

Loire, Nature & Castles on a bike

6 days/ 5 nights

This itinerary will lead you to the banks of the Loire and its tributaries: the Cher, Indre and Vienne rivers. The secured bike paths of the "Loire à vélo" and charming country roads will allow you to pedal and navigate at your own pace in a natural environment listed by the UNESCO World Heritage. On the way, you will salute Villandry and its French style gardens, the magnificent Renaissance Castle of Azay--le--Rideau, delicately set on the river Indre, Rigny--Ussé, Sleeping Beauty's castle, but also the recently renovated Chinon Royal Fortress and the medieval Castle of Langeais, an important block in French history.

The river that you will discover from a gabare will charm you; so will Chinon's National Forest.

The short legs of this trip will allow you plenty of time for outside discovery. The variety of natural and historical landscapes will delight young and old.

[Prepare your trip properly](#)

YOUR PROGRAM

Day 1 - Tours

You choose your arrival time into Tours, a town readily accessible by TGV and less than 2 hours away from Roissy Charles de Gaulle (no train change necessary in Paris)

From the Tours train station, you will find your hotel in the Old Quarter 10mn away on foot, and enjoy your evening while savoring the ambiance of this university town. If you arrive by car, we recommend that one of you deposit your car in Langeais, on the free parking lot, and to come back by train. The price is quite affordable.



Day 2 - From Tours to Villandry

You will meet one of our agents around 9:30am at your hotel. He will let you try your bikes, give you tourist information (if you haven't yet received it by mail) and you will have the opportunity to ask him all your questions. You will then take one of the bike paths from the city center, along the Cher river, and then down to Villandry. A stop in the Petrified Caves in Savonnières will cool you down before you visit the French-style gardens of Villandry.

About 22 km

Day 3 - From Villandry to Azay le rideau

Cycling from Villandry along the Cher and the Loire, and go for 12km on the cyclepath to Langeais where you leave your bikes for an hour of leisurely barge on board. Take your bikes back to finish this step getting Azay-Le-Rideau.. An additional loop (20km) will allow you to pay your respects to Balzac and to discover an wicker weavers village.

About 24 km or 44 km



Day 4 - From Azay le rideau to Chinon

Refresher course today as you cross the National Forest in Chinon. Here, it is a bit more rocky, but the changes in terrain will let you play while you test your endurance. You earn your stop at the heart of this famous medieval city. Chinon, city of art and history. Your visit of the royal city awaits.

About 29 km

Day 5 - From Chinon to Langeais

Small country roads at the heart of the hedgerows and bike paths will take back to where you started. Pass through Avoine with its water park and giant slides. On the way, stop at Rigny--Ussé that inspired Charles Perrault for his Sleeping Beauty fairytale. You arrive then at the foot of the medieval Castle of Langeais that you admired from your boat on Day 3.

About 41 km



Day 6 - End of trip

After breakfast, leave from Langeais by train to Tours, or pick-up your vehicle on the train station's parking lot.

Additional information

TARIFFS

Price from 640 euros per person.

OPTIONS

Bike rental : 90 euros per person.

E-bike rental : 155 euros per person.

Single room extra charge : 175 euros per person.

GPS tracks on USB stick : 25 euros per person.

INCLUDED

Lodging in 3***, and good 2** hotels or B&B in equivalent value, all taxes included. Based on double occupancy.

5 breakfasts per person.

The roadbook with itineraries, maps, advice and a tourist information packet.

1h trip on a traditionnal boat.

The luggage transfer between each lodging

NOT INCLUDED

Personal insurance.

Journey from your home to Tours and from Langeais to your home.

The personal expenses (drinks, tours, tastings, telephone...).

Lunches or dinners.

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

This tour is easy, for everybody, mainly flat, with a few hills.

CARRYING

Done by vehicle, so you just have to carry your daily belongings.

ACCOMMODATION

Hotels** and hotels*** or B&B in equivalent value.

SIZE OF GROUP

From 2 people

DEPARTURES

Every day, from beginning of April until the end of October.

DEPARTURE

Tours.

DISPERSION

Langeais.

HOW TO GET THERE

Tours Val de Loire Airport has regular flights to London, Marrakesh and Porto operated by low-cost carrier Ryanair and seasonal flights to Marseille, Dublin...

TGV from Paris is the fastest way to get to Tours from the capital.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

We allow ourselves to slightly modify the routes in case of impossible booking in a hotel.