






Follow the Loire to the Atlantic coast


Wildly romantic to the sea

As one of the last unregulated rivers in Europe, the wild, romantic Loire flows through gently undulating terrain towards the Atlantic Ocean. Following its course along the Loire cycle path from Orléans to Saint Nazaire, it guides the culture-loving cyclist past magnificent castles and blooming gardens back into the glorious past of France – and into a royal cycling pleasure. You can look forward to one of UNESCO's World Heritage Sites, enjoy the sweet life à la française and admire impressive natural spectacles.


France



Easy to moderate



10 Days / 9 Nights



Self-guided tour

To the online version



Itinerary

Day 1 Arrival in Orléans

Individual arrival in Orléans. Located at the northernmost point of the course of the river Loire, this city is an ideal starting point for your cycling trip.

Day 2 Orléans – Blois, approx. 65 km

Shortly after Beaugency, you decide whether to cycle along the shorter route on the north bank, the official Loire cycle path, or choose the longer route on the south bank with a detour to Chambord Castle. Here, the "Domaine de Chambord" extends as far as the eye can see. You can see the walls of this largest and most splendid residence of the Loire, the eternal legacy of a faithless king, shining through the trees already from a distance.

Day 3 Blois – Tours, approx. 70 km

A wonderful day of cycling with fascinating views of the golden shimmering sand banks of the Loire and the characteristic rock dwellings of this region awaits you. The most regal of all Loire castles awaits you halfway along the route: Amboise castle. It housed five kings and a Roman emperor. A 16th century genius attracts attention as well – Leonardo da Vinci, who spent his last years here in Amboise. His manor house can be visited here as well. Onward journey along the banks of the Loire to Tours.

Day 4 Tours – Chinon, approx. 60 km

The tributary of the Loire, the Cher, leads you straight to Villandry castle with its terraced gardens. Of course, you cannot miss a visit to these famous gardens. Shady promenades, flowery arbours, fountains and the artistically laid out vegetable garden will astonish every visitor. A few kilometers further on, you change back to the banks of the Loire, and the next castle already awaits you: Langeais. The view from the defense tower (this castle was only used for military purposes) has the river and the entire surrounding area unfold below you. Passing through small villages and taking by-roads, you approach your destination Chinon, which impresses visitors with its mighty castle.

Day 5 Chinon – Saumur, approx. 80 km

You leave Chinon with its mediaeval streets and follow the Vienne to Candes-St-Martin. An enjoyable walk through the village to the highest point of the hill offers an impressive view of the confluence of the two rivers Vienne and Loire. You should not miss out on a further panoramic view of the wide Loire Valley from Saumur Castle.

Day 6 **Saumur - Angers, approx. 45-55 km**

After some kilometres you enter the vineyards situated at the southern shores of the Loire. On gentle hills you cycle right through the vineyards. Back again at the coast you cycle through quiet, medieval villages towards your next big Day Finish Angers. Be inspired by the lively university town situated at the Maine.

Day 7 **Angers - Saint-Florent-le-Vieil/surroundings, approx. 50-70 km**

Angers is situated on the river Maine, the final significant tributary of the Loire before the Atlantic. You follow this river until it joins the river Loire at La Pointe-Bouchemaine. You continue along the foot of a slate-granite massif until Savennières featuring the oldest church of the region. Some of the best wines of the Loire-valley are grown here, fruity, dry white wines – we recommend a visit to one of the vintners. From La Poissonnière the route leads you via dykes with wonderful views onto the river Loire into the trim little town Saint-Florent-le-Vieil.

Day 8 **Saint-Florent-le-Veil - Nantes, approx. 55 km**

Another day along the Loire River through continuously changing scenery awaits. The Loire now finally enters Brittany and carves through slate- and granite rocks all the way to Nantes. The cycle path changes the side of the river several times, which also includes tackling a few smaller ascents – which again rewards you with beautiful views. The Loire escorts you into the centre of the historic capital of Brittany, Nantes. Although the Loire estuary into the Atlantic is another 70 km away the influence of the sea is already noticeable and visible.

Day 9 **Nantes - Saint Nazaire, approx. 65 km**

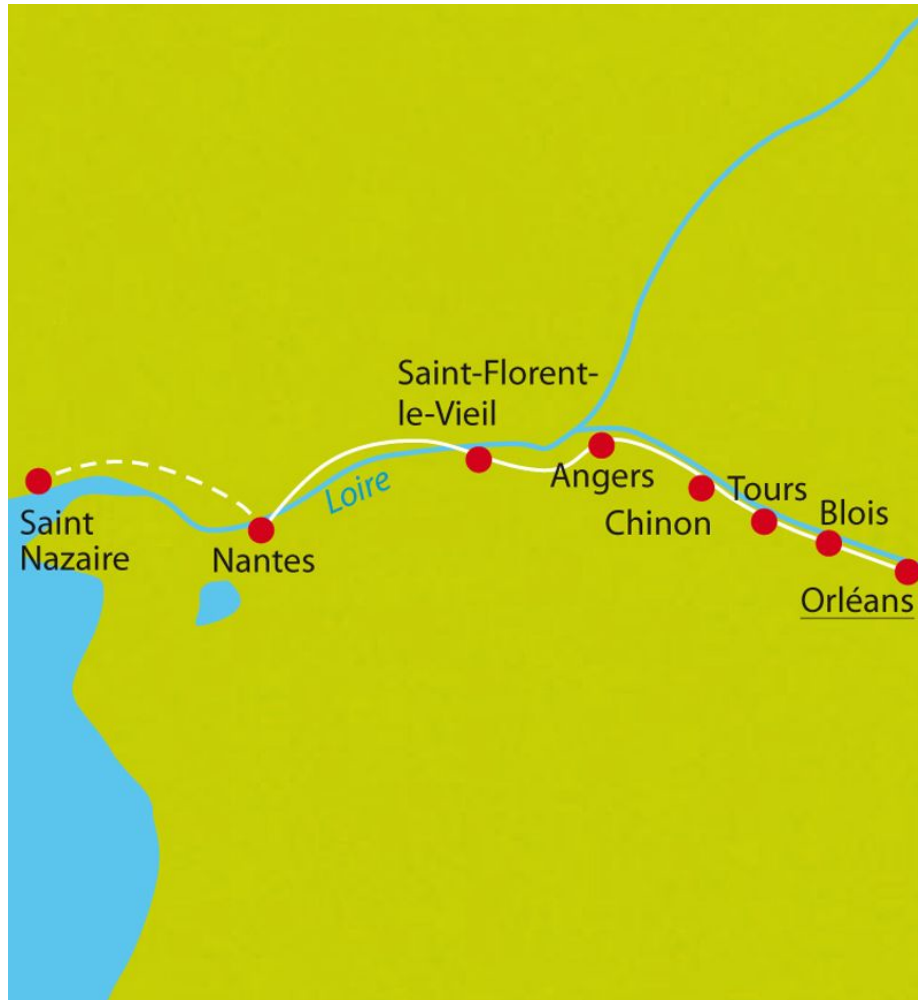
Now the river becomes ever wider, the scenery increasingly placid. You proceed through little villages always downstream to the Loire ending in the Atlantic Ocean. Visit the Atlantic shipyard, which is one of the largest ship building corporations in the world, or the submarine bunker, which is also accessible by bike.

Day 10 **Departure or extension**

An extensive recreational bike trip along the Loire has thus come to an end. You would like to take the opportunity and relax for a few more days on the Atlantic Ocean?

The route

You cycle on small filed paths and side roads with light traffic. On some short connecting parts of the route one has to count with heavy traffic. The daily stages are mostly flat to slightly hilly. This is a bike tour that guarantees eventful holiday fun for a normal constitution.



Prices and events

Place of arrival: Orléans

	Season 1 30.03.2024 - 12.04.2024 28.09.2024 - 12.10.2024 thursday	Season 2 13.04.2024 - 10.05.2024 07.09.2024 - 27.09.2024 thursday	Season 3 11.05.2024 - 06.09.2024 thursday
Loire Cycle Path: Orléans - Saint Nazaire, 10 days, FR-LOROS-10X			
Base price	1,239.00	1,299.00	1,359.00
Surcharge single room	549.00	549.00	549.00

Sustainability with Rückenwind!

Help us to achieve greater sustainability. If you choose to use the digital route book and forgo the printed version you will help us to reduce our environmental impact and we'll give you a discount of 20 Euro per room as a thank you.

Additional nights

Place of arrival: Orléans

	Season 1 Mar 30, 2024 - Apr 12, 2024 Sep 28, 2024 - Oct 12, 2024 thursday	Season 2 Apr 13, 2024 - May 10, 2024 Sep 7, 2024 - Sep 27, 2024 thursday	Season 3 May 11, 2024 - Sep 6, 2024 thursday
Orléans			
Double room p. P.	85.00	85.00	85.00
Surcharge single room	69.00	69.00	69.00
Saint Nazaire			
Double room p. P.	65.00	65.00	65.00
Surcharge single room	45.00	45.00	45.00

Our bookable bikes

	Price
21-gear unisex incl. rental bike insurance	109.00
21-gear gents incl. rental bike insurance	109.00
rental bike PLUS incl. rental bike insurance	185.00
Electric bike incl. rental bike insurance	279.00
Prices per person in EUR	

Services & Extras

Services

Included:

- 9 Overnights in hotels of the booked category incl. breakfast
- Luggage transfer
- At best elaborated route with maps (GE,EN,FR)
- Detailed travel documents with maps 1x per room (GE,EN,FR)
- GPS-Tracks
- For rental bikes, rental bike insurance
- 7-days-service-hotline

Not included:

- Arrival and departure
- Costs for parking
- City tax
- Transfers
- Optional sightseeings
- City maps
- Repairs of own bike
- Travel Insurances
- Costs of the private requirements

Extras

Arrival / Parking / Departure

- Orléans, Tours or St Nazaire train station
- Airport Paris
- Garage approx. € 10,- / day in Orléans
- On weekends, continuous train connections with free bike transport from St. Nazaire via Tours to Orléans.
- Return transfer by minibus to Tours or Orléans every Saturday morning, cost per person to Tours € 99,- or Orléans € 125,-, for own bike additional € 39,-, reservation required, payable in advance.

Hotels

French hotel classification

Category X: Overnight stays in quality hotels of the 2*/3* category. All rooms with shower/bath and WC.

Important notes

Further important information according to the package travel law can be found [here!](#)

Contact & booking

Do you still have questions about the tour? We are happy to help and look forward to your inquiry.



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Book now