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## *Loire Cycle Path: Tours – Saint Nazaire*

WILD-ROMANTIC ALL THE WAY TO THE SEA.

Has France been on your travel list for a long time? Or have you long since fallen in love? Either way, a cycle tour along the Loire is romantic in many ways. The unbridled river, the charming towns, the historic castles and the wild Atlantic. Over eight days, you cycle from the university town of Tours to the delightful Saint Nazaire, where the sea lies at your feet. Need we say more?

### *Details of the cycle tour along the Loire*

The 1st stage leads directly past two castles before you head to Chinon as your destination for the day. While the town is familiar to many from the film "Monsieur Claude and his Daughters", the old town is simply a wonderful place to stroll and explore. Via Saumur, the route continues to the university town of Angers.

Incidentally, first-class vines thrive along the Loire (and have done so since the Middle Ages!), from which internationally renowned wines are pressed. The penultimate stage destination is the sixth largest city in France: Nantes. Here, history and modernity come together to form a harmonious symbiosis. Across a 720-metre bridge, you will finally reach Saint Nazaire, which is of great economic importance due to its harbour and shipyards.

### *Highlights of the cycling tour from Tours to Saint Nazaire*

- **The impressive cultural monuments of the Loire castles:** A few kilometres after Tours, Villandry Castle awaits you, which is particularly famous for its six ornate gardens and the oriental salon. The castles of Saumur and Lengeais also exude French charm.
- **Idyllic natural experience:** The untamed nature of the Loire makes it a spectacle. The charming Loire Valley and the numerous tributaries, plus the varied landscape between wine-growing areas

and the Atlantic coast - you will hardly be able to get enough of the beauty of this corner of the world.

- **Vibrant French cities:** Have a café au lait in a bistro and linger, then stroll through the old alleyways and absorb the culture and architecture. Immerse yourself in the "savoir vivre", the famous French way of life.
- **A bold plunge into the waves of the Atlantic:** The ocean is considered wild and refreshing here, yet it shows itself to be so inviting that you simply have to dare to take a dip. The coastline is not to be neglected either, with wooded dunes, rocky coves and small beaches making bathing a picturesque experience. Tip: The bay of La Baule is worth a trip!

## *Useful information about the 8-day cycle tour*

The well-designed and easy-to-follow cycle stages are between 40 and 65 kilometres long. The route has only a few, small climbs - in return, you will enjoy the views. There may sometimes be a headwind on the Atlantic side.

- Tips, tours and interesting facts about the [Loire Cycle Route](#) can be found here.

### *Medium*



8 Days / 7 Nights



Self-guided Tour

### To the online version



# Itinerary

DAY  
1

## *Arrival in Tours*

Sample hotel: [Ibis Styles Centre](#)

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DAY  
2

## *Tours – Chinon* | approx. 55 km

The river Cher, a Loire tributary, leads you directly to Villandry palace with its terraced gardens. Certainly, you should not miss paying a visit to this famous installation. Every visitor will be amazed by the shadowy footpaths, the flower-bedecked bowers, the fountains and the artistically laid out vegetable gardens. Some kilometres further on you will exchange the bank of the Cher for the bank of the famous Loire. And again you will be tempted by the next castle – Langeais. From the top of the fortified tower (this castle exclusively served for military purposes) you will see the river and its whole surroundings lying in front of you. Via small villages and on side roads you will reach today's Day Finish – Chinon, impressing visitors with its mighty castle complex.

Sample hotel: [Ibis Styles](#)

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DAY  
3

## *Chinon – Saumur* | approx. 40 km

You leave Chinon with its medieval alleyways and follow the river Vienne to Candes-St. Martin. A charming stroll through the village up to the highest point of the hill enables an impressive view onto the confluence of both rivers Vienne and Loire. Shortly before arriving in Saumur there is a special highlight. The bike path leads right through the mystic rockhouses of Souzey. We highly recommend another panoramic view onto the vast Loire-valley later from Saumur palace.

Sample hotel: [Hotel Kyriad Saumur Centre](#)

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DAY  
4*Saumur – Angers* | approx. 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. In case this tour is too strenuous for you, you can bypass the route by train from Saumur onwards.

Sample hotel: [Le Progres](#)

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DAY  
5*Angers – Saint-Florent-le-Vieil/Surroundings* | approx. 55 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.

Sample hotel: [Logis Hostellerie la Gabelle](#)

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DAY  
6*Saint-Florent-le-Vieil/Surroundings – 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.

Sample hotel: [Mercure Grand Hotel](#)

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DAY  
7*Nantes – Saint Nazaire* | approx. 65 km

Now the river becomes ever wider, the scenery increasingly placid. You proceed through little villages always to the Loire ending in the Atlantic Ocean. Only the impressive bridge over the Loire River separates you from Saint Nazaire. 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.

Sample hotel: [Comfort Hotel de l'Europe](#)

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DAY  
8*Departure or extension*

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# *Tour character*

You cycle on asphalted and gravelled cycle paths, partially also along side roads. There are only a few ascents worth mentioning to be tackled along the very well signposted route, occasionally you may encounter some headwind.

# Prices and events

*Place of arrival: Tours*

	<b>Season 1</b> 01.04.2023 - 14.04.2023   30.09.2023 - 07.10.2023   Arrival Saturday	<b>Season 2</b> 15.04.2023 - 12.05.2023   09.09.2023 - 29.09.2023   Arrival Saturday	<b>Season 3</b> 13.05.2023 - 08.09.2023   Arrival Saturday
<b>Loire Cycle Path: Tours - Saint Nazaire, 8 days, FR-LORTS-08X</b>			
Base price	879.00	939.00	999.00
Surcharge single room	429.00	429.00	429.00

Category: 3\*\*\*-hotels (French classification)

# Additional nights

*Place of arrival: Tours*

	<b>Season 1</b> Apr 1, 2023 - Apr 14, 2023   Sep 30, 2023 - Oct 7, 2023   Arrival Saturday	<b>Season 2</b> Apr 15, 2023 - May 12, 2023   Sep 9, 2023 - Sep 29, 2023   Arrival Saturday	<b>Season 3</b> May 13, 2023 - Sep 8, 2023   Arrival Saturday
<b>Tours</b>			
Double room p. P.	6500	6500	6500
Surcharge single room	4500	4500	4500
<b>Saint Nazaire</b>			
Double room p. P.	6500	6500	6500
Surcharge single room	4500	4500	4500

# Our rental bikes

*Filter*

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<b>21-gear unisex incl. rental bike insurance</b>	99.00
<b>21-gear gents incl. rental bike insurance</b>	99.00
<b>rental bike PLUS incl. rental bike insurance</b>	159.00
<b>Electric bike incl. rental bike insurance</b>	239.00

Prices per person in EUR

# Services and infos

## Services

### Included:

- Accommodation as mentioned
- Breakfast
- Luggage transfer
- EUROBIKE developed route
- Detailed travel documents 1x per room (GE, EN)
- Navigation-App and GPS-data available
- Service hotline

### Optional:

- Bike rental, including rental bike insurance!
- Return transfer by minibus to Tours or Orleans every Saturday morning, costs EUR 95 per person to Tours, EUR 119 to Orleans, for every own bike additional EUR 29,-, reservation is necessary, to be paid in advance

## Infos

### Arrival / Parking / Departure:

- Orléans, Tours or St. Nazaire train station
- Airport Paris
- Garage approx. EUR 7,- per day in Orléans
- Hotel underground car park approx. EUR 50,- per week in Tours. No reservation possible/necessary.
- On weekends direct train connections, bikes can be taken free of charge, from St. Nazaire via Tours to Orléans

### Things to note:

- For this trip, high quality rental bikes are provided by our local partner
- Tourist tax, if due, is not included in the price!
- 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**

