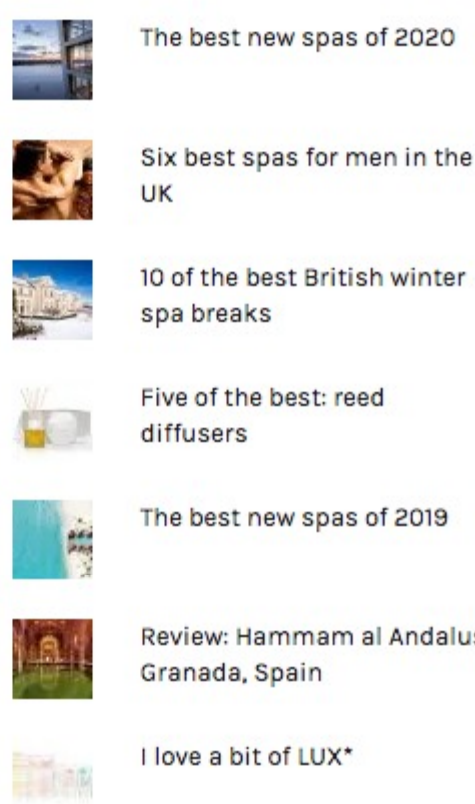
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AUTHOR: MARK SMITH

Welcome to The Spa Man, the spa and male grooming blog that focuses on spa news and treatment reviews plus the latest products launches from the world of spa and male grooming.

Travelling around the world, I report on the best spas and best spa treatments whilst testing out the latest spa products, wellness treatments and best male grooming products from moisturisers and shower gels to shaving products and face masks.

Giving a unique perspective on the world of spa and wellness, I review products on their merits with an honest and frank approach. I visit each spa in the review section, so you can be sure you get the inside story on the best spas around.