

LOIRE

Highlights
 Castle of Villandry,
 Chenonceaux and many more,
 Cycling along rivers & valleys,
 Tours - capital of Touraine,
 Abbey of Fontevraud,
 Vineyards



IN THE FRENCH KING'S FOOTSTEPS! (ECO)

The Loire Valley is known for its romantic castles, famous gardens, and historic churches, as well as the picturesque villages and its delicious wine. The longest river in France and its tributaries, Vienne, Cher and Indre, are welcoming you with their marvellous surrounding. The well-balanced combination of culture and nature will make this cycling tour an unforgettable trip.

DIFFICULTY ●●○○	KM 358/ 372	LENGTH 8 days 7 nights	ARRIVAL fridays - sundays 19.03. - 31.10.21
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Day 1 Tours

Arrival in Tours. Time to get a first impression of this beautiful town in-between the Loire and the Cher River.

Day 2 Tours - Chinon 61 km

You will leave the city along the riverside of the Loire. A few kilometres further, you arrive at the famous gardens of Villandry Castle. From the little roads parallel to the Loire, you have a nice view of the wilder sides of the Loire River.

Passing among fields you will arrive at Sleeping Beauty's castle, in Ussé. You then cycle up to Chinon, dominated by the ruins of the castle of Charles VII. During the 12th century, King Henry II of England fell in love with this beautiful town, located on the side of the river Vienne.

Day 3 Chinon - Fontevraud - Chinon 55 or 69 km

Today, you will cycle from Chinon to Fontevraud, one of the largest abbeys in France, which was built during the 12th century under the protection of the Plantagenets' family. Henry II, Richard the Lionheart as well as Eleanor of Aquitaine are buried here. On your way back to Chinon, you will cycle among the vineyards of Anjou.



Day 4 Chinon - Azay-le-Rideau 36 km

From Chinon to Azay le Rideau, you will cycle through nice forests. On your arrival in Azay le Rideau you will be struck by the charms of the Indre Valley: romantic riversides, beautiful houses made of stone, and the amazing castle described as a jewel by the French writer Honoré de Balzac.

Day 5 Azay-le-Rideau - Chenonceaux 59 km

You will leave the Indre Valley in order to follow the Cher Valley. Passing through Montbazou, and Bléré, nice little towns. Followed by the famous castle of Chenonceau called « Château des Dames ». Maybe behind a door or during a walk in the magnificent gardens you will meet the ghosts of Catherine de Medicis or Diane de Poitiers.



Day 6 Chenonceaux - Blois 76 km

Today's route will pass through Montrichard in the Cher valley; you will cycle through beautiful little villages and arrive in Cheverny. Then you will follow Blois by Chambord, the largest castle in the Loire valley. Blois was the seat of royalty during many years and different art movements from various periods mark this town. Along with the castle this makes for an interesting day.

Day 7 Blois - Tours ca. 71 km

The last cycling day will be an unforgettable ride. You will follow the banks of the fascinating river Loire up to the royal castle of Amboise. In Amboise, do not miss the visit of Clos Lucé, famous house where Leonardo da Vinci spent the last years of his life. Back to Tours along the Loire again.

Day 8 Departure

Your cycling trip in Loire Valley is unfortunately finished but you will bring back home a complete range of great memories...

SELF-GUIDED CYCLING TOUR



ROUTE CHARACTERISTICS

- Partly on cycle paths and little side routes, always asphalted, between the valleys slight climbs

SERVICE INCLUDED

- 6 nights in 2* hotels in room with private facilities
- 1 night in 3* hotel in room with private facilities
- Daily breakfast
- Daily luggage transfer
- Route book, maps and information material
- 24 h Service Hotline
- GPS-tracks on demand

PER PERSON

ROOM

with B&B DBL / SGL	667 € / 910 €
with half-board B&B / SGL	934 € / 1177 €

EXTRA NIGHT

Tours DBL / SGL	61 € / 107 €
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BIKE RENTAL

21-Gear-Tourbike	100 €
E-Bike (250 € deposit)	200 €

POSSIBLE OPTIONS

- 4-course-diner (Option half-board)
- Bike rental
- Helmet rental
- Rental GPS-navigation device

