



FRANCE

CYCLING HOLIDAY - LOIRE VALLEY CASTLES DELUXE (TOUR CODE: 11725)

STARTS AND ENDS

Amboise to
Saumur

TRAVEL PERIODS

01 Mar 2023 - 31 Oct 2023

EXPERIENCE

Cycling
Cultural

TRAVEL STYLE

Active Holiday Packages

Explore the Loire Valley from Amboise to Saumur, cycling past breath-taking castles and gardens such as Chenonceau, Villandry along the way.

Highlights

- A **detailed Road Book** allows you to travel freely with all the information you need for your trip! It boasts colour maps, highlighted routes, touristic information, orientation points to reach hotels, and easy to follow step by step directions!
- **The SCOTT SUB SPORT 20 Bike** (or equivalent) features a sporty "trekking" geometry that suits trips of all distances. Equipped with a Shimano 27 speed transmission and integrated front and rear lights, this bike is begging to go on an adventure.
- **Cycle at your own pace** (Self-guided), stopping when you see something truly remarkable or if you simply want to rest and recharge.
- Explore **Clos Lucé** where the great painter, architect, engineer and scientist Leonardo Da Vinci lived for the last 3 years of his life
- Why not take time to see the **Château de la Bourdaisière**, blossomed in the middle of a 55-hectare park with remarkable species, including collections of cedars, sequoias, chestnuts and oaks
- Situated in the heart of the Regional Natural Park Loire-Anjou-Touraine, **Bréhémont** is a picturesque village of 800 inhabitants overlooking the Loire
- Visit **Chinon Vineyards**, where wine cellars have been awarded the prestigious "Caves d'Excellence"
- Discover the **Chateau of Villandry**, one of the most classic chateaux from the Renaissance period

This Loire Valley Cycling Tour offers the perfect itinerary for rejuvenating both mind and body. The tranquil waters of the Loire, Indre, and Cher rivers flow through the heart of this scenic region known for its vineyards, orchards, and magnificent castles. The flat-to-rolling terrain is perfect for cycling and is filled with trees and colours. For many visitors, the Loire Valley conjures images from the fairy tales of childhood.

This tour starts in Amboise, an important cultural town with both a castle and historical sites. The cycling tour will take you to chateaux such as Chenonceau and Azay le Rideau, and also Chateau d'Artigny - one of the most famous in the whole of France. You will also cycle through some important wine regions and have the chance to explore some well-known gardens. All the best of the Loire Valley by bicycle!



- ✓ ENTIRE Cooling-Off Period
- ✓ ENTIRE Change of Mind
- ✓ ENTIRE On Ground Support
- ✓ ENTIRE AUD Prices
- ✓ ENTIRE Industry Accredited
- ✓ ENTIRE Australian Owned

INCLUSIONS

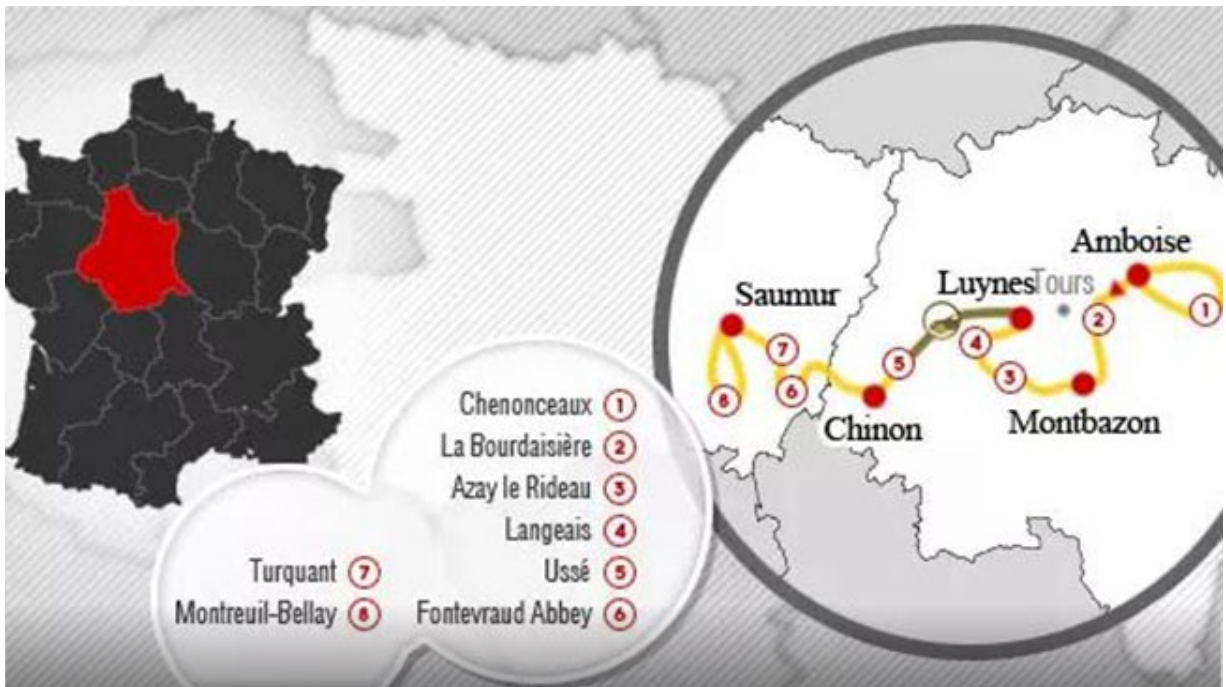
- 2 nights in Amboise - Hotel Le Choiseul - 4*
- 1 night in Veigne at Hotel Domaine de la Tortiniere - 4*
- 1 night in Luynes at Chateau de Beauvois - 4*
- 2 nights in Saumur at Chateau de Verrieres - 5*
- Hybrid bike rental
- 10 meals included - 6 breakfasts, 4 gastronomic dinners at your hotel
- Orientation in person with local guide
- Detailed ROAD BOOK, including details maps, touristic information, step by step itinerary and cue sheets
- 1 GPS for every 1-3 people
- All luggage transfers
- Comprehensive trip literature
- Technical and emergency support available at all times

ITINERARY

Map Cycling Holiday - Loire Valley Castles Deluxe

Average / Day : Distance : 47.44 Km

Elevation gain : 374.00 Metres



Day **1** Amboise

From Paris, you can take the TGV to Saint Pierre des Corps and then a taxi to Amboise. Transfer on your own and settle into your hotel and visit the town.

Amboise is a small town with much to see and do. If you arrive early enough, take the time to visit the nearby Château of Clos Lucé or the Royal Chateau of Amboise. The Chateau of Clos Lucé is accessible with a short walk outside the main centre of Amboise (well sign posted), best known as being the house where Leonardo da Vinci was invited to live by King Francois I - Leonardo lived here from 1516 to the time of his death in 1519. Orientation in the evening and gourmet dinner in your deluxe hotel tonight.

Overnight in Amboise at **Hotel Le Choiseul**.

Dinner



LOIRE VALLEY AND AMBOISE

Option 1 :36 Km Option 2 : 53 Km
Elevation gain 1 : 279 Metres Elevation gain 2 : 415 Metres

A short and moderately flat ride will take you through the forests and laneways of the Amboise countryside passing by the Parc Mini Chateaux (great for kids) and then dropping by the fabulous Chenonceau Castle is a must. You can also add an optional canoening trip from the small village of Chissay-sur-Cher to the famous Chenonceau Castle (*see the optional extras*).

Chenonceau, erected by Henry II in the 16th Century over the Cher River and improved by Catherine de Medicis. The castle hides several pieces of historical interest, furniture and tapestries. For the long option you will continue on to Montrichard, La Genaudière and St. Regle before returning to Amboise.

Overnight in Amboise at **Hotel Le Choiseul**.

Breakfast



Day **3**

Amboise Village of Montlouis & Vineyards The Château de la Bourdaisière Montbazou
Veigne

Distance 1 : 42 Km
Elevation gain 1 : 314 Metres

Start riding on a nice paved bike lane in the middle of the vineyards of Montlouis. Then you have the opportunity to visit the Chateau Bourdaisiere. Before reaching your deluxe lodging, you can visit the Donjon of Montbazou.

Overnight in Veigne at **Hotel Domaine de la Tortiniere**.

Breakfast, Dinner



THE CHATEAU DE LABOURDAISIERE GARDENS

Day 4

Montbazou Azay le Rideau The Château de l'Islette Bréhémont The Château of Langeais
The Chateau of Villandry Savonnières Luynes

Option 1 : 49 Km

Option 2 : 53 Km

Option 3 : 69 Km

Elevation gain 1 : 290 Metres

Elevation gain 2 : 300 Metres

Elevation gain 3 : 450 Metres

You start with a nice ride through the rolling countryside to the site of the castle of Azay le Rideau (option: visit the Chateau of Villandry). Situated along the Indre River, this is one of the most classic chateaux from the Renaissance period. You will then cross the Loire River to discover the Chateau of Langeais. Then, you will start cycling toward Luynes with a nice and relatively long countryside ride.

Overnight in Luynes at **Château de Beauvois**.

Breakfast, Dinner



THE CHATEAU DE L'ISLETTE

Day 5

Luynes The Château d'Ussé Chinon Fontevraud Abbey Turquant Saumur

Option 1 : 34 Km

Option 2 : 46 Km

Elevation gain 1 : 625 Metres

Elevation gain 2 : 308 Metres

Your day starts with a taxi transfer to the wine town of Chinon. Chinon is famous for its castle; dating back to Joan of Arc and medieval times. From Chinon, you will have a leisure ride toward the famous and historic Abbaye de Fontevraud. This double monastery dates back to the year 1110. It is still a functioning abbey and open to visitors. After your visit, continue to your hotel nearby with gourmet dinner.

Overnight in Saumur at **Château de Verrières**.

Breakfast



Day **6**

Saumur

Distance 1 :45 Km

Elevation gain 1 : 385 Metres

Visit the town of Saumur and its Chateau: the great Chateau de Saumur stands high above the town. The Saumur Castle was originally built in the 10th Century by Thibault le Tricheur, Comte de Blois, as a fortified stronghold against Norman raid. The loop tour today takes you to Montreuil Bellay Chateau. Return to the same hotel.

Overnight in Saumur at **Château de Verrières**.

Breakfast



Day **7**

Saumur

You can take your time getting started in the morning, enjoy breakfast and depart at your leisure.

Breakfast

OPTIONAL EXTRAS

Electric assisted bike rental

Upgrade to a Scott Sub Tour Electric-Ride 10 or the Cannondale Mavaro HS City (or similar).

With comfortable geometry, and ePowered by Bosch with a 400wh battery, those bikes are the ideal touring bike and are ready to provide many kilometres with no worries. Your bike rental comes with 2 bags (1 Rear pannier + 1 front pannier) so you can easily carry your stuff during your ride.

Included with your bike rental :

- Helmet
- Lock
- Hand pump
- 2 spare tubes
- Rear pannier
- Toolkit
- Tire levers
- Patch kit
- 1 souvenir water bottle
- Pedals are included, flat by default or toe straps on request

Note: "Please note that any bike change during the trip may incur an extra fee."



Prices are dynamic based on travel dates. Please proceed to [Book Now](#) or [Contact Us](#) for details.

Canoe Ride

Canoeing down the Cher

This 6-km route will lead you from the small village of Chissay-sur-Cher to the famous Chenonceau castle. The canoe ride starts at 3:30pm with a shuttle up river. Please don't be late since you'll miss the shuttle. You'll still have the opportunity for canoeing but you'll have to paddle up river which will slightly change your itinerary.

Note: No Chissay - Civray on Monday and Tuesday, but only rides between the base and the castle of Chenonceau



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ACCOMMODATION

Hotel Le Choiseul

Amboise

Located at the edge of the Loire and at the foot of the Royal Castle of Amboise, homeland of Leonardo da Vinci, the hotel Le Choiseul is a charming house typically from Tours built in 18th century. The hotel enjoys an exceptional location in the heart of the Valley of Loire castles. Le Choiseul has 30 rooms of 5 different categories, from the most elegant apartment to the most delightful room. They offer pleasant views over the Italian garden, the Loire and the Château d'Amboise.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

French

LOCAL CURRENCY

EUR

Our hotels or B&B provide amenities that are ideal for active vacations, located in easy walking distance to downtowns, restaurants and sightseeing. We prioritise family-owned, authentic accommodations over large chains. If the hotel advertised on our website is full, we will book you in another hotel similar in category.

Blackout dates may apply during festive season.

Excluded

- International airfares and taxes
- Domestic airfares and taxes, unless otherwise specified in our holiday package
- Visa expenses, processing and issuance fees
- Meals other than as specified in our holiday package
- Travel Insurance or expenses of a personal nature (mini-bar, phone call, laundry, etc.),
- Tips or gratuities to guides, drivers, porters, hotel, restaurant or boat staff, etc.
- Or any other travel expense that has not been included in our holiday package