

Saumur and the Loire river

FOR CLIENTS WISHING TO UNRAVEL
THE CHARM OF THE LOIRE VALLEY

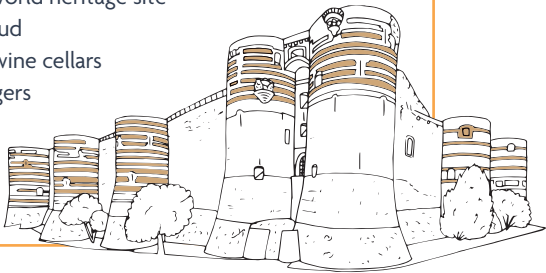
☀ 4 DAYS 📍 380 KM

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FROM THE LOIRE VALLEY TO THE ATLANTIC OCEAN

Highlights of the trip:

- The Loire Valley, a UNESCO world heritage site
- The Royal Abbey of Fontevraud
- The Saumur Cadre Noir and wine cellars
- The medieval quarters of Angers
- The Saint-Nazaire shipyards
- The creative city of Nantes and Les Machines de l'île



Day 1

100 KM



Les Fouées,
a local gastronomic
specialty, is served in
a troglodyte/
cave-dwelling
restaurant

Morning | Angers

Arrive at Angers TGV train station.

Take your time in Angers. In the heart of the Loire Valley, Angers (the capital of Anjou) is renowned for its rich heritage and quality of life.

Lunch in Angers in a typical restaurant.

Afternoon | Angers

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 the “Pieds Bleus” troglodyte/cave-dwelling restaurant in Chênehutte, close to Saumur.

> *Alternative: Dinner at cave-dwelling restaurant Le Saut aux loupes, Saumur.*

Night at the 4* Hotel Château le Prieuré, Younan Collection, over looking the Loire river.

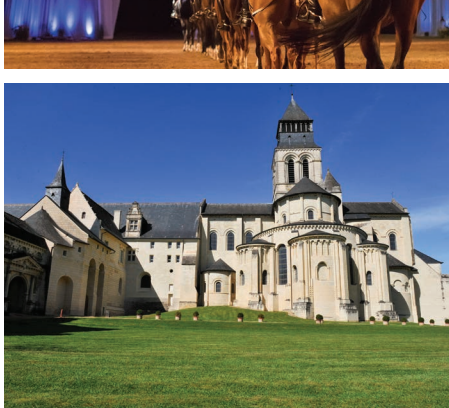
> *Alternative: Night at 4* Hotel Saint-Pierre, Saumur.*

Day 2

80 KM



Coco Chanel, the famous
fashion designer, was born
in 1883 in Saumur



Morning | Saumur

Discover Saumur, by the Loire River, a UNESCO world heritage site, surrounded by vineyards and dominated by its Chateau:

- Visit the **Cadre Noir**, one of the 4 most prestigious classical riding academies in the world, where equestrians are trained.
- Visit the **Gratien & Meyer wine cellar**, where they produce “fines bulles” sparkling wine.
- Stop off at the **Saumur market**.

Cruise lunch on board “La Nonchalante”, traditional boat on the Loire River in Saumur.

Afternoon | Fontevraud & Angers

Visit the Royal Abbey of Fontevraud, the largest monastic city in Europe, listed as a UNESCO world heritage site, and now hosting a design 4* hotel, a Michelin star restaurant, and a modern art museum.

Dinner at the 1515 Restaurant at the 4* Hotel d'Anjou in Angers city centre.

> *Alternative: “Lait Thym Sel” restaurant (1* Michelin) in Angers city centre*

Night at the 4* Hôtel d'Anjou in Angers city center.

> *Alternative: Night at the 4* Hotel de France, facing the Angers TGV train station*

Day 3

📍 140 KM



In Angers, discover the Apocalypse Tapestry: the largest medieval tapestry in the world (104m-long)



Morning | Angers

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

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

Lunch at the “Guinguette Port Thibault”, a typical bistro-type restaurant by the Loire river.

Afternoon | Saint-Nazaire

Discover Saint-Nazaire, the city by the Estuary and the Atlantic ocean. Delve into the world of legendary cruise ships at Escal'Atlantic (Ocean liner boat experience).

Stroll around the streets of La Havana district and discover the villas from the 1900s.

Dinner at a restaurant on the Place du Commando, the new trendy area by the sea.

> *Alternative: Dinner at La Brasserie du Port, Saint-Nazaire*

Night at the 3* Best Western Hotel de la Plage, facing the ocean, in Saint-Nazaire.

> *Alternative: The Originals Boutique Hotel Aquilon Saint-Nazaire*

Day 4

📍 60 KM



Don't miss the Passage Pommeraye in Nantes, the only three-storey covered arcade in Europe



Morning | Saint-Nazaire & Nantes

Visit the shipyards of Saint-Nazaire and discover how the giants of the seas are built.

Lunch in the theatre district in Nantes.

Elegant and cultural, the Graslin district is a gem of 18th and 19th 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 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, and healthy: Nantes' cuisine will delight you!

Night at the 4* Radisson Blu hotel in Nantes.

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

CONTACTS OF SUPPLIERS

HIGHLIGHTED IN THE ITINERARY

Cointreau distillery, Angers

carre.cointreau@remy-cointreau.fr

4* Hotel Château le Prieuré, Saumur

reception.prieure@younancollection.com

Cadre Noir de Saumur

visites.cadrenoir@ifce.fr

Gratien & Meyer wine cellar, Saumur

boutique@gratienmeyer.com

Loire Évasion – River cruise, Saumur

loireevasion@gmail.com

The Royal Abbey of Fontevraud

1* Michelin restaurant and 4* Hotel

c.chateau@fontevraud.fr

4* Hotel d'Anjou in Angers

groupes@hoteldanjou.fr

Chateau d'Angers

nathalie.koenig@monuments-nationaux.fr

Restaurant Guinguette Port Thibault, Angers

port.thibault@gmail.com

Escal'Atlantic Saint-Nazaire

glizea@saint-nazaire-tourisme.com

3* Best Western Hotel de la Plage, Saint-Nazaire

gaelleportner@ghphotels.com

Saint-Nazaire Shipyards

glizea@saint-nazaire-tourisme.com

Les Tables de Nantes

www.lestabledenantes.fr/en

4* Radisson Blue Hotel, Nantes

benjamin.gilbert@radissonblu.com

INTERESTED IN CULTURE, CHATEAUX AND GARDENS?

PLEASE FIND BELOW ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS IN ATLANTIC LOIRE VALLEY

- **A 6-day cruise** on the Loire River with **Croisieurope** "The Loire Valley, a Royal legacy" on board the MS Loire Princess. 48 cabins with private bathrooms and AC, beds facing the window, from Nantes up to the major Loire Chateaux.

- **In Nantes city centre, discover the Chateau des ducs de Bretagne**, built in the 15th century. The fortress houses a residential palace of refined facades and Renaissance loggias. Numerous guided visits are on offer for you to fully discover this monument and its resounding modern museum.

- Known as the "little Versailles of Mayenne", **the Chateau de Craon and its Park** are half an hour to the south of Laval by road. Come and explore this beautiful Chateau and its 40 hectares of English and French-style garden.
B&B in the Chateau (6 different rooms)

- Located halfway between Tours and Le Mans, **the Chateau du Lude**, a 13th-century fortress, is surrounded by its remarkable gardens. It has been inhabited for the past 260 years by the same family.

- Known as the "Giant of the Loire Valley" with its 7 floors, **the Chateau de Brissac** ranks as the highest Chateau in France. Still inhabited, you can live the great life by sleeping in one of the B&B bedrooms and taste wine from their vineyard.

- Between Angers & Saumur, don't miss **the Chateau de Montgeoffroy**, a 13th century estate that belonged to Lord Geoffroy de Chateaubriand (one of the ancestors of the eponymous Romantic writer). It was acquired in 1676 by the De Contades family and totally rebuilt.

- Located in the Nantes Muscadet vineyard, **the Chateau de Goulaine** has been inhabited by the Goulaine family for 1,000 years. Its 2 B&B rooms give their guests a panoramic view over the marshes and vineyards.

- For garden enthusiasts, do not miss **the Oriental Garden of Maulévrier**, 30 min east of Le Puy du Fou. This 28 ha garden is the largest Japanese garden in Europe and enjoys a unique architectural, botanical and symbolic setting.

- In Vendée, 30 min south of Nantes, discover **the Logis & Jardins de la Chabotterie**, a typical house & museum about the history of Vendée. Don't miss the French garden with 120 + varieties of vegetables & flowers, including aromatic and medicinal plants, and try the 1* Michelin restaurant.

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For more details: b2b@solutions-eco.fr

