

WINE , RIVERSIDE , NATURE

type : Linear cycle routes Family Cycling Easy cycling Classic Cycle Routes of France Electric bike option Self-guided

hybrid : ●○○○○○

e-bike : ●○○○○○

duration : 6 days

comfort : ●●○○○○

period: Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct

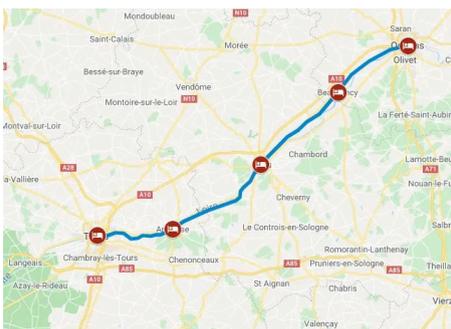
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Loire Valley 'relaxed' - from Orléans to Tours

6 days, €588

Introduction



You will follow the northern part of the royal valley by cycling along the majestic river from **Orléans to Tours** and discover France's most prestigious Chateaux de la Loire: **Blois, Chambord, Amboise, Cheverny, Beaugard, Chaumont, Le Clos-Lucé, Chenonceau**... This trip combines historical heritage, wonderful landscapes of varied natural areas and delicious French cuisine !

Highlights :

- Discover the world famous 'Pays des Châteaux', the most splendid cultural part of the Loire Valley

- Take your time with this relaxed version
- Cross the heart of the Touraine with its beautiful wild riverscapes
- Taste some of the excellent wines of the area

The total 'Loire à Vélo' route runs from Nevers to 'l'Océan', let's say from 'source' to mouth. The route can be divided into 3 various stages which can also be booked separately. You can add additional detours during this trip. This excellently marked second stage varies from flat, slightly sloping to an occasional small climb.

Day to Day

Day 1 **Arrival in Orléans**

You travel independently to Orléans, gateway to the heart of the famous Loire valley. It was a capital in the early French Middle Ages, nowadays it's a lively, modern town with a beautiful historic centre. An ideal place to start this route along Europe's last wild river: the Loire.

Day 2 **Orléans - Beaugency**

Once you have left the city noise behind, you soon reach the confluence of the Loiret and the Loire. Today you follow the high river banks with beautiful views of the surrounding undulating countryside. Don't miss the charming and historic town Meung-sur-Loire. Finally arrive at historic Beaugency where you can admire the beautiful old Loire bridge. In 1429 Jeanne d'Arc's army crossed this bridge to liberate the small town. You will find her statue here in a prominent spot.

Challenge : 28.2 km, 159 m ascent, 172 m descent

Day 3 **Beaugency - Blois**

Leave charming Beaugency behind you and follow the wonderful, flat track along the river bank from Tavers to Avaray. It leads you in a very relaxed way into the unique landscape of the world famous 'Pays des Châteaux': Blois, Amboise, Tours... Choose one of the different routes available. Although the original 'Loire à Vélo' route is the fastest, other more winding circuits make it possible to admire also other splendid 'chateaux' before you arrive at the historic city of Blois.

Challenge : 45.9 km, 328 m ascent, 345 m descent

Day 4 **Blois - Amboise**

From Blois you follow the southern bank of the Loire. Between rolling hills with vineyards you cycle to Candé-sur-Beuvron. Cycle back along the Beuvron to the majestic Loire. High on the bank is the elegant castle of Chaumont-sur-Loire surrounded by beautiful gardens. You are in the historic region of Touraine. Visit a wine grower and taste a local 'sauvignon blanc'. Enjoy the grandeur of the Château Amboise and Clos-Lucé where Leonardo da Vinci once stayed. There are some short climbs on the way.

Challenge : 42.2 km, 341 m ascent, 345 m descent

Day 5 **Amboise - Tours**

Leave the medieval atmosphere of Amboise behind you and cycle into the region of the prestigious Montlouis' wines. The ideal microclimate, close to where the Loire and Cher unite, produces grapes of a unique quality. Discover this for yourself during a visit to a wine cellar or a lunch break. A fine track leads to Tours, the friendly capital of what is called the garden of France'. Here great experiences are awaiting you like the magnificent cathedral and basilica, the Olivier Debré Art Centre, the Botanical Garden, the flavors of the markets...

Challenge : 55.6 km, 419 m ascent, 434 m descent

Day 6 **Departure from Tours**

Breakfast marks the end of the trip. Have you got some time left? Visit the beautiful historic centre of Tours, the 'ville d'art et d'histoire'. Travel back to Orléans by train.

Prices, Data, Booking

Included

- 5 Nights in selected 2*/3* hotels
- 5 Breakfasts
- Luggage transfers
- Tourist city taxes
- Detailed information pack, route notes and maps
- 24/7 Bilingual Emergency hotline

Not included

- Travel insurance
- Transport to first and from last accommodation
- Trains, busses or any transport wherever necessary
- Other Lunches & Dinners
- Personal expenses such as drinks, phone calls, additional transfers, etc
- Hybrid or E-bike rental

Extras

- Single Room Supplement
- Solo Traveller Supplement
- Upgrade Supplement hotels 3/4*
- Additional nights
- Transfer from the train station to your hotel
- Transfer back from your last accommodation
- Hybrid bike rental (105 €)
- E-bike supplement (170 €)

Practical Info



5 Nights included



2/3 Star Hotels or 3/4 Star Hotels (supplement applied)



Breakfast included, Halfboard optional on request



Maps and tourist information on all the places of interest



24/7 Bilingual Emergency hotline



Luggage transport to your next hotels



For time tables and further information check the [website of SNCF](#) or [rome2rio](#) for all French National trains (SNCF).

We strongly advise you to [download the sncf mobile app](#) prior to departure.

If you want to travel on a train with your bike, you can find more information [via this link](#).



Parking informations on request



We will supply the directions of this trip with a personalized code which gives you access to our travel App.