



**OK CYCLE &
ADVENTURE
TOURS** SINCE 1995

France - Loire Valley from Briare to Nevers by Bike and Boat Tour (2025)

Guided

8 Days /7 Nights



The Loire Valley between the cities of Briare and Nevers in the heart of France is a very well suited region for a relaxing bike and barge holiday. Following the flow of the Loire River you gently ride through the green countryside with charming little villages and old castles and palaces. The rich landscape boasts many fruitful vineyards. Especially well known are the Sancerre and Pouilly Fumé wines. Both wines are reckoned to be among the most prestigious in the world. You will also see impressive examples of canal building engineering along the Canal lateral du Loire. The small city of Briare with its picturesque locks and aqueduct is our starting point. On the first day you will ride to Rogy-les-Sept-Ecluses via the Pont Chevron castle. Through a beautiful region of lakes and past castles you will cycle along the Loire and visit Chatillon-sur-Loire with its impressive locks. Wine tasting in the region of Sancerre and the Pouilly Fumé wines cannot be missed. In between you will ride to St. Brisson Forest and through seemingly endless vineyards. On the way to the city of Nevers you will also visit the ancient Roman town of La Charité-sur-Loire with a 16th century stone bridge and the Château of Apremont, dating back to the 12th century and lavishly surrounded by gardens. The final destination of this week, the historical town of Nevers, is in itself already worth a visits of a few days.

OK Cycle & Adventure Tours Inc. - 666 Kirkwood Ave - Suite B102 – Ottawa, Ontario Canada K1Z 5X9

www.okcycletours.com Toll Free 1-888-621-6818 Local 613-702-5350



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Itinerary Day to Day

Day 1: Briare embarkation, short bike ride, 15 km

The barge is moored in Briare in the Canal Lateral á la Loire, at the Rue du Pont Canal. You are expected to arrive at our barge on Saturday between 1 PM and 2 PM. When you arrive on board, you can settle in and enjoy a cup of coffee or tea. It is also a good moment to become acquainted with the tour leader, skipper and crew and of course your fellow passengers. During dinner aboard the ship, the program for the next day and the global planning of the week are discussed. Instructions on cycling and safety procedures will also be given. After dinner the tour leader will escort you on the first kilometers on your bike during a short ride around the village.

Day 2: Briare – Rogny-les-sept-Écluses – Briare 50 km

Our first real bike ride this week will lead us to the castle of 'Pont Chevron,' situated on a small, picturesque lake. Around lunch time on this first cycling day you will be in the village Rogny-les-Sept-Écluses, known for its historical seven locks. Via the 16th century castle near Bléneau you will cycle through a region of lakes to Ouzouer-sur-Trézée and eventually back to Briare.



Day 3: Briare – Sury-Pres-Lere 38/51 km

Today we start with a visit to the magnificent aqueduct over the Loire River in Briare. With some luck and good planning you might see the Clair de Lune pass through here, high above the river. Later you ride to St. Brisson, where you will see the impressive medieval castle.

Further on you will pass the historical locks of Châtillon-sur-Loire. The bike ride towards Sury-Pres-Lere leads you through typical French countryside with rolling hills, country estates and small villages.

Day 4: Sury-Pres-Lere-Sancerre, 34 km

Sancerre wines, and especially the white wines, are famous all over the world. The first mentioning of winegrowing in this region dates back to the 6th century. Until the 19th century the region mostly grew Pinot grapes, but after a disease that devastated the grapes Sauvignon is now mostly grown. And with success! The ride today takes you on a picturesque route right across the Sancerre vineyards and through the surrounding villages. In Ménétréol, situated under the Sancerre vineyards, there will be an opportunity to try some wine before returning to the Clair de Lune.



Day 5: Sancerre – Beffes 38km

Right after breakfast you will hop on your bikes and begin this days cycling tour through the region of the Pouilly Fumé wines to La Charité-sur-Loire, an ancient Roman town. Crossing the 16th century stone bridge to the center, there is a splendid view overlooking the town and its Notre Dame church. Continue towards the destination of today, Beffes.



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Day 6: Beffes – Guetin 37 km

Riding south from Beffes you pass nice wooded areas with again many nice villages and country estates. Later in the day you will end up in the small town of Apremont, where you will have the opportunity to visit the 12th century castle and surrounding fabulous gardens. After, you will continue to the sleepy village of Guetin on the Canal Lateral du Loire. On the way a visit to the aqueduct over the Allier River with its two impressive locks both measuring about 9 meters high is a must do!

Day 7: Guetin – Nevers 23 km

We end this week in the heart of France with a short ride to the town of Nevers where there are many sites to see including the winding streets filled with houses dating back from the 14th to 17th century. The origins of Nevers date back to Roman times. Nevers is since the 5th century the seat of the bishop and has among others a castle and a few interesting churches. To celebrate the end of your cycling week you can of course also take a well-earned rest on the several terraces in town and enjoy the local wine.



Day 8: Nevers, end of tour after breakfast

Disembarkation before 10 AM.





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Route



Technical Characteristics:

Tour Profile: Relatively Easy. Suitable for people of all ages. On some days you will be cycling through a windy area or (depending on the tour) may encounter short slopes with differences in heights up to 75 m. or (gently rolling terrain); with distances to 55 kilometers per day. You spend about 5 hours on your bicycle.

Distance: 255 km

2025 Dates – This tour is also available from Nevers to Braire

Braire to Nevers

Standard season: June 10

Low Season: June 24; July 8; July 22; August 8

Nevers to Braire

Standard Season: June 3; June 17; August 19

Low season: July 1; July 15; July 29



Price per person in Euros- all prices subject to confirmation on booking

Season	Low	Standard	High
Double Cabin	€1450	€1590	€1675
Twin Cabin Split level beds	€1450	€1590	€1675
Single Cabin	€1505	€1610	€1800
Double cabin for Single use	€2090	€2300	€1800
Surcharge for Specialty Diets Gluten Free, lactose free, Vegan- must be ordered in advance	€100		
Bike Rental Hybrid Bicycle	€115		
Bike Rental E-Bike Bicycle	€225		
Dutch Guarantee Fund Fee	€5		

Please note that the tour prices are based on the current fuel price. Should the fuel price increase more than 5%, then we need to ask a supplement. Even for reservations already made.

Included:

- All nights on board (incl. bedding, towels, soap)
- Breakfast and dinner on board
- Lunch packages when on the road
- Coffee and tea on board
- Tour guide, cycles with the group
- Minimum 3 city walks with tour guide
- Free WiFi (limited available in lounge and on deck)
- Route information, 1x per cabin
- Ferry fares on the route
- GPS tracks (on request)

Not Included:

- Journey to and from Briare and Nevers
- Entrance fees to museums approximately 45 Euros per tour
- Personal expenses



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Clair de Lune



Our motorized passenger vessels, about 35 - 45 meters in length, are former river vessels especially converted for this kind of holiday. The barges all comply with the strict safety regulations laid down by the Dutch Shipping Inspection Authorities. On board you find a cozy dining room, a sun deck/a deck for the bicycles. All cabins are provided with running water (hot and cold), private shower and toilet, 220 voltage and central heating. The chef prepares nice meals, which are served in the dining saloon.

Cabins: Nine cabins with private shower, wash basin, toilet and central heating. The beds cannot be placed together. There are 3x double cabin for 2 passengers (1 double bed); 5x double cabin for 2 passengers (1 split level bed), 1x single cabin for 1 passenger (1 single bed). Hairdryers are available on board.

There is limited storage space in the cabin. We recommend 1 suitcase per person. You can slide the suitcase under the bed. Do not expect a cruise ship with its passive luxury. The Bike & Barge Holidays are for people who really enjoy the physical activity of cycling and who value sociability more than wholesale luxury.



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Bikes

Touring bike with 24 speeds and handbrakes. Men's and women's models available. Brand Oxford.

Accessories: bike helmet, pannier bag, a good lock and a water bottle.

Step-through frame: for passengers from 4'11 to 5'10" / 150cm - 178cm

Men's frame: for passengers from 4'11 to 6'8" / 150cm - 203cm

E-Bike

E-bike with integrated battery; 8 speeds. Brand Freebike.

Accessories: bike helmet, pannier bag, a good lock and a water bottle.

We advise only to rent an electric bicycle if you are used to cycle and only need electric support because of, for example, lesser condition. It is a heavy bicycle to handle (25 kg).

For passengers from 5'1 to 6'3" / 155cm - 190cm

All our bikes come equipped with:

- 24 speeds (touring bike); 8 speeds (e-bike)
- hand brakes
- pannier bag
- a good (fixed) lock
- water bottle
- bike helmet



Assisting people in realizing their touring dreams worldwide is our passion.

www.okcycletours.com



THIS IS A PARTNER TOUR FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

OK Cycle & Adventure Tours Inc. 666 Kirkwood Ave - Suite B102 – Ottawa, Ontario Canada K1Z 5X9

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