



**France- The Loire-Cycle Path (2025)**

**8 days/ 7 nights or 10 days/ 9 nights**

**Individual self-guided**



The wild-romantic Loire is one of Europe's last remaining unregulated rivers flowing through gently undulating terrain towards the Atlantic. This river accompanies the culture-enthusiastic cycling-holidaymaker following its course along the Loire-cycle path from Orléans until Saint Nazaire past magnificent palaces and blooming gardens taking you back into France 's glorious past – and you are off into the heart of the royal cycling holiday bliss. Look forward to one of the UNESCO World Heritage sites, enjoy.

### **Highlights**

The charm of the cities of Nantes, Chinon and Angers, the idyllic nature at the unrestrained Loire and the many castles characterize this tour. The maritime Saint-Nazaire and the Atlantic bay of La Baule are the worthy destination.

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

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## **Day by Day**

### **Day 1: Arrival in Tours**

### **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 Chinon, impressing visitors with its mighty castle complex.

### **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.



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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.

**Day 5: Angers –Saint-Florent-le-Vieil/Surroundings approx. 55-70 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.

**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.

**Day 7: Nantes – Saint Nazaire approx. 65 km**

Now the river becomes ever wider, the scenery increasingly placid. You proceed through little villages always downstream 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.

**Day 8: Departure or extension**





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### **Alternative 10 days/ 9 nights**

#### **Highlights**

Start in Orléans - enjoy the wildly beautiful nature of the Loire Valley. Around 400 châteaux characterize the region, and the cities, such as Chinon and Blois, are in no way inferior. Finally, do you dare to jump into the Atlantic Ocean

#### **Day by Day**

##### **Day 1: Arrival in Orléans**

##### **Day 2: Orléans – Blois approx. 65km**

The first day is perfect for the start of the cycle tour. Perfectly signposted, leading on flat terrain throughout and featuring best trail conditions the Loire-cycle path presents its best side. Beautiful views onto the river, the off majestic villa and little palaces keep you on your toes en route to Blois. Apart from the palace the cathedral, the beautifully restored historic centre and the stone bridge across the river Loire are especially worth a visit.

##### **Day 3: Blois – Tours approx. 75 km**

Fascinating views onto the gold-shimmering sandbanks of the Loire and with the characteristic cliff dwellings of this region are lying in front of you. Halfway along the route the most royal palace of all Loire-palaces awaits: Amboise palace. It was home to five kings and one Roman emperor. Also, a genius

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from the 16th century, Leonardo da Vinci, who spent his last few years here in Amboise, draws attention to it. You can also visit his manor. You proceed along the shores of the Loire until Tours.

**Day 4: Tours – Chinon approx. 55 km**

**Day 5: Chinon – Saumur approx. 40 km**

**Day 6: Saumur – Angers approx. 55 km**

**Day 7: Angers –Saint-Florent-le-Vieil/Surrounding approx. 55-70 km**

**Day 8: Saint-Florent-le-Vieil/ Surrounding – Nantes approx. 55 km**

**Day 9: Nantes – Saint Nazaire approx. 65 km**

**Day 10: Departure or extension**

**Arrival/ parking/ departure**

- Orléans, Tours or St. Nazaire train station
- Paris airport
- Parking in Tours: Hotel parking garage, costs approx. EUR 15 per day, public garage, costs approx. EUR 12 per day Parking in Orléans: public parking garage, costs approx. EUR 5 per day
- The return journey by public transport on weekends from St. Nazaire via Tours to Orléans, is possible without changing trains, free bike transport

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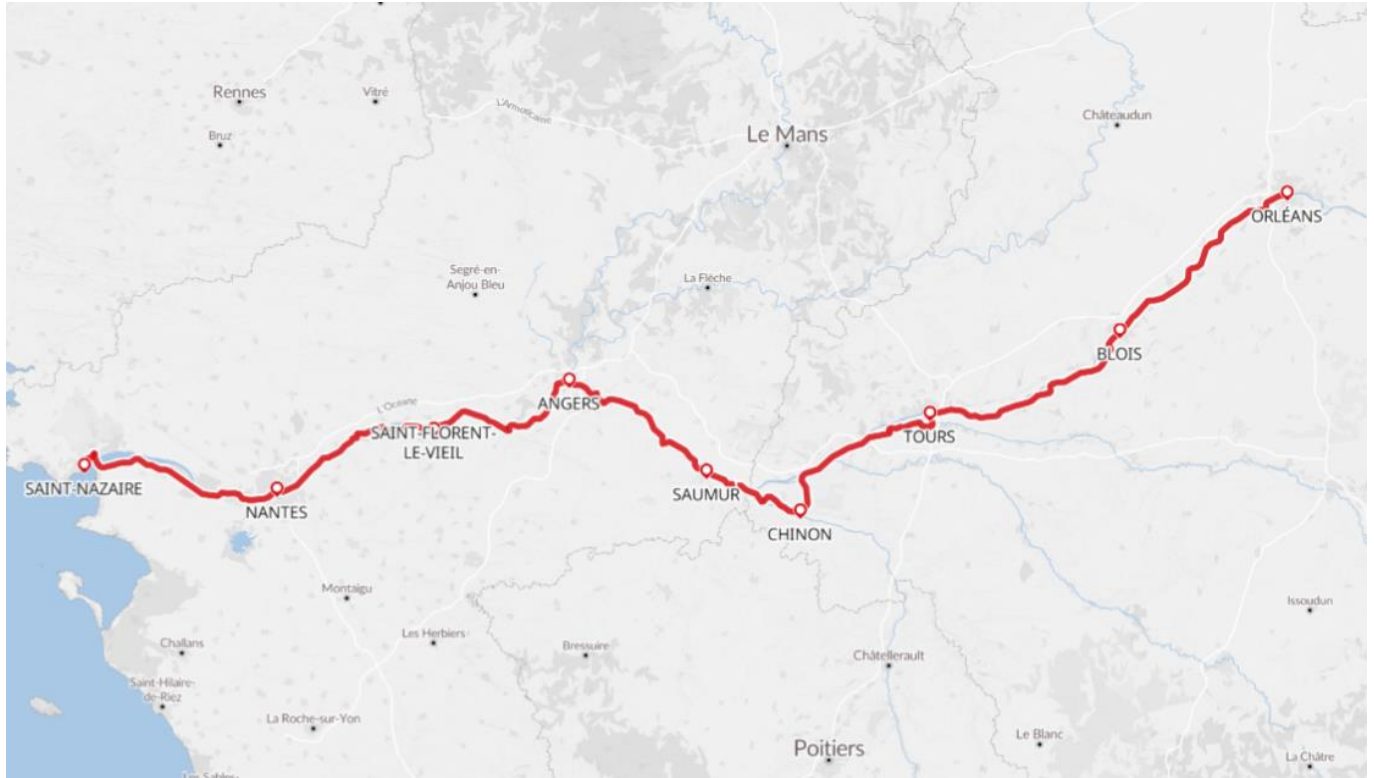
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## Route



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

## 2025 Dates

Saturday (8/7) and Thursday (10/9) 29.03. – 11.10

Season 1: 29.03. – 16.04. | 02.10. – 11.10.

Season 2: 17.04. – 07.05. | 11.09. – 01.10.

Season 3: 08.05. – 10.09.

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

	<b>8 Days</b>	<b>10 Days</b>
<b>Double occupancy Season 1</b>	<b>1029,-</b>	<b>1329,-</b>
<b>Double occupancy Season 2</b>	<b>1099,-</b>	<b>1399,-</b>
<b>Double occupancy Season 3</b>	<b>1159,-</b>	<b>1459,-</b>
<b>Surcharge single room</b>	<b>499</b>	<b>579</b>
<b>Rental bike</b>	<b>99,-</b>	<b>109,-</b>
<b>Rental bike PLUS</b>	<b>169,-</b>	<b>185,-</b>
<b>Electric bike</b>	<b>269,-</b>	<b>289,-</b>
<b>Extra nights Orleans, Tours, St. Nazzaire</b>	<b>On request</b>	

#### **Included**

- Accommodation in 3\*\*\*-hotels (French classification)
- Breakfast
- Luggage transfer
- well developed route
- Detailed travel documents 1x per room (German, English, French)
- App for Navigation and GPS-data
- Service hotline

#### **Not Included**

- Tourist tax, if due, is not included in the price!
- Please note that for this trip high quality, but slightly different from the description, rental bikes are provided by our local partner.

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**Bikes** A good bike is one of the most important pieces of equipment needed for a successful cycle tour. That's why we rely on solid quality for all components and in manufacturing, based on proven brand quality and perfected for use on our tours across Europe

### **Rental bikes**

Our quality KTM bikes are the result of years of experience and continued development, always with the wishes and requirements of our guests in mind. The result is a solid, easy to use and travel-suitable bike, that we can recommend with a clear conscience. With reliable brakes, an aluminium frame and top tyres, it is well-equipped for every journey.

Unisex bike 21/24-speed with freewheel (Height approx. 148–190 cm)

Men's bike 21-speed with freewheel (Height approx. 165–205 cm) Note: reservation is essential

### **E-bikes**

With our electric bikes, you have unlimited mobility and can really enjoy every cycle tour, so you always stay beside your friends or family on the road! The unisex bikes are comfortable to ride for both men and women.

Unisex bike 8-speed (Height approx. 148–195 cm)

Bosch Active Line Plus motor

Battery 550 Wh removable with mobile charger

Hydraulic breaks

Range up to 120 kilometres

### **Rental bike plus**

With our rental bike PLUS from KTM From the saddle to the breaks and gears, the quality of the equipment is even higher (e.g. hydraulic breaks and precise gears), the "plus" is noticeable in many parts of the bike.

Men's bike 20/27-speed with freewheel (Height approx. 155–205 cm)

Hydraulic breaks

Shimano XT/CUES rear derailleur

*This is a Partner Tour*

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