

## Reims

Reims (pronounced as "Reems") was founded 2100 years ago, in 80 BC, by a tribe known as the Remi. This tribe sided with the Roman Empire during their conquest of the region, and became an important city afterward. It was destroyed by Atilla the Hun in the year 451, during a period of time in which that feared war leader tried, but failed, to defeat the Roman Empire.

From 1179 to 1825, Reims was the site where all French kings were officially anointed. Reims was also the site of the world's first international aviation meeting in 1909.

The famous Reims Cathedral, built in 1211, was heavily damaged by the invading German armies during the First World War. The cathedral was restored after the war, and today is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

It was in Reims, on May 7, 1945, that General Eisenhower and the Allied commanders officially accepted the unconditional surrender of Nazi Germany during the Second World War.



Population: 188,078

2950 kilometres to Paris!