



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

FOR YOUR CITY-BREAK CLIENTS
 ☀️ 4 DAYS 📍 🚆 190 KM

14

FROM PARIS TO NANTES BY TRAIN

Highlights of the trip:

- The medieval city centre 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.



The movie Ford vs Ferrari, starring Matt Damon & Christian Bale, takes place in Le Mans in 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 chicken, Jasnières wines and rillettes.

Lunch in Le Mans at La Ciboulette restaurant.

Afternoon | Le Mans

Discover the mythical Le Mans 24 Hours circuit & its museum. Held every 24th weekend of the year (around mid-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 14th century masterpiece, the Apocalypse Tapestry.
- Its medieval architecture, museums and cobbled streets
- Its Cointreau liqueur
- Its quality of life and greenery

Angers is located at the crossroads of 3 major cycle routes : The Loire by Bike, The Vélofrancette and The Loir Valley by Bike

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 centre) 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 “Le Relais” restaurant in Angers city centre.

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 neighbourhood!

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

4 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 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 all 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* Mercure Grand Hotel in Nantes

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

Depart from Nantes airport or TGV train station

CONTACTS OF SUPPLIERS

Le Mans 24 hours – Race track and museum

heritage@lemans.org

L'Epicurieux Restaurant, Le Mans

lepcurieux72@gmail.com

4* Hotel Mercure, Le Mans

h5641-gm@accor.com

Royal Abbey of Epau, Le Mans

zohra.elallaly@sarthe.fr

Cointreau distillery, Angers

carre.cointreau@remy-cointreau.com

Le Relais Restaurant, Angers

bienvenue@lerelais-angers.fr

4* Hotel de France, Angers

commercial@hoteldefrance-angers.com

The Machines de l'île, 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

Brasserie La Cigale, Nantes

lacigale@lacigale.com

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 Château 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 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