

ROUTE 4

☀️ 2 DAYS 📍 90 KM – DEPARTURE FROM SAUMUR

4

Montsoreau

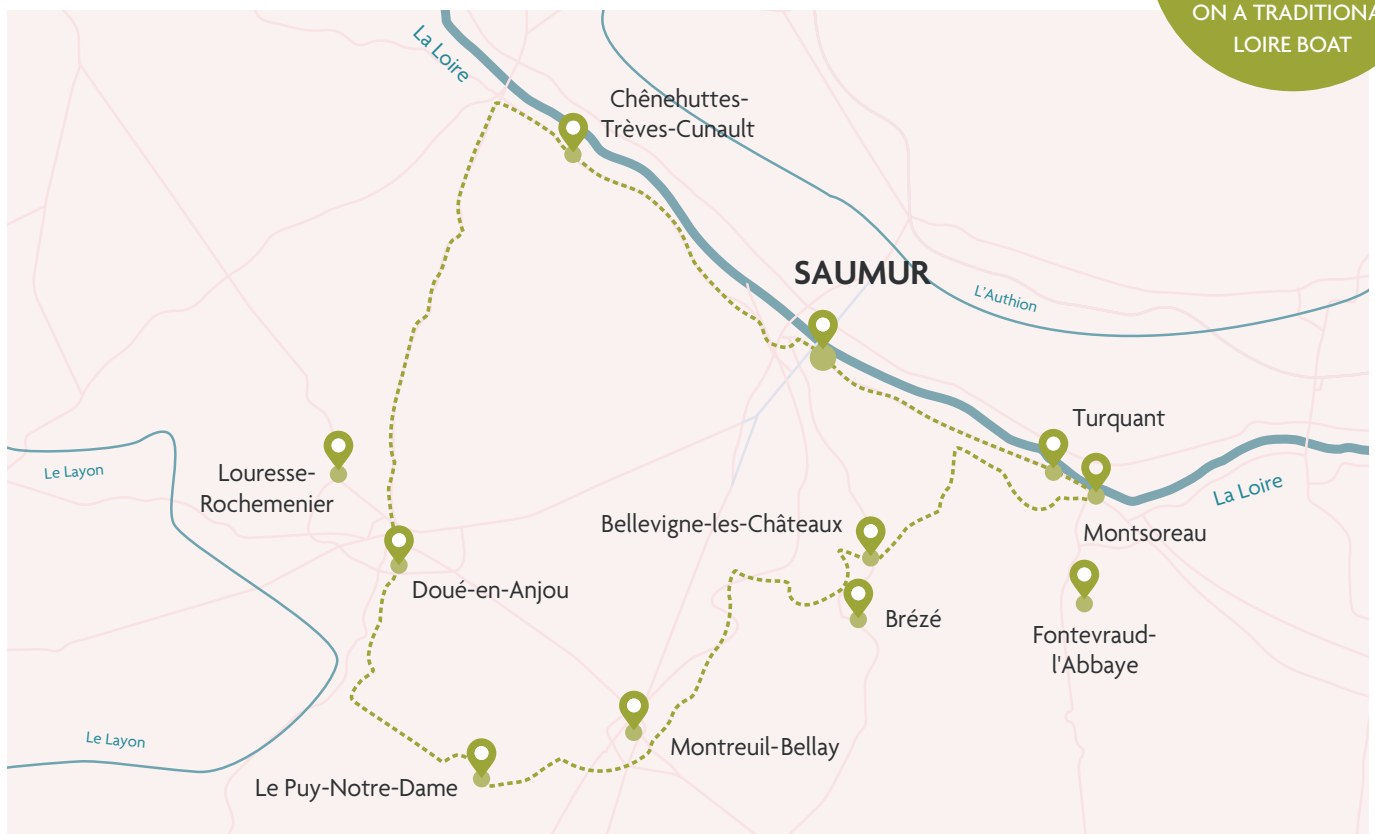
SAUMUR VINEYARDS AND CAVE DWELLINGS

Around Saumur, you will discover a new world of underground life and the famous “troglodyte” cave dwellings dug in tufa stone. But also astonishing architecture, châteaux, a royal abbey, monumental cellars, mills and the rich landscapes of the UNESCO Loire Valley. Your route will be marked out with wineries and vineyards. Stop and meet the local winemakers who will share their passion with enthusiasm.

You will taste the wines produced on these soils : Saumur-Champigny or Saumur Rouge with aromas of wild fruits, Coteaux de Saumur or Coteaux du Layon with golden reflections, the festive sparkling Saumur Brut or Crémant de Loire, gourmet Saumur Rosé or Cabernet d'Anjou... and so many others... The vineyards of the incredible underground world of Saumur are waiting for you. Have a great time!



RIVER CRUISES:
GET THE BEST OF
THE “FLEUVE ROYAL”
ON A TRADITIONAL
LOIRE BOAT



Day 1



Morning

Visit the **Château de Saumur**, the castle of Dukes of Anjou.

It stands at the edge of an abrupt cliff and boasts prime views of the city and the Loire Valley.

Visit the renowned **Ackerman cellars** – the pioneer of Loire Valley fine sparkling wines. Uncover the secrets of the «méthode traditionnelle». Plunge into the heart of unique and monumental tuffa stone cellars. Travel through exhibitions by passionate artists.

Lunch at **La Cave aux Moines-Les pieds bleus** restaurant in Chênehutte. Taste local specialties (fouées) inside an amazing troglodyte cave.

Afternoon

The cave dwelling village museum of **Rochemenier** invites you to discover an underground world: two ancient troglodyte farms with their rooms and dependencies. A unique underground lifestyle in the Loire valley!

Wine tasting at the wine estate **Domaine de la Paleine**, in Le Puy-Notre-Dame. Production of more than 100,000 bottles of red, white, rosé or sparkling organic wines.

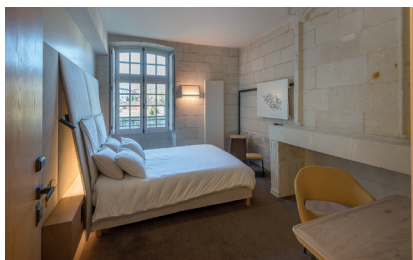
Dinner at **L'Auberge Bienvenue** in Doué-en-Anjou. Reputed as one of the best tables in the region, the Auberge Bienvenue proposes regional dishes with fresh local produce.

Night at **L'Auberge Bienvenue*****. Quality and comfort amenities... Large bright extremely comfortable rooms. Each room has been individually thought out and well decorated with pleasant soft tones.



Montreuil-Bellay

Day 2



ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS

ACTIVITIES & WINE ESTATES

- **1** Wine tasting at famous cellars in Saumur: **Bouvet Ladubay, Langlois Crémant de Loire, Gratien & Meyer, Maison Louis de Grenelle and Veuve Amiot**
- **Château de Montsoreau** and Museum of contemporary art, Montsoreau
- Classical riding academy **2 Le Cadre Noir** de Saumur
- The extraordinary medieval fortress **Château de Montreuil-Bellay**



Morning

Visit the **Château de Brezé**, considered as one of the most intriguing castles of the Loire, partly due to its underground fortress. Discovering the castle's history will allow you to understand the bond some of the Kings of France had with it.

Step down into the **Robert & Marcel** cellars, from the Edonis Vineyards, in Bellevigne-les-Châteaux.

In the Edonis House, dug into the tufa cellars, stroll at your own pace from room to room of this multi-century troglodytic house. You will discover the secrets of the Loire Valley Vineyard in 12 steps to taste, all accompanied by sound bites, visual creations and historical but also fantastic contents. A sensory and immersive experience!

Lunch at **L'Hélianthe** in Turquant. The restaurant is housed in a troglodyte dwelling with many artisanal products. The cuisine, prepared by chef Arnaud Montais, is refined, inspired by ancient recipes.

Afternoon

Take stroll through Turquant, a small and pleasant village that is literally built into the hillside of tufa stone. Visit and tasting at **Domaine de la Perruche**, Montsoreau.

Welcome to **Fontevraud**, the largest abbey in Europe. It is one of the unmissable stops on a visit to the Loire Valley. A stop, but also a destination... an essentially unique site!

Dinner at **Le Plantagenet** in Fontevraud. Contemporary and bistro cuisine combined with classic French dishes served in a refurbished restaurant.

A stay at the heart of Fontevraud Royal Abbey? **Fontevraud l'Ermitage ****** offers an incomparable experience. Sleeping in the tranquillity of the abbey, walking alone through the monastery as night falls... A peaceful time for unwinding.

RESTAURANTS

- **Le Castellane**, Chênehutte-Trèves-Cunault
- **Offard boat**, Loire Evasion, Saumur

HOTELS

- **Chai de la Paleine**, Le-Puy-Notre-Dame
- **Hostellerie de la Croix Blanche***** facing the abbey
- **Château la Comtesse de Loire******, Saumur
- **Hotel Mercure Bords de Loire******, Saumur
- **Hôtel Saint-Pierre ******, Saumur
- **Le Londres Hôtel *****, Saumur
- **Demeure de la Vignole *****, Turquant