



Saumur and the Loire river

FOR CLIENTS WISHING TO UNRAVEL THE CHARM OF THE LOIRE VALLEY

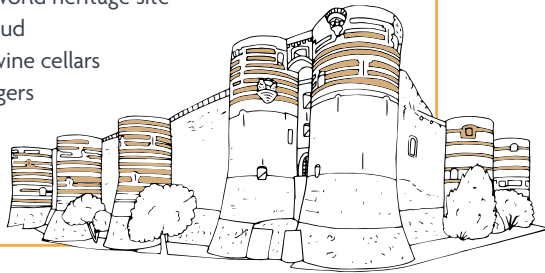
☀️ 4 DAYS 📍 230 KM

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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

20 KM



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



Morning | Saumur

Access: by TGV at Angers train station + regional train or 40-min drive

Explore Saumur, by the Loire River, surrounded by vineyards and dominated by its castle.

Discover the Gratien & Meyer wine cellar, where they produce “fine bulles” sparkling wine.

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

Afternoon | Fontevraud

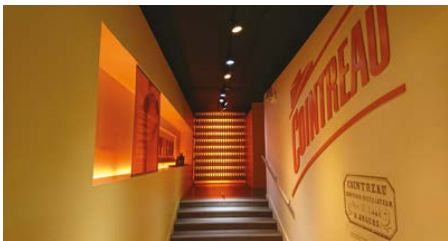
Visit the Royal Abbey of Fontevraud, the largest monastic city in Europe, listed as a UNESCO world heritage site, and now hosting a design 4* hotel, a Michelin star restaurant, and a modern art museum.

Dinner and night in Fontevraud

> *Alternative: Dinner at l'Essentiel restaurant in Saumur and night at 4* Hotel Saint-Pierre, Saumur.*

Day 2

55 KM



Morning | Saumur

Visit the Cadre noir, one of the 4 most prestigious classical riding academies in the world, where equestrians are trained.

Stop off at **Saumur market**.

Lunch at the “Pieds Bleus” troglodyte/cave-dwelling restaurant in Chênehutte.

> *Alternative: Lunch at cave-dwelling restaurant Le Saut aux Loups, Saumur.*

Afternoon | Angers

In the heart of the Loire Valley, **Angers** (the capital of Anjou) is renowned for its rich heritage and quality of life. Stroll around the medieval streets and enjoy local shopping.

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

> *Alternative: Restaurant Chez Pont-pont, facing the Chateau of Angers.*

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

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



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



Day 3

90 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 and 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 | 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 Château des ducs de Bretagne to the latest artworks of Le Voyage à Nantes. Get ready!

Dinner 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*

Day 4

65 KM



With its 3.3km-long, Saint-Nazaire bridge is the longest one in France



Morning | Nantes

Discover Nantes.

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

Lunch in the theatre district in Nantes.

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 4* Originals Boutique Hotel Aquilon Saint-Nazaire.*

Depart from Saint-Nazaire TGV station.

CONTACTS OF SUPPLIERS

Gratien & Meyer wine cellar, Saumur
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Nonchalante boat, Loire Evasion - River cruise, Saumur
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The Royal Abbey of Fontevraud
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Cadre Noir de Saumur
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Les Pieds Bleus restaurant, Saumur
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Cointreau distillery, Angers
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4* Hotel d'Anjou in Angers
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Château d'Angers
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Les Tables de Nantes
www.lestabledenantes.fr/en

4* Radisson Blu Hotel, Nantes
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Escal'Atlantic Saint-Nazaire
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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 river, from Nantes to the Ocean and up to the major Loire chateaux.

• **In Nantes city centre, discover the Château 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", **1 the Château 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, **2 the Château 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.

• North of Angers, **the Château du Plessis Bourré** stills looks the same as in the 15th century. It is a perfect setting for movies (like Le Bossu or Peau d'Âne with Catherine Deneuve).

• Between Angers & Saumur, don't miss **the Château 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, **3 the Château 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 **4 the Oriental Garden of Maulévrier**, 1 hour from Nantes & Angers and 30 mins 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 mins 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 gastronomic restaurant.

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For more details: b2b@solutions-eco.fr

