



Absa Champagne In Africa Festival

EST 2002

Where French chic meets
African luxury

Champagne house vintner booklet

Your
story
matters



A toast to our sponsorship story

As a proud sponsor of the Champagne in Africa Festival, we are honoured to celebrate the resilience and triumphs that define Africa's spirit. This exclusive event, which showcases premium Champagnes and cultural experiences, mirrors Absa's commitment to African excellence, growth and heritage.

By supporting this event, we embrace the stories of success shared by our clients while blending tradition with innovation to reflect the continent's past, present and future triumphs.

That's how we're invested in your story.



"In an era defined by transformation, Absa Corporate and Investment Banking continues to pioneer solutions that empower our clients to succeed across Africa and beyond. Through innovation, digital excellence and trusted partnerships, we are redefining what it means to write success stories and to grow sustainably in a global economy."

Absa Interim CEO, Name Surname



Region of Champagne

The Champagne region, located in northeastern France, is the birthplace of the world's most celebrated sparkling wine. Spanning roughly 34 000 hectares, it is often divided into four main areas – the Montagne de Reims, Vallée de la Marne, Côte des Blancs and Côte des Bar – each contributing distinct character to Champagne's signature style.

The region's cool climate, chalk-rich soils and centuries of craftsmanship combine to create wines of remarkable freshness, minerality and finesse. These natural advantages, paired with generations of innovation and tradition, have earned Champagne its protected Appellation d'Origine Contrôlée (AOC) status – ensuring that only sparkling wines produced within this region may bear its name.

**More than a place,
Champagne represents a
heritage of celebration and
excellence that continues
to inspire the world.**

Les Maisons de Champagne

Lanson
Pol Roger
Jacquesson
Drappier
Moët & Chandon
Veuve Clicquot
Maison Ruinart
Lemaire
Ernest Rapeneau
GH Mumm
Perrier-Jouët
Louis Roederer
Legras & Haas
Jacquinot
Pommery
Nicolas Feuillatte
Besserat de Bellefon

Billecart-Salmon
Bruno Paillard
Deutz
EPC
Baron Albert
Marc Hebrart
Muntz
Laurent-Perrier
Taittinger
Alfred Gratien
Victoire
Duval Leroy
De Venoge
Phillipponnat
Chavost
Dhondt-Grellet
Pascal Doquet



Lanson

Masters of craft since 1760
Lanson, it's all about Love

Heritage

Founded in 1760, Lanson stands among Champagne's oldest houses, long admired by nobility and served in royal courts across Europe. For over two and a half centuries, the house has embodied elegance and authenticity, crafting wines that embody the grace and spirit of its storied past.

Craft

Drawing fruit from 800 hectares of vineyards dominated by Pinot Noir and Chardonnay, Lanson remains distinctive for its refusal to undergo malolactic fermentation, – a choice that preserves the natural freshness and vivid acidity of the wines. Its celebrated Black Label Brut captures this signature crispness, while the Extra Age collection reveals the house's mastery of time and complexity.



Did you know

Lanson was one of the first Champagne houses to receive the Royal Warrant from Queen Victoria

Pol Roger

Since 1849

There is that moment when the spirit of Pol Roger is revealed. One may think one knows Champagne and yet, that day, one truly discovers it.

Heritage

Founded in 1849, Pol Roger stands as a symbol of timeless elegance and sophistication. Beloved by Winston Churchill – who famously called it “the most drinkable address in the world” – the house has remained family-owned for over 175 years, preserving a legacy defined by integrity, refinement and quiet excellence.

Craft

With more than 90 hectares of vineyards in the heart of Champagne, Pol Roger is celebrated for its devotion to Pinot Noir, artfully blended with Chardonnay and Pinot Meunier. Extended ageing on lees imparts a signature creaminess and depth, reflected in the harmonious Brut Réserve and the powerful, age-worthy Cuvée Sir Winston Churchill, crafted only in exceptional vintages.



Did you know

Pol Roger was the Champagne poured at the wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, an elegant tribute to the house's royal and historical allure.

Jacquesson

Established in 1798

*A unique Champagne house
combining tradition and audacity.*

Heritage

Founded in 1798, Jacquesson stands among Champagne's oldest and most respected houses. Since the 1980s, brothers Jean-Hervé and Laurent Chiquet have upheld its legacy while boldly reimagining its approach: reducing production to focus on precision and the honest expression of terroir.

Craft

Rooted in Dizy, Jacquesson champions sustainable viticulture and minimal intervention, crafting wines that speak purely of their origins. Drawing from Premier Cru vineyards planted with Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Pinot Meunier, the house's celebrated 700 Series captures the nuances of each harvest, while its Avize Grand Cru reveals a strikingly mineral, citrus-driven elegance.

CHAMPAGNE
JACQUESSON
— DEPUIS 1798 —

Did you know

Jacquesson was the first Champagne house to secure its bottles with corks and wire cages – a now-universal innovation that revolutionised the industry.

Jacquesson Champagne was rumoured to be Napoleon Bonaparte's favourite.

Drappier

Maison Familiale Depuis 1808

Heritage

Founded in 1808, Drappier is a rare gem among Champagne houses. It is still family-owned and proudly independent after eight generations. Based in Urville in the Côte des Bar, the Drappier family has long balanced respect for tradition with a forward-thinking spirit, becoming a quiet pioneer of sustainable and environmentally conscious Champagne making.

Craft

Set in the limestone-rich soils of the Côte des Bar, Drappier is celebrated for its devotion to Pinot Noir and its revival of nearly forgotten grape varieties such as Arbane. The house's commitment to purity is reflected in its low-sulphur approach, allowing the wines' natural character to shine. The flagship Brut Nature exemplifies crisp minerality and precision, while the Grande Sendrée reveals remarkable depth, elegance, and subtle spice.



Did you know

Charles de Gaulle was an admirer of Drappier Champagne and frequently chose it for state banquets at his residence in Colombey-les-Deux-Églises.

Moët & Chandon

*Celebrating since 1743
Share the magic of
Champagne with the world.*

Heritage

From the heart of Épernay, Moët & Chandon has long defined celebrations. For over two centuries, the house has refined the art of Champagne, from royal courts to red carpets, creating a universal symbol of triumph and glamour.

Craft

With 1 200 hectares of vineyards across Champagne's top crus, Moët & Chandon blends tradition with modern innovation, maturing grapes in deep chalk cellars. The house's focus on Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Pinot Meunier ensures precise balance, bright fruit expression and refined structure. The Moët Impérial Brut is celebrated for its vibrancy and elegance, while Dom Pérignon showcases the pinnacle of complexity and finesse.



Did you know

Moët & Chandon is the official Champagne of the Oscars, served at the Academy Awards' most exclusive celebrations.

Veuve Clicquot

*Born in 1772
Only one quality, the finest.*

Heritage

Founded in 1772, Veuve Clicquot owes its enduring success to Madame Clicquot, a visionary widow who transformed the Champagne industry in the early 19th century. Madame Clicquot reimagined her late husband's business into one of the world's most admired houses. Her spirit of bold innovation and elegance continues to shape the brand's identity today.

Craft

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Did you know

Veuve Clicquot hosts Clicquot Polo Classic events in New York and Los Angeles, where Champagne, sport and style meet under the golden sun.

Maison Ruinart

*Fine Champagne since 1729.
The House of Ruinart
is unlike any other.*

Heritage

Ruinart stands as the oldest Champagne house, founded when Nicolas Ruinart recognised the allure of sparkling wine and devoted his family's legacy entirely to it. Deep beneath Reims, its chalk cellars, carved from ancient quarries, preserve the spirit of craftsmanship and quiet refinement that has endured for nearly three centuries.

Craft

Ruinart emphasises Chardonnay grown in the finest vineyards of the Côte des Blancs and Montagne de Reims. The house carefully tends its historic vineyards with respect for nature, ensuring that each grape reaches its full potential. Aged in the famous chalk cellars, Ruinart's Champagnes develop a graceful balance, refined elegance, and a distinct expression of their unique terroir.



Did you know

Ruinart has become the Champagne of choice at Art Basel and leading contemporary art fairs worldwide, reflecting its deep connection to creativity and culture.

Roger-Constant Lemaire

*Domain since 1860.
Legacy rooted in the
heart of Champagne.*

Heritage

Founded in the late 19th century in Hautvillers and later established in Villers-sous-Châtillon, Champagne Roger-Constant Lemaire remains proudly family-owned through five generations. The house has built its reputation on independence and a deep respect for the terroir of the Marne Valley.

Craft

Lemaire's Champagnes are defined by purity and precision, produced without malolactic fermentation, fining or filtration to preserve natural freshness. Grown on limestone-rich soils, the family's Pinot Noir, Chardonnay and Pinot Meunier grapes are cultivated sustainably, with hand harvesting and eco-friendly practices that highlight the minerality of the Marne Valley. The house's flagship Cuvée Trianon, a blend of Pinot Noir and Chardonnay aged for at least four years, exemplifies the Lemaire signature.



Did you know

The Roger-Constant Lemaire story began with Désiré Lemaire, a gardener and poet whose love of the land led him to buy the first plots that now form the family's vineyards.

Ernest Rapeneau

*Masters of craft
since 1901*

Heritage

Founded in 1901 in the village of Hautvillers – the recognised cradle of Champagne – by Ernest Rapeneau, the house has remained family-run through multiple generations with a steadfast dedication to quality and tradition.

Craft

Ernest Rapeneau works with vineyards across 52 villages – among the 319 in Champagne – to ensure terroir diversity and signature style. Their expertise covers all seasonal vineyard work and winemaking processes from vine to bottle. The house's Brut Rosé was honoured when winemaker Christophe Rapeneau was awarded "Sparkling Winemaker of the Year" at the International Wine Challenge in 2017.



CHAMPAGNE
ERNEST RAPENEAU

Did you know

Hidden beneath Château de Bligny, the Rapeneau family's stately home, is an unexpected delight – a secret cellar nightclub, reserved for special celebrations and private events.

G.H. Mumm

*At the heart of Champagne
since 1827*

Heritage

Founded in 1827, G.H. Mumm is celebrated for its bold red ribbon, inspired by the Légion d'Honneur – France's highest order of merit. Established by the Mumm family of German origin, the house has built its legacy on a spirit of innovation and excellence, combining tradition with a forward-looking approach that continues to define its character today.

Craft

Drawing fruit from prime Grand Cru vineyards, Mumm is renowned for its Pinot Noir-driven style: structured, vibrant and full of energy. Modern winemaking techniques complement centuries of savoir-faire, producing Champagnes of clarity and precision. The signature Cordon Rouge embodies this dynamic balance, while the RSRV collection showcases the house's finest vintage expressions.



Did you know

G.H. Mumm has long been associated with celebration and victory, most famously as the official Champagne of Formula 1 from 2000 to 2015, where it became an enduring symbol of triumph.

Louis Roederer

*Outstanding Maison
since 1811*

Heritage

Founded in 1776, Louis Roederer stands as one of Champagne's most esteemed and enduring family-owned houses. Its reputation for excellence was cemented in the 19th century through its close ties to the Russian Imperial Court and the creation of Cristal, the world's first prestige cuvée, crafted exclusively for Tsar Alexander II.

Craft

With around 240 hectares of estate-owned vineyards, Louis Roederer champions a biodynamic and sustainable approach that nurtures the health of the soil and the integrity of the fruit. Focusing primarily on Pinot Noir and Chardonnay, the house's meticulous viticulture and gentle vinification yield Champagnes of purity and remarkable ageing potential. Cristal embodies Roederer's quest for harmony and finesse, while Brut Premier remains a timeless expression of balance and elegance.



Did you know

Cristal was originally created in 1876 for Tsar Alexander II, who requested that the Champagne be bottled in clear crystal glass to display its golden brilliance.

Legras & Haas

*Established
in 1991*

Heritage

Established in 1991 by François Legras and his wife Brigitte Haas in Chouilly, Legras & Haas draws on a family lineage of grape-growing in the region spanning four centuries. Today, the estate is run by their three sons, Rémi, Olivier and Jérôme, who are now steering the vineyard, the cellar and the business.

Craft

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Did you know

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Jacquinot

Founded in 1947

Heritage

The estate traces its roots back to the French Revolution and was developed by Pierre Jacquinot. In 1947, Pierre and his sons Jacques and Jean-Guy formally established the brand “Jacquinot & Fils” in Épernay. Today, the 17-hectare family vineyard remains under the stewardship of the next generation, continuing its legacy in the heart of the Champagne region.

Craft

Jacquinot & Fils cultivates the three classic Champagne grape varieties: Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Pinot Meunier. The estate is committed to sustainable viticulture and clearly emphasises terroir, for example, through its 100% Chardonnay “Blanc de Blancs” single-plot from “L’Almeida”. Winemaking is rooted in tradition and done on-site, including the use of the original press installed in 1929.



Did you know

Jacquinot & Fils is vegan-friendly: the house states that it practices “durable viticulture and oenology” with no proteins used in fining.

Pommery

Founded in 1858
Qualité d'abord.

Heritage

Pommery, originally founded as Pommery & Greno in 1836 in Reims, France, entered a pivotal chapter when Madame Jeanne-Alexandrine Pommery took the reins following her husband's death in 1858, directing the house's transformation into a Champagne specialist. She commissioned the construction of vast chalk-cellar galleries beneath Saint-Nicaise Hill in 1868, creating what was described as "the construction site of the century".

Craft

Pommery is celebrated for pioneering the Brut style of Champagne: in 1874, Madame Pommery launched what became the first commercial "brut" Champagne, breaking with the tradition of very sweet wines. The house emphasises finesse, freshness and elegance – "delicacy and liveliness, heart and soul" are words used to describe its style. Its estate owns and cultivates 255 hectares and participates in sustainable viticulture practices.



Did you know

The underground cellars of Pommery host not only ageing wines, but also contemporary art exhibitions, underlining the house's fusion of tradition and modernity.

Nicolas Feuillatte

*First established in 1976
The Champagne of
free spirits.*

Heritage

Founded as a brand in 1976 by entrepreneur Nicolas Feuillatte and later incorporated in 1986 into the cooperative group Centre Vinicole - Champagne Nicolas Feuillatte, Nicolas Feuillatte is one of the youngest of the major Champagne houses, yet has grown rapidly to become France's best-selling Champagne brand.

Craft

The house is built on the collective effort of some 5 000 wine-growers across Champagne, drawing from a remarkable variety of crus – including 11 of the 17 Grand Crus and 26 of the 42 Premier Crus – to allow wide blending possibilities that deliver the house style: precision, elegance and finesse. Their signature non-vintage cuvée, the Réserve Exclusive Brut, is widely available and represents the house's accessible flagship.



Did you know

Nicolas Feuillatte was a former African-coffee-bean tycoon and jet-setting socialite, rubbing shoulders on the golf course with the Kennedys and Aristotle Onassis.

Besserat de Bellefon

*Founded in 1843.
A history intimately
linked to the French
“art de vivre”.*

Heritage

Founded in 1843, Besserat de Bellefon became renowned for creating Champagnes with a lighter, more delicate effervescence, designed specifically to complement food. This refined style has made it a favourite in fine-dining establishments worldwide.

Craft

Drawing grapes from Premier Cru vineyards, Besserat de Bellefon focuses on Chardonnay and Pinot Noir. Traditional winemaking techniques – including minimal dosage and extended lees ageing – enhance the Champagne’s finesse, subtlety and balanced flavours. The Cuvée des Moines exemplifies the house’s signature approach with delicate bubbles and nuanced complexity.



Did you know

Besserat de Bellefon’s Champagnes have been served at official French presidential dinners, underscoring their status as wines of elegance and distinction.

Billecart-Salmon

*It all started in 1818.
Give priority to quality,
strive for excellence.*

Heritage

Billecart-Salmon has remained a family-owned estate for over seven generations, since its founding in 1818. Its origins trace back to the marriage of Nicolas François Billecart and Elisabeth Salmon, uniting two families passionate about winemaking. Today, the house continues to uphold a tradition of elegance, precision and refinement in every bottle.

Craft

Located in Mareuil-sur-Aÿ, the estate cultivates Pinot Noir, Chardonnay and Pinot Meunier in cool, favourable conditions. Traditional methods – including extended lees ageing – combine with sustainable practices to produce Champagnes of finesse and balanced structure. The hallmark Brut Rosé exemplifies the house's dedication to delicate aromas and precision.



Did you know

Billecart-Salmon's Brut Rosé is widely acclaimed as one of the world's finest rosé Champagnes.

Bruno Paillard

*Established in 1981
A very personal style.*

Heritage

Founded in 1981 by Bruno Paillard in Reims, this independent Champagne house quickly established itself with a focus on elegance and refinement. Despite its relative youth, it has earned a reputation for crafting precise, characterful Champagnes that respect the traditions of the region.

Craft

Bruno Paillard works with vineyards across key Crus, including several Grands and Premiers Crus. The house is known for meticulous attention to detail: only the first-press juice is used, wines are aged longer on the lees for complexity and a light dosage ensures freshness and balance. This approach produces wines that are expressive yet elegant, highlighting the natural character of the grapes and terroir.

CHAMPAGNE
BRUNO PAILLARD
REIMS - FRANCE

Did you know

Bruno Paillard was the first Champagne house to print the disgorgement date on every bottle, reflecting its commitment to transparency and quality.

Deutz

Masterful craft since 1838

Un Champagne avec une histoire, un Champagne avec des histoires.

Heritage

Founded in 1838 by William Deutz and Pierre-Hubert Geldermann, Champagne Deutz has built a reputation for precision and refinement. Based in Aÿ, the house balances tradition with modern winemaking techniques to produce elegant Champagnes.

Craft

Vineyards in the top Crus provide Pinot Noir and Chardonnay grapes that form the backbone of Deutz's style. The estate prioritises sustainable practices and careful blending, resulting in Champagnes that are balanced, expressive and harmonious. The Brut Classic exemplifies the house's finesse, while the prestige cuvée Amour de Deutz offers structure and a long, delicate finish.



Did you know

Champagne Deutz is part of the same group that owns the renowned Bordeaux house Louis Roederer.

EPC

Since 2019
Freedom, Equality, Traceability.

Heritage

Founded in 2019 by Édouard Roy, Camille Gilardi and Jérôme Queige, EPC Champagne is a modern, independent house rooted in the Sézannais region of Champagne. The brand emphasises freedom, traceability and innovation, positioning itself as a fresh voice in Champagne rather than a traditional grande

Craft

EPC works with carefully selected grower-partners from specific terroirs, and each cuvée carries detailed information on its origin, grape composition and sugar dosage, underscoring a philosophy of transparency. The style favours minimal intervention, with low dosage – often under 6 g/L sugar – and restrained sulfite use, allowing each terroir to express itself naturally.

A close-up photograph of a red, textured champagne box. The box is made of a material that looks like velvet or a similar plush fabric. The EPC logo is printed in large, white, serif capital letters. Below the logo, the words 'CHAMPAGNE' and 'EPICURIEN' are printed in smaller, white, sans-serif capital letters.

EPC

CHAMPAGNE
EPICURIEN

Did you know

EPC Champagne introduced a heat-sensitive marker on its back label to indicate when the bottle has reached optimal serving temperature; another signature of its modern and consumer-friendly mindset.

Baron Albert

*Established in 1947
Quality work is our tradition, respect
for People and Nature, our strength.
Our dynamism is our future.*

Heritage

Founded by Albert Baron and his wife Béatrice in 1947, the house has grown from its first hectare into a 55-hectare family estate in Charly-sur-Marne, Vallée de la Marne. Three generations have overseen its development: the sons Gilbert, Gervais and Claude, and today Claude's daughters Claire, Lise and Aline carry the legacy forward.

Craft

Baron Albert focuses on integrated and environmentally respectful viticulture. The estate cultivates Pinot Meunier, Chardonnay and Pinot Noir across several villages and holds certification for Sustainable Viticulture and High Environmental Value (HVE). The house emphasises freshness, elegance and harmony in its blends, with wines that are suited to enjoyment both as an aperitif and with food.



Did you know

Champagne Baron Albert is led today by three sisters – Claire, Lise and Aline – who represent the third generation of the family house and bring their “Baron Sisters” spirit to the brand.

Hébrart

Maison fondée dans les années 1960

Heritage

Champagne Hébrart is a family-run estate located in Mareuil-sur-Ay in the Vallée de la Marne, led by Jean-Paul Hébrart since 1997, following his father Marc's foundation of the house. The estate emphasises vineyard continuity, terroir-sensitivity and artisanal values.

Craft

Hébrart cultivates 70% Pinot Noir and 3 % Chardonnay – with no Pinot Meunier – across around 15 hectares of vineyards in multiple villages, including some Grand Crus, and farms sustainably with minimal intervention. Each parcel is vinified separately, allowing the unique character of each site to come through.



Did you know

Champagne Hébrart is a member of the prestigious growers' organisation Club Trésors de Champagne ("Spécial Club"). This is a mark of recognition for high-quality, terroir-driven Champagnes.

Muntz

Roots dating back to the late 19th century

Heritage

Founded on 6.5 hectares in the western part of the Montagne de Reims, Muntz Champagne partners with a private, third-generation maison in the Premier Cru region of Champagne.

Craft

Vineyards for Muntz are planted to approximately 4 hectares of Pinot Noir, 1.5 hectares of Pinot Meunier and 1 hectare of Chardonnay, all farmed with biodiversity and certified under “Viticulture Durable en Champagne” and “Haute Valeur Environnementale”. The annual “Cuvée Sélectionnée par Rolf Muntz” releases include a Millésime and a Blanc de Noirs made from 100% Pinot Noir, crafted to reflect terroir and elegance.

CHAMPAGNE
Cuvée Sélectionnée par
ROLF
MUNTZ
BRUT
MILLÉSIME 2014

Did you know

Each year, golfer Rolf Muntz personally selects two limited-edition cuvées for the house, bringing a sportsman’s precision to Champagne craftsmanship.

Laurent- Perrier

*Family-owned Champagne
house since 1812.
The art of refinement
in Champagne.*

Heritage

Founded in 1812 by André Michel Pierlot, Laurent-Perrier has grown into one of the largest family-owned Champagne houses. Its commitment to innovation while respecting tradition has made it particularly renowned for its elegant, Chardonnay-driven style.

Craft

Vineyards across the Côte des Blancs and Montagne de Reims supply predominantly Chardonnay grapes, producing Champagnes known for their freshness and finesse. The house also embraces sustainability through organic practices and reduced carbon impact. Signature cuvées like the Brut Millésimé highlight crisp, refined flavours, while Grand Siècle offers layered complexity.



Did you know

Laurent-Perrier's Cuvée Rosé is one of the world's bestselling rosé Champagnes.

Taittinger

Maison Fondée en 1734

Heritage

Tracing its roots to 1734, Taittinger became a Champagne house under Pierre Taittinger in 1932. The family-owned estate is celebrated for producing elegant and refined Champagnes that reflect its long-standing tradition.

Craft

Taittinger's vineyards span 288 hectares of prime Champagne terroir, with Chardonnay at the heart of its style. The house combines traditional methods with modern sustainability practices, including organic approaches, to create Champagnes of clarity, balance and refined character. Signature offerings include the crisp, refreshing Brut Réserve and the complex, rich Blanc de Blancs Comtes de Champagne.



Did you know

The chalk-cellar galleries at Taittinger's historic site were once Roman quarries and are now a UNESCO World Heritage-listed network where their prestige cuvées mature in near-silence.

Alfred Gratien

A family Champagne house since 1864

Heritage

Founded in 1864 in Épernay by Alfred Gratien, Alfred Gratien has maintained a commitment to small-batch, artisan Champagne production. Over four successive generations of cellar-masters, the house has preserved its traditional ethos, focusing on quality rather than volume.

Craft

Alfred Gratien stands out for its strict production methods: only the first-press (cuvée) juice is used, fermentation takes place in 228-litre oak barrels, and malolactic fermentation is deliberately avoided to preserve freshness and clarity of fruit. Grapes are sourced from Premier Cru and Grand Cru vineyards, supplemented by long-standing grower relationships rather than large estate holdings. The house deliberately keeps its output modest – around 300 000 bottles per year – to sustain its craftsmanship focus.



Did you know

In 2024, Alfred Gratien celebrated its 160th anniversary and released a limited-edition Cuvée Paradis Brut Rosé Millésimé 2008 to mark the milestone.

Victoire

Launched in 1989

Heritage

Champagne Victoire stems from the legacy of the family-run house of G.H. Martel, founded in 1869 and acquired in 1979 by the Rapeneau family. Created as a premium brand in 1989 by Christophe and Jean-François Rapeneau, Champagne Victoire embraces the spirit of conquest, four generations of family stewardship and a commitment to excellence.

Craft

Victoire's vineyards are certified "Haute Valeur Environnementale" (HVE Level 3), reflecting a strong commitment to sustainable viticulture. Grapes from the Petite Montagne de Reims and Sézannais are vinified separately, then blended to achieve the house's signature freshness and minerality. All Champagnes are aged for at least 24 months in chalk cellars, with reserve wines added to ensure balance and consistency.



Did you know

Champagne Victoire's cellars sit in historic chalk quarries (crayères) beneath Reims, which are part of the UNESCO World Heritage listing "Coteaux, Maisons et Caves de Champagne".

Duval-Leroy

Since 1859

Heritage

Founded in 1859 in Vertus on the Côte des Blancs by the alliance of Jules Duval, a grower, and Edouard Leroy, a merchant, Duval-Leroy remains a 100% family-owned house now in its sixth generation. Its focus has always been on quality, elegance and independence.

Craft

Duval-Leroy cultivates around 200 hectares of vineyards – many in Grand Cru and Premier Cru sites – and places a strong emphasis on Chardonnay, which contributes to its signature finesse and lightness. The house is also a pioneer in sustainable viticulture: it created the first certified organic Brut Champagne, employs “oenoclimat” parcel-level vineyard mapping and holds High Environmental Value (HVE) certification.



CHAMPAGNE
DEPUIS  1859
DUVAL-
LEROY

Did you know

from Premier Cru vineyards (its “Fleur de Champagne” in 1911), and it was the first to produce a certified organic Brut Champagne.

De Venoge

Founded in 1837

Heritage

De Venoge was founded in 1837 by the Swiss-born Henri-Marc de Venoge. Originally based in Mareuil-sur-Ay before moving to Épernay, the house quickly became known for its elegance, innovative spirit and aristocratic charm. Over the years, De Venoge has maintained this refined style, earning a reputation for sophistication and timeless quality in Champagne.

Craft

De Venoge sources grapes from top crus, uses only the first press (cuvée) and ages its wines for extended periods to develop depth and refinement. Their emblematic “Cordon Bleu” range exemplifies the house’s focus on finesse, drinkability and signature style.

CHAMPAGNE
deVENOGE
DEPUIS 1837

Did you know

De Venoge was the first Champagne house to use an illustrated label in 1838 and adopted the blue ribbon of the Order of the Holy Spirit as its emblem, which became the defining visual identity of its “Cordon Bleu” cuvée.

Philipponnat

Established in 1522

In perpetual motion, naturally.

Heritage

Philipponnat has been rooted in Champagne for over five centuries, with records of the family's vineyards dating to 1522. Today, the 16th generation continues to uphold this legacy from its base in Mareuil-sur-Aÿ. The house honours this long legacy while pursuing excellence through 16 generations.

Craft

Philipponnat is built around its signature grape variety, Pinot Noir, grown on Premier and Grand Cru slopes of Aÿ, Mareuil-sur-Aÿ and Avenay-Val-d'Or. The house focuses on "cuvée", careful vinification and a blend-cycle called Réserve Perpétuelle. Each year, part of the reserve wine is blended back to imbue complexity while maintaining freshness. The result: Champagnes with intensity, structure, depth and minerality.



PHILIPPONNAT

CHAMPAGNE

Did you know

Philipponnat owns the famed vineyard Clos des Goisses – a steep, south-facing slope in the heart of Champagne known for its bold wines.

Chavost

Founded in 1946 in Chavot-Courcourt

Heritage

Champagne Chavost is rooted in the village of Chavot-Courcourt, south of Épernay. The cooperative was founded in 1946 by a group of local winegrowers who shared strong values of land, community and craft.

Craft

Chavost works a small vineyard estate, about 5 hectares directly, and increasingly emphasises organic and minimal-intervention winemaking. Under cellar-master Fabian Daviaux (since 2019), the production leans into very pure expressions: on-site vines certified organic since 2023, use of spontaneous fermentation, no added sulphites in some cuvées, no filtration or fining and very low or zero dosage to showcase terroir.



Did you know

Chavost is part of Champagne's new wave of natural producers, known for its "Brut Nature" and "sans soufre ajouté" cuvées, rare expressions crafted without added sulphites to let the terroir speak freely.

Dhondt- Grellet

*Founded in 1986 in Flavigny,
Côte des Blancs*

Heritage

Founded in 1986 by Eric Dhondt and Edith Grellet in Flavigny, within the heart of the Côte des Blancs, Dhondt-Grellet is a family-run Champagne estate committed to expressing terroir over volume.

Craft

The estate works around 6–7 hectares of vines across Grand Cru and Premier Cru sites (including Cramant, Cuis and Chouilly), with an average vine age of around 40 years. From 2010-2012 onwards, son Adrien Dhondt has led a biodynamic-leaning programme: hand harvesting, indigenous yeast fermentations, minimal sulphur and very low dosage (often 3-5 g/L) to showcase purity and minerality.



DOMAINE
DHONDT - GRELLET
CHAMPAGNE

Did you know

Dhondt-Grellet's "Dans un Premier Temps" cuvée draws on a perpetual reserve begun in 1986, layering decades of vintages for remarkable depth and continuity.

Pascal Doquet

*Founded in 2004 in Vertus,
Côte des Blancs*

Heritage

Founded in 2004 in Vertus, on the Côte des Blancs, Champagne Pascal Doquet has become one of the region's leading independent houses. Following his family's legacy from Doquet-Jeanmaire, Pascal Doquet established his own estate to focus on terroir-driven Champagnes that reflect purity, balance and authenticity.

Craft

With vineyards in Vertus, Le Mesnil-sur-Oger and Mont Aimé, the house is fully certified organic and renowned for its meticulous vineyard care. Chardonnay is the cornerstone of its style – elegant, mineral and precise – crafted using natural fermentation, minimal dosage and long lees ageing to reveal true expression of terroir.



Pascal Doquet

Did you know

Pascal Doquet was among the first Côte des Blancs producers to achieve full organic certification, setting a benchmark for sustainable Champagne production.

That's how we are
invested in your story

A celebration of craft and excellent partnerships

From the historic chalk cellars of Reims to the rolling hills of the Côte des Blancs, each house featured in this collection tells a story of heritage, artistry and passion.

As Absa CIB proudly partners in this celebration of excellence, we honour the spirit of ambition and the drive for progress that unite us.

May every glass you raise be a tribute not only to the craftsmanship that defines Champagne, but also to the purposeful partnerships that empower Africa's growth story.

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