

# Hospitality Interiors

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# Hotel Royal Champagne

Epernay, France

Overlooking the vineyards that stripe the hills of France's Champagne region, the newly-renovated Royal Champagne Hotel & Spa reimagines the wine-country retreat.





In the heart of historic hillsides, the hotel's contemporary architecture blends into nature and favours an unobstructed view of the three Champagne spots, listed as UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

The original property had been closed since 2014 after it was acquired by Boston-based Champagne Hospitality collection, a group of boutique luxury hotels and spas that includes the award-winning Le Barthelemy Hotel & Spa in St. Barths.

For the decoration, the owners turned to Sybille de Margerie, who drew inspiration from the vine, and has helped restore all prestige to this luxurious property. The decoration project incorporates the history of this former coaching inn, where the kings of France stopped on their way to their coronation in Reims – then after, Napoleon and his generals. Today, it is the ideal base for exploring the most famous Champagne houses.



“Transparent and delicate, the natural materials, blonde wood and coloured glass are inspired by champagne bubbles”



Transparent and delicate, the natural materials, blonde wood and coloured glass are inspired by champagne bubbles. Shoots of vines here and there symbolise the history, the heritage and the land passed down from generation to generation. The atmosphere is warm – the round shapes are inspired by barrels weathered by time.

From the lobby acting as a vast living room, a huge chandelier of crystal flowers captures guests' attention. Bathed in light, this space hosts a large fireplace and a contemporary wood-panelled library. Intimate, it is conducive to tasting a selection of the best champagne.

With skylights in the heart of the lobby, the monumental spiral staircase leads to the lounges and restaurant located on the first floor.

The Royal, a recently awarded gastronomic restaurant, is composed of a round room furnished at its centre with a large table lit

by a monumental chandelier in amber glass bubbles. The cutlery is set under the complicit look of the elegant women invited by Napoleon. They are painted on four large screens standing in front of the walls with golden gradients.

A bistronomic restaurant, the Bellevue is a continuation of the bar. It opens onto the terraces and offers a beautiful panorama of the vineyards. The tones are soft and recall the history of the post house with its riders' hand-painted on the walls in shades of an autumn vine. The sober materials respond to the lightness and fragility of crystal pendants suspended in the centre of the restaurant. The real magic happens in the evening, when the lights are metamorphosed into suspended drops of water.

Composed of 49 rooms on two levels, the hotel offers a serene and poetic atmosphere. The range of colours revolves around two





worlds – from yellow to wine-red. The Joséphine suite is unique, dressed in a very soft blue, recalling the Empress' damask fabrics. All rooms have views of the vineyards.

Each guest enters a setting of resolutely contemporary comfort. A subtle blend of pastel and acid tones brings a softness to the space. The wall hangings designed by Sybille de Margerie represent a pattern with monochrome grape leaves.

Royal Champagne Hotel & Spa is home to the region's first world-class destination spa, spanning 16,000ft<sup>2</sup>. The calm of the reception is accentuated by long mosaic fountains. The relaxation area, with its cocoons of bamboo, the softness of its lighting and the vine leaves carved on the wall, echoes the surrounding landscape. In partnership with acclaimed French brand Biologique Recherche, the wellness centre comprises of nine treatment rooms, state-of-the-art fitness facilities, a wood-lined yoga studio, eucalyptus-infused sauna, manicure and pedicure stations, and a mosaic-tiled Hammam, while the play of light surrounding the chaises longues-lined swimming pools with breathtaking views of the vineyard completes the experience.

[www.royalchampagne.com](http://www.royalchampagne.com)  
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