

The castles of the Loire

8 DAYS / 7 NIGHTS, APPROX. 305 – 365 KM

BOOKING CODE: FR-LOBB7

DAILY ROUTE LENGTH ●●●●●

TOPOGRAPHY ●●●●●



Round trip from Blois through the UNESCO World Heritage Site

From Eur **939,-**



Your tour

On this bike tour you will get to know the garden of France, known for its high density of castles. The nobility of the Grande Nation realized their dreams of living on the Loire between the 10th and 16th centuries, which still tell of exciting times and are mostly accessible today. Embedded in dreamlike river landscapes, the tour promises not only many highlights for the eye, but also one or two fine wines from the country's longest wine-growing region.

Itinerary

Day 1	Individual arrival to Blois	
Day 2	Blois – Tours, approx. 45 km + train ride or approx. 75 km	
Day 3	Tours – Chinon, approx. 55 km	
Day 4	Excursion to Fontevraud l'Abbaye, approx. 55 km	
Day 5	Chinon – Azay-le-Rideau, approx. 40 km	
Day 6	Azay-le-Rideau – Chenonceaux, approx. 60 km	
Day 7	Chenonceaux – Blois, approx. 50 / 80 km	
Day 8	Individual departure	

Travel time

Season A	23.03. – 12.04.	28.09. – 12.10.
Season B	13.04. – 10.05.	07.09. – 27.09.
Season C	11.05. – 06.09.	

Daily arrival 23.03. – 12.10.2024

The season is dictated by the arrival date.

Services

- 7 nights with breakfast, national 2* / 3*-level (Cat B)
- 7 nights with breakfast, national 3*-level (Cat A)
- Luggage transport from hotel to hotel, max. 20 kg / piece
- Cycle route description with maps (1 x per room)
- Service-Hotline (7 days, 08.00 a.m. – 08.00 p.m.)

Not included services

- Train ride Amboise – Tours, approx. 6 Euro incl. bike
- Citys or visitors tax, if payable

Basic price per person	Category B	Category A
Doubleroom, Season A	939,-	1079,-
Doubleroom, Season B	999,-	1139,-
Doubleroom, Season C	1059,-	1199,-
Price Surcharge Singleroom	379,-	379,-

Additional night prices per person	Category B	Category A
Blois DBL / BB (Season A + B)	65,-	69,-
Blois DBL / BB (Season C)	79,-	79,-
Blois SGL / BB (Season A + B)	129,-	119,-
Blois SGL / BB (Season C)	145,-	129,-

Additional services per person

E-bike / Pedelec*	259,-
Rental bike (7- / 21-gear)*	99,-

*including rental bike insurance

Exemplary hotel list Category A

Blois	Anne de Bretagne, Blois	https://www.hotelannedebretagne.com/en
Tours	Ibis Styles Centre, Tours	https://all.accor.com/hotel/8011/index.de.shtml
Chinon	Diderot, Chinon	https://hoteldiderot.com/
Chinon	Diderot, Chinon	https://hoteldiderot.com/
Azay-le-Rideau	Hotel de Biencourt, Azay-le-Rideau	https://hoteldebiencourt.fr/en/homepage/
Chenonceaux	La Roseraie, Chenonceaux	http://www.hotel-chenonceau.com/
Blois	Anne de Bretagne, Blois	https://www.hotelannedebretagne.com/en

Exemplary hotel list Category B

Blois	Le Monarque, Blois	https://www.hotel-lemonarque.com/fr
Tours	Ibis Styles Centre, Tours	https://all.accor.com/hotel/8011/index.de.shtml
Chinon	Rive Sud, Chinon	https://www.hotelrivesud.com/fr
Chinon	Rive Sud, Chinon	https://www.hotelrivesud.com/fr
Azay-le-Rideau	Val de Loire, Azay-le-Rideau	https://www.valdeloire-hotel.fr/de/
Chenonceaux	Logis Le Relais, Chenonceaux	https://www.chenonceaux.com/
Blois	Le Monarque, Blois	https://www.hotel-lemonarque.com/fr

Child reduction on basic price

0 - 5 Years	100%
6 - 11 Years	50%
12 - 14 Years	25%
15 - 17 Years	10%

Reduction for children is valid for accommodation in room with two full-paying guests.

Languages Travel documents

→ German, English, French

Additional note

- All bookings are on request.
- In France, helmets are compulsory for children up to the age of 12. However, for safety reasons, we generally recommend wearing a helmet.

Equipment of our rental bikes

- Comfortable saddle
- Bike lock
- Odometer
- Air pump
- Breakdown kit (1 x per booking)
- Waterproof pannier
- Waterproof handlebar bag with map holder

Journey to Blois

- Nearest airports: Paris
- Train station: Blois

Parking in Blois

- Public parking garage, cost approx. 30 € per week.
- No reservation possible through Radweg-Reisen.

Luggage transport

- Luggage pick-up from 09.00 a.m., delivery to the next hotel by 06.00 p.m. at the latest, labeling of luggage is 1 x for the whole tour. No restriction on the number of pieces of luggage, but max. 20 kg per piece of luggage.

Travel documents

- Travel document dispatch to the arrival hotel, hotel list and arrival information in advance by e-mail

Stages description

Day 1: Individual arrival to Blois

Your journey to the castles of the Loire begins in Blois. The special centerpiece of this small town built on hills is the castle on the right bank of the Loire. Perched on a hilltop, it evolved from a castle complex and served as the residence of French kings until the 16th century. Immerse yourself in the world of yesteryear during a tour of the castle and enjoy a fruity wine from the Loire Valley at the end of the day.

Day 2: Blois – Tours, approx. 45 km + train ride or approx. 75 km

You follow the leisurely flowing Loire by bike through the ancient cultural landscape. A special feature are the rock dwellings carved into the limestone, which are still inhabited today. Royal politics were

conducted from Amboise Castle. It even once housed Leonardo da Vinci. Continue through the area of Vouvray, with its famous vineyards of Chenin Blanc grapes, back to Tours, the starting point of your cycling tour of the castles of the Loire. Alternatively, you can take the train in Amboise on your own and thus shorten the last cycling stage.

Day 3: Tours – Chinon, approx. 55 km

You will experience two more magnificent castles on today's stage of your bike tour from Orléans to the Atlantic Ocean. You follow the Cher River and soon reach Villandry Castle. Stroll through the six magnificently landscaped gardens – one more beautiful than the other. Continuing along the banks of the Loire River, you will reach

Langeais and thus the second castle of today. From the fortified tower you will enjoy the magnificent view over the river and the surrounding countryside. After this relaxing break, you will roll leisurely to Chinon.

Day 4: Excursion to Fontevraud l'Abbaye, approx. 55 km

On your journey to the castles of the Loire by bike, today you can take a trip to Fontevraud l'Abbaye, known for its extensive monastery complex. First, follow the Vienne River to where it joins the Loire at Montsoreau. The castle built there, which looks like a castle from the outside, is worth seeing. The route continues through vineyards to Fontevraud l'Abbaye. The very well preserved monastery town is considered the largest contiguous monastery complex in Europe. Afterwards you cycle back to Chinon.

Day 5: Chinon – Azay-le-Rideau, approx. 40 km

You will have enough time to visit the fortress of Chinon before your bike tour takes you through old vineyards to Crissay. With its tuff stone houses from the 15th and 16th centuries, it is one of the most beautiful villages in France. The town of Azay-le-Rideau is your destination for the day. Here, in the middle of the water, lies one of the most famous Loire castles. The writer Honoré de Balzac compared it to a cut diamond set in the Indre River. See for yourself the beauty of the Renaissance building with its opulent interior.

Day 6: Azay-le-Rideau – Chenonceaux, approx. 60 km

Today you will be enchanted by the romantic river landscape of the Indre, which accompanies you to the pretty little town of Montbazon. After a short climb, you continue along the river to Bléré. Now you follow the course of the Cher River, which leads you to your destination of the day, Chenonceaux. This enchanting moated castle looks back on a history of around 800 years. It is not surprising that it is called the Château des Dames, as the women who once lived there made a significant contribution to the appearance of the complex. Also worth seeing: the bridge gallery and the extensive gardens.

Day 7: Chenonceaux – Blois, approx. 50 / 80 km

If you choose the shorter stage today, follow the Loire Cycle Path through the lovely countryside of Touraine to Chaumont Castle. If you prefer more kilometers on your bike, you can also cycle to the castle in Montrichard and the castles in Cheverny and Villavieille on the longer tour. Before returning to Blois, another highlight of this trip awaits you: Chambord Castle. It is not only the largest castle in the Loire Valley, but also the most magnificent. The design of the castle, which was built over 500 years ago, is said to go back to Leonardo da Vinci.

Day 8: Individual departure

After breakfast you start your individual return journey home or extend your stay.