



The Great Elephant and the Carousel of the Marine Worlds, Nantes

FOR YOUR CITY-BREAK CLIENTS

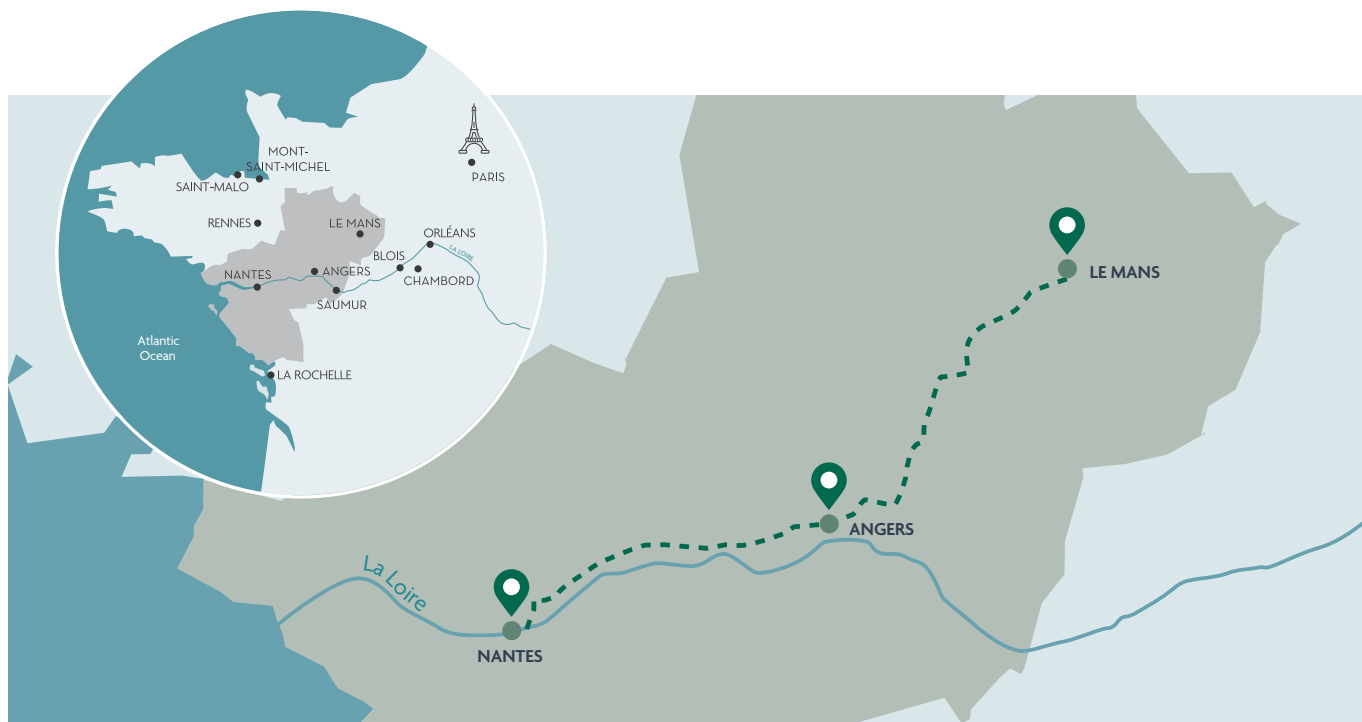
☀ 4 DAYS 📍 190 KM BY TRAIN

14

## FROM PARIS TO NANTES BY TRAIN – CITY BREAK

### Highlights of the trip:

- The medieval city center Cité Plantagenêt in Le Mans
- Shopping in Le Mans and Angers
- The modern development projects of Angers
- The creative city of Nantes and Les Machines de l'île



## Day 1

10 KM

### LE MANS

Known throughout the world for its 24-hour endurance car race that takes place every year in June. Le Mans is also a charming city with cobbled streets in the Cité Plantagenêt, and an impressive Cathedral. No wonder the city served as a film set for many major French and American movies



Ford vs Ferrari,  
by James Mangold,  
with Matt Damon  
& Christian Bale,  
takes place in Le Mans  
1966

### Morning | Le Mans

#### Arrival Le Mans TGV train station

**Take your time in Le Mans.** Explore the Jacobins market and taste local products and specialties like poularde du Patis, Jasnières wines and rillettes.

#### Lunch in Le Mans in a typical restaurant

### Afternoon | Le Mans

#### Discover the mythical Le Mans 24 Hours circuit & its museum.

Held every 2nd weekend of June, Le Mans 24 hours is the world's oldest ongoing endurance car race

#### Dinner at the “Epicurieux” restaurant in Le Mans medieval city

> Alternative: Dinner at 1 Michelin \* L'Auberge de Bagatelle in Le Mans

#### Night at the 4\* Mercure Hotel in Le Mans city centre

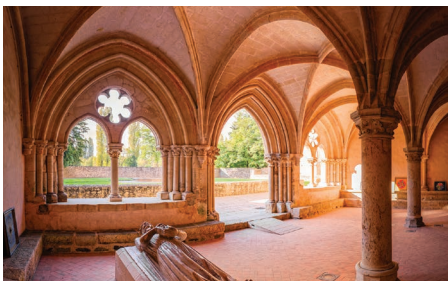
> Alternative: Night at 4\* Concordia hotel Le Mans City centre

## Day 2

100 KM  
by train



Angers is known as  
one of the top French cities  
for the quality of life



### ANGERS

Known as the capital of Anjou, Angers spreads out just a few steps away from the Loire River. This vibrant city is renowned for:

- Its Chateau: the biggest medieval fortress in the Loire Valley is home to an extraordinary 14<sup>th</sup> century masterpiece, the Apocalypse Tapestry.
- Its medieval architecture, museums and cobbled streets
- Its Cointreau liqueur
- Its quality of life

### Morning | Le Mans & Angers

**Visit the Royal Abbey of Epau,** founded in 1229 by a heartbroken queen

**Explore the Cité Plantagenet of Le Mans** (medieval city center) and discover at your own pace the local and atypical shops.

#### Lunch in Le Mans before hopping on the train to Angers

### Afternoon | Angers

**Discover at your own pace the city of Angers and its numerous shops**

**Learn the secrets of Cointreau,** the famous orange-flavoured triple sec liqueur produced in Angers, used in many famous cocktails. Use your imagination to create your own signature beverage.

#### Dinner at “La Rue Sauvage” restaurant in Angers city center

**Night at the 4\* Hôtel de France in Angers city centre** near the train station

> Alternative: Dinner & Night at 4\* Best Western Hôtel d'Anjou



## Day 3

90 KM  
by train



Nantes has more than  
100 artworks  
in public space

### NANTES

Playful and creative, vibrant and young, Nantes has been totally turned upside down by art! 2 hours away from Paris by TGV train, the historical capital of Brittany has been awarded European Capital of Innovation 2020 for its quality of life, efficient transportation policy and sustainable development. Nantes boasts over 100 permanent artworks in public space and every summer in July and August the green line (painted on the ground) is reactivated by artists, architects, designers and gardeners.



## Morning | Angers and Nantes

**Explore Angers:** known as the capital of Anjou, Angers spreads out just a few steps away from the Loire River. This vibrant city also has numerous new development projects

**Lunch in Angers before hopping on the train to Nantes**

## Afternoon | Nantes

**Discover Les Machines de l'île, the city's top attraction and the creative quarter.**

- Machines de l'île de Nantes (Carrousel of the Marine Worlds): this unprecedented artistic project sits at the crossroads of Jules Verne's "invented worlds", of Leonardo da Vinci's mechanical universe, and Nantes' industrial history
- Creative quarter of the Ile de Nantes: new forms of architecture and art works flourish in this new neighborhood!

**Dinner at la Cigale,** an Art Nouveau elegant brasserie in Nantes, opened in 1895 and listed as a historical monument.

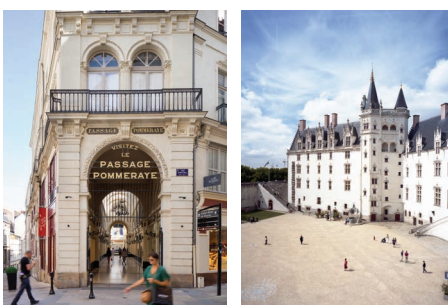
**Night at the 4\* Seven Urban Suites hotel on the Ile of Nantes**  
> *Alternative: 4\* Maisons du Monde Hôtel & Suites*

## Day 4

5 KM



In Nantes, Le Hangar à Bananes (former banana warehouse where fruits were ripened) is now a trendy spot for restaurants, bars and terraces overlooking the Loire



## Morning | Nantes

**Discover the Nantes Fine Arts Museum.**

The magnificent Musée d'Arts de Nantes showcases a splendid collection, from Tintoretto and Rubens to Monet, Rodin, Kandinsky and Chagall. Visitors can appreciate the museum's 10,000-strong collection all year round. Not to be missed: the extension dedicated to contemporary art.

**Lunch in the theatre district in Nantes.**

Elegant and cultural, the Graslin district is a gem of 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century urban planning. Graslin is reputed for its chic shops, its gourmet restaurants and its Passage Pommeraye, the only three-storey covered arcade in Europe.

## Afternoon | Nantes

**Follow the Green line in Nantes.**

A green line literally painted on the ground enables all visitors to discover all the main city landmarks, from the Chateau des ducs de Bretagne to the latest artworks of Le Voyage à Nantes. Get ready!

**Dinner in Nantes city centre**

Dine in a restaurant recommended by the selection Les Tables de Nantes. Fresh, creative, healthy, Nantes' cuisine will delight you!

**Night at the 4\*Mercure Grand Hotel in Nantes**

> *Alternative: 4\* Okko Hotel in Nantes, next to the Chateau*

## CONTACTS OF SUPPLIERS

### HIGHLIGHTED IN THE ITINERARY

**Le Mans 24 hours – Race track and museum**  
heritage@lemans.org

**L'Epicurieux Restaurant, Le Mans**  
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**4\* Hotel Mercure, Le Mans**  
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**Royal Abbey of Epau, Le Mans**  
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**Cointreau distillery, Angers**  
carre.cointreau@remy-cointreau.com

**La Rue Sauvage Restaurant, Angers**  
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**4\* Hotel de France, Angers**  
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**The Machines – l'île de Nantes**  
groupes@nantes-tourisme.com

**Brasserie La Cigale, Nantes**  
lacigale@lacigale.com

**4\* Seven Urban Suites hotel**  
amelie.joubioux@7urbansuites.fr

**Nantes Fine Arts Museum**  
melanie.trevisan@nantesmetropole.fr

**Les Tables de Nantes**  
www.lesablesdenantes.fr/en

**4\* Mercure Nantes Centre Grand Hotel**  
h1985-RD@accor.com



# INTERESTED IN A CITY BREAK ITINERARY?

PLEASE FIND BELOW ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS IN ATLANTIC LOIRE VALLEY

### TOP 4 VISITS IN NANTES:

- **Nantes City Pass** – The Pass Nantes allows you to travel across Nantes public transport network, gain free entry to a number of tourist attractions and take advantage of a variety of discounts (24h, 48h or 72h).

- **The Elephant of the Machines de l'île** – Look at the elephant! In the “naves” of the former shipyards come and see for yourself the extraordinary machines... this one-off, never-seen-before artistic project merges the imaginary world of Jules Verne, the mechanical universe of Leonardo da Vinci and the industrial history of Nantes.

- **Bateaux nantais** – Nantes river cruise. Embark in Nantes for a 10 km cruise (1h30 to 2h30), lunch or dinner cruise on the Erdre River, an affluent of the Loire. Breathtaking view of the Chateaux and natural landscapes. From 5 to 200 pers.

- **Le Lieu Unique** Located alongside the

Canal Saint-Felix and close to the city centre, the old biscuit factory LU lives to the rhythm of an atypical art centre: the Lieu Unique. Here you will find a bar, a restaurant, a hammam, and the LU tower...

### TOP 3 VISITS IN ANGERS

- **The Apocalypse Tapestry** is a medieval treasure 106 metres long, containing 74 paintings, exceptional colours, dramatic or playful scenes, that took 9 years to complete! Such a masterpiece deserved a showcase of its own size: it can be seen at the Chateau d'Angers, with its 17 towers and its kilometre-long walls.

- **Loire Odysée Cruises:** from a one-hour discovery cruise to the concert dinner, you can enjoy Loire River -the longest river in France- in a special way, departing from Angers. From April to October

- Visit **Terra Botanica, a vegetal themed park** (the only one in Europe): explore the extraordinary gardens and discover the secrets of 500,000 plant species in Angers

### TOP 3 IN LE MANS: NOT TO MISS

- Le Mans is known throughout the world for its **24-hour endurance car race** that takes place every year in June. Brad Pitt, Jackie Chan and Steve McQueen are some of the stars who have participated in the race. A not-to-miss event.

- During the summer, Le Mans goes all arty: a whole artistic exploration takes place in the city centre, illuminating the old town (Plantagenêt city) and colouring the parks and gardens in many different ways. Discover new artistic experiences through 2 major cultural events, free of charge: **Plein Champ and the Night of the Chimeras**.

- Every year at the end of September, **the festival “Between courtyards and gardens”** turns the old town of Le Mans (Plantagenêt city) into gardens and gives access to 20 “Secret Gardens” that exceptionally open their doors during the festival.

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For more details [b2b@solutions-eco.fr](mailto:b2b@solutions-eco.fr)