

The Loire by Bike from Tours to Saumur A Gentle Journey Along Europe's Last Wild River

Self-guided cycling holiday, A 5-day, 4-night cycling journey with 4 days on the bike

Level: 1/5



From Tours, set off into the "Garden of France" and discover the region's unique heritage and local delights: troglodyte dwellings, renowned vineyards, mushroom caves, traditional pommes tapées (flattened dried apples), delicious fouées (wood-fired bread rolls), and much more. Explore the fairy-tale Château of Sleeping Beauty and the magnificent Royal Abbey of Fontevraud. Cycle along the Loire à Vélo route beside Europe's last great wild river, taking in its exceptional natural landscapes and rich cultural heritage. End your journey in style in Saumur, France's equestrian capital and home of the world-famous Cadre Noir.

Strengths

- A route in the heart of Loire Valley, registered on UNESCO World Heritage list
- The various tourist sites en route
- Leave your bikes at Saumur at the end of your trip !
- Riding on the longest French designated cycling track

SCHEDULE

Day 1 : Arrival in Tours :

Arrive in Tours and check in to your accommodation, ready to begin your cycling adventure the following day in the best possible conditions.

Take the opportunity to explore the historic heart of Tours, the gateway to the Loire Valley châteaux. Wander through its charming streets and be sure to visit Place Plumereau, the lively heart of the medieval old town and one of the city's must-see landmarks.

Day 2 : From Tours to Azay le Rideau : 34 km

Leave Tours and the Loire behind for a while and follow the route towards the banks of the Cher River. Villandry awaits, with its magnificent gardens laid out across three terraces.

Then leave the Cher and continue on to a château built on an island in the Indre River: Azay-le-Rideau. The famous French writer Balzac described it as a "faceted diamond set in the waters of the Indre, raised on stilts and adorned with flowers."

Day 3 : From Azay le Rideau to Chinon : 37 km

Find again the River Loire and discover the chateau of Rigny-Ussé, also called the Sleeping Beauty's chateau. Then, ride towards the South until Chinon. You cross the famous classified vineyards to arrive at the 12th century castle famous for the interview between Joan of Arc and the future king Charles VII. Do not hesitate to taste the local wines.

Night in Chinon - B&B.

B&B

Day 4 : From Chinon to Saumur : 38 km

After this pleasant ride, get on your bike and ride to discover Fontevraud and its royal abbey, one of the biggest in Europe. Founded in 1101, the abbey moved little by little to become a jail. You will also discover the troglodytic cliff houses on your way to Saumur. It is the area of the mushroom farms and sparkling wine cellars. Arrival in Saumur, dominated by its majestic chateau. It's a bit of a climb up to the chateau but your efforts will be rewarded by the superb panorama that is offered to you.

Night in Saumur - B&B.

B&B

Day 5 : Loop around Saumur : 32 km

Go toward the impressive château de Brézé crossing the pretty local villages. This chateau is formerly a troglodytic fortress coupled with a ground level Renaissance château. Do not miss the tour of its underground galleries... Ride then in the countryside. You are now back in the horse-riding capital city, the famous Cadre Noir opens its doors to you during a tour into the wings of the National Riding School. After the tour, take your time to taste the good Saumur sparkling wine in one of the numerous troglodytic caves of the city. Leave your rental bikes at Saumur train station and travel on light ! End of the trip.

B&B

TRAVEL CONDITIONS

Formalities :

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

Accompanying :

Self-guided tour : Set off on the date that suits you and make the most of your cycling holiday with complete peace of mind. We take care of everything: booking your accommodation, transporting your luggage and planning your itinerary.

All you have to do is cycle! With your roadbook and our navigation app, you can follow a route we've designed for you, at your own pace and entirely independently.

An ideal package for combining freedom, comfort and peace of mind whilst discovering the most beautiful cycling routes.

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 15kg/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.

Difficulty level :

You are in good physical condition and practise cycling or another sport fairly regularly.

The stage is 32–38 km per day with no difference in altitude.

Departure and meeting point :

Arrival in Tours (37).

How to get there:

By car: Highway A10, direction Tours

By train: Train station of Tours-centre or St Pierre des Corps+shuttle

By plane: Airport of Tours then shuttle to the city center

Food :

Breakfasts are included in your stay, allowing you to start each day of cycling in the best possible way. Lunches and dinners are not included, giving you the freedom to choose, along your route, the restaurants, markets, and local hidden gems where you can discover the flavours and specialties of the region.

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 Tours or Saumur: 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 Tours or Saumur: contact us

Luggage :

Simply carry what you need for the day — we'll take care of transferring your luggage from one accommodation to the next. Each participant may bring one soft-sided bag weighing up to 20 kg, clearly labelled with the booking holder's name.

RATES

Version hotels Sélection	
Registration for 2 people	735€
Registration for 3 people	730€
Registration for 4 people	680€
Registration for 6 people	650€

Premium hotel version	
Registration for 2 people	930€
Registration for 3 people	925€
Registration for 4 people	890€
Registration for 6 people	840€

The price does not include :

- Transportation to the meeting point
- Lunches
- Dinners
- Drinks and personal expenses
- Personal bike equipment (e.g. helmets and gloves)
- Bicycles
- Entry to tourist sites
- Insurance

The price includes :

- accommodation in a double or triple room
- breakfast
- transport of one piece of luggage per person (max. 20 kg)
- tourist taxes
- access to our smartphone navigation app
- a personalised itinerary (PDF format)
- the ability to track your booking via your personal MyLaRébenne account
- full organisation and logistics for your stay
- 24-hour telephone support

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

+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 :

LaRébenne - 10 rue de la Comédie - 09000 Foix - France

Tel : + 33 (0)5 61 65 20 93 - contact@larebenne.com - www.larebenne.com

Immatriculation tourisme : IM 038100057