



December 16, 2009

Free Champagne from Grape Escapes – now it's officially good for you!

Here's a real cause for celebration - scientists from Reading University will this week publish research results suggesting that Champagne is beneficial for your health.

To mark the occasion specialist wine-tasting tour operator Grape Escapes is offering 12 per cent (the percentage alcohol in most Champagnes) discount on premium Champagne Weekends - and giving away free Magnums of bubbly!

Book by 11 January 2010 and you will qualify for the discount and the free Magnum, giving you the chance to fully enjoy the health benefits of Champagne's polyphenol antioxidants, which are believed to reduce blood pressure.

Premium Weekends with Grape Escapes include the *Prestige*, *Deluxe*, *Meet the Maker* and *Adventure* Weekends.

Deluxe Champagne Weekend from £376 per person

For wine lovers who enjoy the finer things in life, Grape Escapes' *Deluxe Weekend* takes guests on private tours of Champagne's most celebrated estates, accompanied by tastings of Moet and Chandon's iconic Dom Perignon and Veuve Clicquot's La Grand Dame.

The weekend includes return Dover to Calais ferry crossing for a car and two people, two nights' accommodation, full day luxury coach tour with English speaking guide, and a four-course gourmet lunch at a top local restaurant with accompanying Champagnes and wines. Visits to three Champagne Houses - Veuve Clicquot, a private Dom Perignon tour at Moet and Chandon, and a smaller Grand cru Champagne house - are highlights. Upgrade to a four star hotel from £461 per person.

***Prestige Weekend* from £295 per person**

Grape Escapes' *Prestige Weekend* is the perfect introductory break for wannabe wine buffs. Based in the city of Reims, the weekend includes a full day guided coach tour with English speaking guide including visits to three different Champagne houses with tastings, and a four-course gourmet lunch at a top local restaurant with accompanying Champagnes and wines.

The price includes return Dover to Calais ferry crossing for a car and two people, plus two nights' accommodation at the two star Hotel Bristol in Reims, Upgrade to a four star hotel from £398 per person.

***Adventure Weekend* from £337 per person**

Adventurous wine lovers will abseil 100ft into the cellars of one of the prestigious region's Champagne houses before learning the Napoleonic art of Sabrage – uncorking a bottle of Champagne with a sword! The *Adventure Weekend* also includes full day coach tour with English speaking guide to three different Champagne houses with tastings, four course gourmet lunch at a top local restaurant with accompanying Champagnes and wines, return Dover to Calais ferry crossing for a car and two people, and two nights' accommodation in Reims.

For more information on Grape Escapes' Champagne-tasting weekends visit www.champagneescapes.com or call 08456 430 860.

ENDS

For further media information and images contact:

The Saltmarsh Partnership

Tel: 020 7928 1600 / 07734 11354

Clair Horwood: clair@saltmarshpr.co.uk