



WINE , RIVERSIDE , NATURE , GASTRONOMY , CULTURE

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 : Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct

code : FRSB460



Loire Valley - from Orléans to Saumur

6 days, € 580

Introduction



Biking a part of the famous 'Loire à Vélo' route through the world famous "Pays des Châteaux", the most splendid cultural part of the Loire Valley. Passing magnificent/grand castles : **Blois, Amboise, Villandry**.... Crossing the Anjou-Touraine natural reserve with its beautiful wild river landscapes and nice stops during the day to taste one/some of the excellent wines of the region.

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, the entrance/gateway to the heart of the famous Loire valley. It was a regional 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 - Blois**

Once in the country you soon reach the confluence of the Loiret and the Loire. A great part of the day you follow the high banks with beautiful views of the surrounding undulating countryside. Don't miss the historic towns Meung-sur-Loire and Beaugency. These old towns and the modern power station of St. Laurent-des-Eaux very clearly show how important the Loire is, and has always been. A wonderful, flat track takes you, in a very relaxed way, to the special and unique landscape of the world famous 'Pays des Châteaux'.

Challenge: 62.7km, 87m ascent, 117m descent

Day 3 **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 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: 42.5km, 204m ascent, 209m descent

Day 4 **Amboise - Villandry**

Today you travel through the wine 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 yourself during a visit to a wine cellar or a lunchbreak. A fine track leads to Tours, the friendly capital of what is called the garden of France'. Continue along the beautiful southern bank of the Cher to the castle of Villandry, with its gorgeous gardens. Here the modest Cher flows out in the broad Loire.

Challenge: 49.7km, 119m ascent, 144m descent

Day 5 **Villandry - Saumur**

Via the 'Bec du Cher' along the Loire to the Château of Ussé. From the high bank you have beautiful views of the river and its islands full of water birds. The landscape is unspoiled where the Indre flows out in the Loire. Enjoying the magnificent panoramas you go on to the lovely Candé-St-Martin where the Vienne and Loire confluence. This is Anjou, known for its wines and troglodytes. Choose the track close to the Loire or follow the higher, more exciting but also more strenuous track across the vineyards. Both end at the castle of Saumur.

Challenge: 63.6km, 199m ascent, 202m descent

Day 6 **Departure from Saumur**

Breakfast marks the end of the trip. Have you got some time left, then visit the equestrian town of Saumur, the home base of the prestigious riding academy the Cadre Noir where the elite of French horsemen are trained. Enjoy the beautiful houses with their white tuffeau stone facades in the town centre and admire the proud castle and the many other beautiful classified monuments.

Prices, Data, Booking

Starting dates:

Daily from April 01 till October 31

Of course you can also book extra night(s) during the trip. We can give you these prices on request. Please mention where you would like to add extra night(s).

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 accommodations. Luggage accepted per person: 1 suitcase or travel bag (20 kg maximum)



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.