

Napoleon Bonaparte

### Description

If you could meet a historical figure, who would it be and why?

Napoleon Bonaparte, because of his military prowess and his passion for champagne. As a veteran myself, I love that.

## Napoleon and MoÃ«t

In 1782, Napoleon met Jean-RÃ©my MoÃ«t, the grandson of Claude MoÃ«t, the founder of MoÃ«t & Chandon, while studying at the military academy (where Jean was visiting for soliciting orders for the family business). The two started a friendship which would last a lifetime.



Napoleon in the cellars of Jean-RÃ©my MoÃ«t in 1807. Image â?? Le Monde

Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte loved champagne. Before every military campaign, he made a point of visiting the MoÃ«t & Chandon house to stock up on cases of Champagne.

# MoÃ«t Imperial

Did you know that **MoÃ«t Imperial**, ***the Houseâ??s flagship champagne***, owes its name to Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte? He visited MoÃ«tâ??s estates in Epernay numerous times and also awarded Jean-Remy MoÃ«t one of Franceâ??s highest honours, the medal of the **LÃ©gion dâ??honneur**.




Image â?? MoÃ«t and Chandon

# Sabrage

Legend has it that Napoleon and his troops invented **sabrage**, which is slicing open the champagne bottle with a saber. His soldiers used to do this after winning battles.



The art of champagne sabrage. Image â?? St. Regis

## Impressing Madame Cliqout

In another tale, Madame Cliqout who had inherited her husbandâ??s small champagne house used to offer champagne to Napoleonâ??s officers, and as they rode off with their complimentary bottle of champagne, ***they would open it with their saber*** to impress the rich young widow.



Soldiers of Napoleonâ??s Grande ArmÃ©e 1st Regiment of Cuirassiers Trumpeters toasting with Champagne. Image â?? champagne goddess

## Champagne Quote

Napoleon is credited with the famous quote on champagne: ***Champagne! In victory one deserves it, in defeat one needs itâ?• â?? Napoleon Bonaparte***

## Exile at St Helena

Napoleon had been exiled to the small Atlantic island following his defeat at the Waterloo in June 1815. Even while imprisoned here on St Helena, Napoleon and his staff received a **bottle of Champagne** (and 10 bottles of claret every day) amongst other provisions.



Napoleon in exile on St Helena, 1815-1821 by Spanish School. Image â?? Meisterdrucke

Hope you liked reading this write up. And if you did please like and share too.

Cheers !!