

# Loire Valley by bike – Selection version From Blois to Angers

**7 days, 6 nights – 6 cycling days**

**Level: 2/5**



Since 2000, the Loire Valley has been listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, from Sully sur Loire, southeast of Orléans, to Chalonnes sur Loire, southwest of Angers. The mild climate was enticing to kings, who built the most magnificent chateaux of the Renaissance along the banks of the longest river in France: Chambord of course, but also Blois, Amboise, Chenonceau, Chinon and Saumur... Embark on a journey of discovery on the last great wild river in Europe and explore its rich cultural heritage while following the bikeable trails of the "Loire à Vélo" (the "Loire on a Bike").

From Blois to Angers, you'll be riding through the heart of the "Valley of Kings" and the "Garden of France." Take the time to explore the features and specialties of the region, to taste local wines, to take a behind the scenes tour of the prestigious Cadre Noir in Saumur... That's also what the art of French living is all about!

## Strengths

- A tour designed in the heart of the Loire Valley, which is on the UNSECO World Heritage list
- Magnificent chateaux throughout the tour
- Leave the rental bikes in Angers at the end of your stay!

- Riding on the longest bikeway in France

# SCHEDULE

## Day 1 : Blois :

Discover the royal city of Blois. Each chateau has its own history, its kings and its symbols. The chateau of Blois mixes the porcupine, the emblem of Louis XII, with the salamander of François Ier. It is a true architectural panorama with its 4 wings of different styles gathered around the courtyard. Check-in in a hotel on B&B formula.

B&B

## Day 2 : Loop around Blois : 58 km

Hop on your bike and over to reach Cheverny. The cartoonist Hergé freely borrowed from it to create the Marlinspike chateau in the adventures of Tintin. Then, continue to roll over the jewel of the Loire Valley : Chambord. Nestled in a park of over 5,000 acres, this masterpiece of Renaissance architecture, designed by King François Ier, beckons you. The famous double staircase takes you out onto the terraces, under a forest of chimneys. You might be lucky to spot a herd of deer on the road... Spend the night in Blois in a hotel.

B&B

## Day 3 : From Blois to Chenonceau : 49 km

Follow the banks of the Loire to reach the chateau of Chaumont sur Loire and its gardens. The chateau terraces offer one of the most beautiful views of the untamed Loire. You can admire the estate gardens, designed each year by landscape artists coming from around the world. Continue on your way towards Chenonceau, momentarily leaving the Loire for one of its tributaries, the Cher. The "Ladies' Chateau" is in fact inseparable from the river it spans. Walk through gardens that bear the footmarks of Diane de Poitiers and Catherine de Medici. Spend the night in Chenonceaux.

B&B

## Day 4 : From Chenonceau to Tours : 35 km

Join the banks of the Loire again in Amboise. The royal chateau of Charles VIII and François Ier overlooks the landscape. Visit the Clos Lucé as well, the last home of Leonardo da Vinci, one of the greatest minds of the Renaissance. Tours welcomes you with its old neighborhoods, whose center is located on the famous Place Plum, a favorite of the citizens of Tours. Don't forget to sample the local cuisine in one of the city's many taverns: a Loire fry-up or pike with beurre blanc accompanied by a nice glass of chilled wine are calling your name! Spend the night in Tours in a hotel.

B&B

## Day 5 : From Tours to Chinon : 68 km

Temporarily leave the Loire to reach the banks of the Cher. Villandry awaits you and invites you to its terraced gardens with three levels. Then leave the Cher behind to reach a chateau built on an island on the Indre : Azay le Rideau. Head back to the Loire again to discover the chateau of Rigny-Ussé, also known as the Castle of Sleeping Beauty, which looks like it came straight out of a fairy tale. Head south towards Chinon, riding through the famous AOC classified vineyards to reach the 12th century chateau, which housed private meetings with Joan of Arc and Charles VII. Feel free to sample some local wines, whose qualities Rabelais was already praising in the sixteenth century. Spend the night in Chinon.

B&B

## Day 6 : From Chinon to Saumur : 39 km

After this Epicurean leg of the tour, hop on your bike and set off to discover Fontevraud and its royal abbey, one of the largest in Europe. Founded in 1101, the abbey was transformed over the centuries into a monastic estate, and then progressively into a prison estate. You will also discover the troglodyte caves of the cliff, which you follow to arrive at Saumur, which sits at the foot of its towering and majestic chateau... You are in the riding capital, do not hesitate to have a look on the famous Cadre Noir de Saumur. Then, you can sample the famous Saumur Brut in one of the city's many troglodyte caves, where you will be overwhelmed by an abundance of choice! Spend the night in Saumur.

B&B

### **Day 7 : From Saumur to Angers :** 56 km

Leave Saumur and follow the left bank of the Loire. The architectural heritage is rich there and invites you to go back in time: the Romanesque donjon and church of Treves, the monastery in Cunault, the Gallo-Roman amphitheater of Gennes ... Continue your road on the "levee" and do not forget to stop for a break in the beautiful village of Thoureil: this old barge port is still home to some typical taverns. Now cross over to the other bank and ride through ancient marshes reclaimed from the Loire thanks to the famous levees. Exit the royal river and take the ferry to cross the Authion, where will you pass by the impressive slate quarries of Trélazé. Now you are in Angers, with its imposing bicolored chateau overlooking the Maine.

End of the trip.

# TRAVEL CONDITIONS

## Attendees :

From 2 people.

## Formalities :

- A valid official ID
- We recommend travel insurance with repatriation included

## Accompanying :

Free Ride:

Equipped with the orientation material we give you: maps with highlighted route and detailed topoguide, you go alone to discover circuits designed by our team. You are guided by carefully prepared directions, for maximum precision.

## Options :

- Formula 3 or 4 days: tailor-made program from the 3 or 4 stages you choose yourself,
- Additional accommodation before or after the stay,
- Single room supplement,
- Bike rental.

## Luggage :

Luggage is limited to the day's gear and a picnic. Luggage is transported by vehicle. Please allow 1 piece of luggage per person, maximum 13kg/luggage. Luggage is transported daily between 8am and 6pm, so please have your luggage ready to go by 8am every morning.

In order to respect the weight limit and facilitate the stowage of luggage in the vehicles, we inform you that rigid suitcases are no longer accepted.

Please bring soft bags.

## Food :

No need to diet during your stay! It's the perfect opportunity to savor the local cuisine. During your stay, you'll enjoy an overnight stay with breakfast. The price does not include picnics, drinks and dinners (unless otherwise mentioned in the program).

## DEPARTURE AND MEETING POINT :

Departure and arrival in Blois (41).

How to get there:

By car: Highway A10, direction Blois.

By train: Blois train station.

By plane: Orly or Tours airport and taxi

## Difficulty level :

You have a good physical condition and practice fairly regularly cycling or other sports activity.

Stage from 39 to 68km per day, little difference in altitude.

## **Accommodation :**

Nights in double room in hotels. In Bed and Breakfast formula (night and breakfast included).

We have selected our accommodations for their quality of welcome and comfort: to enjoy, thank you to book as soon as possible.

You can choose your accommodation category:

- Version hotels Selection: you sleep in comfortable rooms for 2 people in hotels or guest rooms, category \*\*\* or \*\*\*\*. Sheets and towels are provided. A bathroom is reserved for you. (Single room option - See rates on our website).
- Extra night in B&B, selection version in Blois or Angers: contact us  
Upscale hotel version: We have selected our accommodations for the quality of their welcome and comfort in the category charm and upscale character. Places are very limited, in order to enjoy it we invite you to book as soon as possible. You sleep in rooms of 2 people upscale hotels with bathroom and private bathroom. Sheets and towels are provided. (Option single room - See rates on our website). Extra night in B&B, upscale version in Blois or Angers: contact us

## **Luggage :**

Carrying is limited to business of the day and picnic. Luggage is carried by vehicle. Please allow 1 bag per person, maximum 15kg/bag.

## RATES

### Version hotels Sélection

Registration for 2 people	755€
Registration for 3 people	740€
Registration for 4 people	710€
Registration for 6 people	650€

### Premium hotel version

Registration for 2 people	1195€
Registration for 3 people	1180€
Registration for 4 people	1120€
Registration for 6 people	1075€

### The price includes :

- Reservation of accommodation, in B&B formula (night and breakfast provided, free dinner not included)
- Daily luggage transport: 1 piece of luggage per person, maximum 15 kg
- Organisation and logistics costs
- LaRébenne Emergency Hotline

### The price does not include :

- Dinners and lunches/ picnics,
- Accommodation on return to Blois and Angers,
- Drinks,
- Personal expenses,
- Personal bike equipment (helmets, gloves),
- Bicycles,
- Transportation to the meeting point,
- The return to Blois by train with your luggage,
- Entries in the tourist sites,
- The parking lot,
- Insurance.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### How to subscribe ? :

No, no automatic forms!

At LaRébenne, we prefer to keep in touch with our travelers. We like to talk to you about our travels, and we want to maintain this relationship with you. Exchange, sharing and pleasure remain our ambition for LaRébenne travels.

Don't hesitate to contact us directly to talk about hiking or biking.

[contact@larebenne.com](mailto:contact@larebenne.com)

+33 561 652 093

+33 681 537 775

### Registration, deposit and validation

Once you've chosen your trip, it's quick and easy to register!

\* Either go directly to your tour's page on our website and click on registration.

\* Or we can work with you to create a tailor-made tour, and send you a personalized link to your registration form.

The registration is effective when we receive your registration form with your acceptance of the general terms and conditions of sale, accompanied by the deposit of 30% of the tour price. You will then receive an acknowledgement of receipt of your registration.

#### 100% secure payment

You can pay by credit card (faster) or bank transfer.



### Payment of balance

The balance must be paid one month before the departure date. You will find your invoice on your My LaRébenne space, as well as a payment link to the balance of your stay.

### Invitation to depart

On receipt of payment of the balance, your travel diary will be available in your customer area on My LaRébenne, where you will find all the information you need for your trip, as well as your invoice.

### Insurance :

In accordance with regulations, each participant in a LaRébenne trip must hold individual civil liability as well as individual multi-risk cover to protect themselves against incidents or accidents that may occur before or during the tour or bike trip.

Assistance mainly covers search and rescue, repatriation and medical expenses. It comes into play as soon as a medical report makes it possible to decide on repatriation. Repatriation, known as "premature return", can also be arranged for reasons other than the insured's own, such as the death of a family member (see cases in the insurance booklet). Beforehand, in regions far from medical facilities and difficult to access, you must agree to the organization of first aid using local resources (4X4, porters, horses, etc.).

This contract also covers loss, theft or delayed delivery of baggage, as well as interruption of stay.

The insurance protects against the financial risk of cancellation. It is very important to have this type of insurance in case of cancellation due to a health problem or for professional reasons.



We suggest you take out one of the three policies we have selected, bearing in mind that we only act as an intermediary between you and the insurer. Any additional insurance is invoiced per person and must be taken out on the day of booking:

- "Multirisque" contract (4.5%), minimum premium 15 euros:  
Repatriation assistance + tour interruption + luggage + cancellation.

[See the complete contract](#)

- "Cancellation" contract (2.5%), minimum premium 10 euros:  
Cancellation only.

[See the complete contract](#)

- "Repatriation assistance" contract (1.6%), minimum premium of 10 euros:  
Repatriation assistance + tour interruption + luggage.

[See the complete contract](#)

As far as "civil liability abroad" is concerned, only French residents are covered.

### **Informations :**

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