

A couple is cycling on a path in front of a large, historic stone castle with multiple towers and windows. The woman is wearing a black top and shorts, and the man is wearing a black t-shirt and a cap. They are both smiling. In the foreground, there are out-of-focus white and yellow flowers. The sky is blue with some clouds.

# Journeys

in the Atlantic Loire Valley

Press kit 2025

[atlantic-loire-valley.com](https://atlantic-loire-valley.com)



RÉGION  
PAYS  
DE LA LOIRE

# Editorial



In 2025, the many facets of the Atlantic Loire Valley continue to fascinate.

With over 14 million annual visitors to our attractions (and counting), our region is a must-see destination for authentic, energising and unforgettable trips.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the famous “La Loire à Vélo” cycle route, a strong symbol of our commitment to sustainable tourism and slow travel. Riding along our cycle paths means discovering unique landscapes, exploring hidden gems, and experiencing an adventure that combines nature with culture.

Among the many treasures of the Atlantic Loire Valley, cycling, the coast, vineyards, gastronomy, rivers to sail along and heritage are all part of a vision of eco-friendly, sustainable tourism, where each getaway invites us to respect and value our territories.

This press kit highlights the emblematic events that extend the region's reach and unexpected discoveries that are what modern travellers are looking for.

Travel to the Atlantic Loire Valley all year round! Whether to enjoy art and light in winter, a romantic getaway in the autumn, a delicious immersion in spring, or a vibrant escape in summer, each season has its own set of wonderful things for you to see and do. The unspoilt nature, places full of history and the down-to-earth kindness of our producers and artisans make it a constant invitation to discover new things.

The Atlantic Loire Valley is more than just a destination. It is an experience in its own right, full of emotion and beauty. Come and recharge your batteries and create unforgettable memories in this region with a thousand and one features!

**Have fun exploring!**

**Christelle Morançais,**  
**President of the Atlantic Loire Valley Region**

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The Feu de Grosse Terre lighthouse  
Pointe du Grand Fort, Saint-Hilaire-de-Riez (85)

# Major tourist sites

## LOIRE-ATLANTIQUE (44)

- 1- Blain - Nantes Castle & Nantes-Brest Canal
- 2- Bouaye - La Maison du Lac de Grand-Lieu
- 3- Châteaubriant - Château de Châteaubriant
- 4- Clisson - The Italian town, the Château & Domaine de la Garenne Lemot
- 5- Guérande - The salt marshes
- 6- La Baule - The Bay
- 7- Le Croisic - The Oceanarium
- 8- Nantes - Les Machines de l'île & the Château des ducs de Bretagne
- 9- Pays d'Ancenis - La Tour d'Oudon
- 10- Pornic - The fishing grounds
- 11- Saint-Nazaire - Les chantiers de l'Atlantique shipyard & Escal'Atlantic museum

## ANJOU (49)

- 12- Angers - Terra Botanica, the Château d'Angers & the Cointreau Distillery
- 13- Brézé - Château de Brézé
- 14- Brissac - Château de Brissac
- 15- Doué-la-Fontaine - The Bioparc and troglodyte complex
- 16- Fontevraud-l'Abbaye - The Abbey of Fontevraud
- 17- Le Choletais - The Parc Oriental de Maulévrier
- 18- Pays de Segré - La Mine Bleue slate mine
- 19- Saumur - The Cadre Noir & Château de Saumur

## MAYENNE (53)

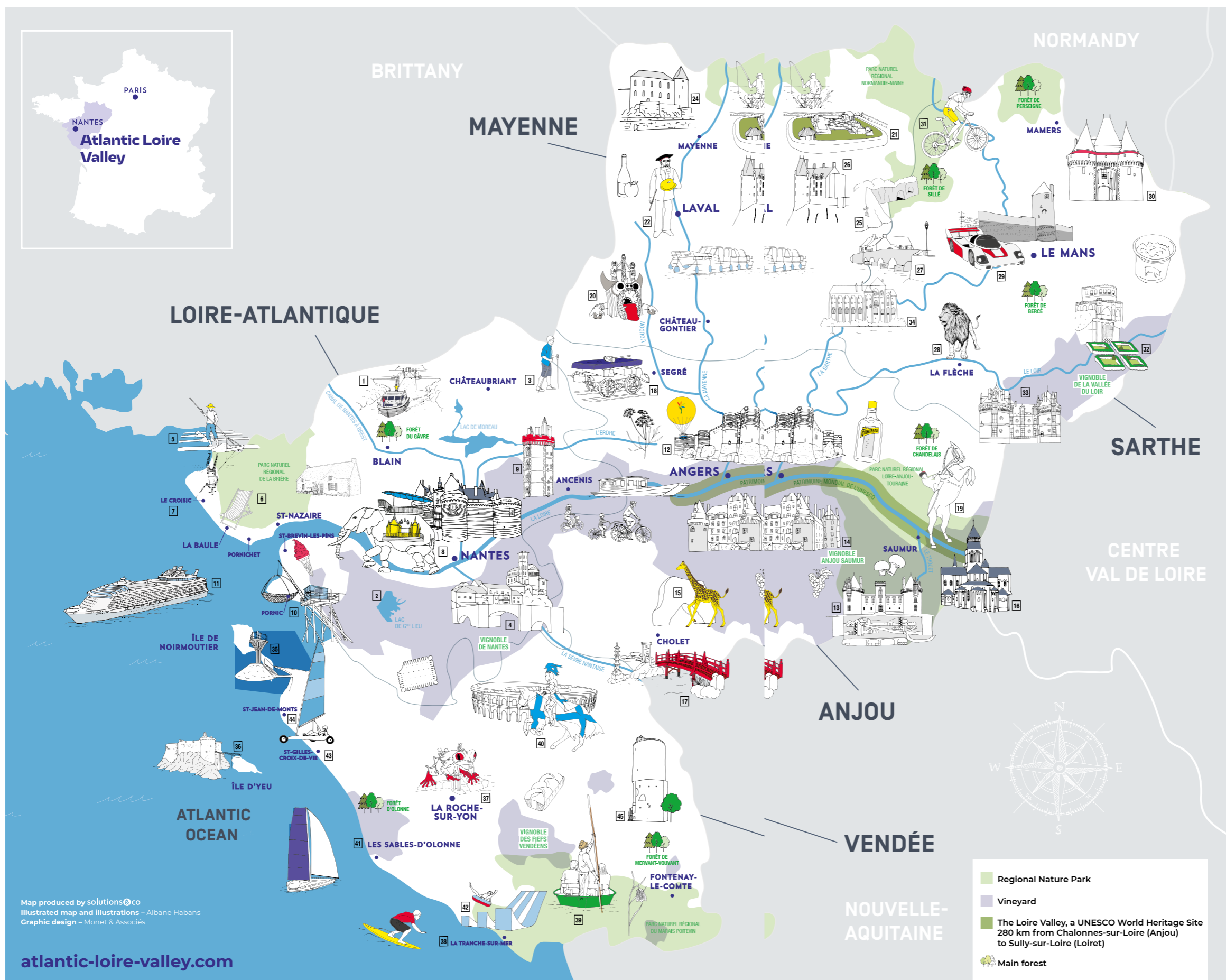
- 20- Cossé-le-Vivien - Robert Tatin Museum
- 21- Jublains - Jublains Gallo-Roman archaeological site
- 22- Laval - The Naïve Art Museum - Le Douanier Rousseau
- 23- River tourism & towpath
- 24- Mayenne - Museum of the Château de Mayenne
- 25- Saulges - Caves, canyon and Prehistoric Museum
- 26- Sainte-Suzanne - Château and Petite Cité de Caractère

## SARTHE (72)

- 27- Asnières-sur-Vègre - Petite Cité de Caractère
- 28- La Flèche - La Flèche Zoo and Safari Lodge
- 29- Le Mans - The 24 Hours of Le Mans - City of the Plantagenet - Papéa Parc
- 30- Le Perche Sarthois - La Ferté-Bernard
- 31- The Alpes Mancelles
- 32- Poncé-sur-le Loir - Gardens of the Château de Poncé-sur-le Loir
- 33- Vallée du Loir - Château du Lude
- 34- Vallée de la Sarthe - Abbey of Solesmes

## VENDEE (85)

- 35- L'île de Noirmoutier - Le Bois de la Chaize - Passage du Gois causeway
- 36- L'île d'Yeu - Le Vieux Château
- 37- La Roche-sur-Yon and the Mechanical animals of the Place
- 38- La Tranche-sur-Mer - Surfing
- 39- The Marais Poitevin
- 40- Les Epesses - Le Puy du Fou theme park
- 41- Les Sables-d'Olonne - The Vendée Globe & Zoo des Sables
- 42- Moutiers-les-Mauxfaits - Indian Forest & O'Gliss Park
- 43- Saint-Gilles-Croix-de-Vie - Sardines
- 44- Saint-Jean-de-Monts - Land sailing
- 45- Vouvant - Petite Cité de Caractère



Map produced by solutions@co  
Illustrated map and illustrations - Albane Habans  
Graphic design - Monet & Associés

atlantic-loire-valley.com

# The region's key figures



**250 km**

**of the Loire River**  
75 km of which are part  
of a UNESCO World  
Heritage Site



**215 km**

**of beaches**



**47 Petites Cités  
de Caractère®**



**716 structures  
for Accueil Vélo®**

committed to welcoming  
cycle tourists with appropriate  
and quality services



**450 km**

**of Atlantic coast**  
and 2 islands (Yeu and  
Noirmoutier)



**375 km**

**of rivers**  
to sail on



**3<sup>rd</sup> French  
wine region**

in volume of protected  
origin wine- **AOP**



**3 major  
agritourism  
networks**

Accueil Paysan,  
Bienvenue à la ferme,  
Gîtes de France



**3,400 km**

**of marked  
cycle routes**



**4 Regional**

**Nature Parks**



**17 themed loop  
circuits**

Loire Valley



**Almost  
120 farms**

offering farm stay  
accommodation with  
300 selling products

## Travel by train in Atlantic Loire Valley

With Aléop, everyone can find the ticket best suited to their passenger profile: a family, two travelling together, for one or more scheduled stays, or at the last minute... The Aléop regional train network (TER) is the best way to travel sustainably throughout the Atlantic Loire Valley region!

### The Multi Forfait pass

The Aléop multi forfait pass is perfectly suited for groups who want to explore together (up to 5 people). This pass allows unlimited travel for one day (€30) or two days (€45) on all TER trains in Atlantic Loire Valley. From the Alpes Mancelles to the beaches of the Vendée, from the Saumurois to the Guérande peninsula, the Atlantic Loire Valley will reveal all its secrets to visitors who choose to discover it at their own pace by train.

[www.ter.sncf.com](http://www.ter.sncf.com)

### Ecco tickets

Cheap train travel in Atlantic Loire Valley is possible with Aléop! With prices ranging from €1 to €21, Ecco tickets are valid 7 days a week, all year round. For children aged under 12, these tickets are available for less than €10. This unique offer, set up by the Atlantic Loire Valley, is the perfect solution for smart, cost-effective travel.

[www.ter.sncf.com](http://www.ter.sncf.com)

### The Mezzo card

This discount card gives you 50% off all TER train journeys. This valuable pass is valid for one year and costs just €30 for passengers over 26 and €20 for younger children, meaning it pays for itself fast. You can use it to explore the length and breadth of the region to discover all of its cultural treasures and

numerous tourist attractions... while leaving the car in the garage!

[www.ter.sncf.com](http://www.ter.sncf.com)

### Take the train *La Loire à Vélo*

This free service is designed to make it easier for cycle tourists to navigate the 800 km of marked and secure La Loire à Vélo cycling routes. Running from Saint-Nazaire to Orléans, the Interloire trains can accommodate between 9 and 33 bicycles throughout the year. During the summer season, a dedicated boarding service increases the capacity to 83 two-wheeled vehicles. Booking is highly recommended.

[www.ter.sncf.com](http://www.ter.sncf.com)

### The Beach Train

Fancy a beach getaway? Hundreds of kilometres of the Atlantic Loire Valley coastline, including the Côte de Jade, Côte d'Amour and the Vendée coast, are accessible using the TER network. Head to the coast on a TER train!

[www.aleop.paysdelaloire.fr](http://www.aleop.paysdelaloire.fr)

For an urban excursion in Nantes, visitors can take advantage of the Naolib network's public transport services and enjoy free park and ride facilities at weekends!

[www.naolib.fr](http://www.naolib.fr)



**Aléop** RÉGION  
LA RÉGION VOUS TRANSPORTE PAYS  
DE LA LOIRE

# Journey all year round

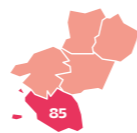
The Atlantic Loire Valley region, its landscapes, its heritage and its terroir invite you to escape, any which way, in all seasons. The region promises that anyone visiting will enjoy a trip tailored to suit them, whatever the time of the year. Solo travellers can enjoy exploring the most emblematic cities of the region on their own, couples or two friends will love the invigorating coasts of Vendée, families the heart of Sarthe's heritage, or a group of friends a foodie getaway in Mayenne.

It's a real land of nuances, the Atlantic Loire Valley changes as the seasons go by, revealing an infinite amount of journeys to imagine.



# Enjoying winter with someone

## 2 days of well-being on the Vendée coastline



### DAY 1

#### Visit the port de la Guittièrre in Talmont-Saint-Hilaire

A salt producing village until the beginning of 20th century, the port de la Guittièrre became a paradise for oyster farmers from the 1920s. This site between land and sea, bathed in the fresh, salt waters of the Payré estuary, has perfect conditions for farming oysters, with all the quality nutrients they need found there. Today, 17 oyster farmers produce oysters labelled "Vendée Atlantique". Visitors can try what they produce in their small huts lined up along this unusual port. ①

[www.vendee-tourisme.com](http://www.vendee-tourisme.com)

#### Dinner and a night's stay at Domaine des Clayères

With its restaurant serving delicious food focused on bistronomy, and sumptuous rooms and suites, this idyllic place gives you the opportunity to enjoy a invigorating break where you can recharge your batteries. The Domaine des Clayères opened in October 2024,

and its 4-star hotel decorated in local colours, is a new haven of peace where you can unpack your suitcase for one or more nights. It is also the perfect starting point to discover the Pointe de Payré tip and port de la Guittièrre, affectionately nicknamed the little Cap Ferret of Vendée! ②

[www.lesclayeres.fr](http://www.lesclayeres.fr)

### DAY 2

#### A walk around Pointe du Payré and its forest of holm oaks

Classified part of the Natura 2000 network, this remarkable natural site is a must-see place to explore in the south of the Vendée. Facing Veillon beach and its dune that provides natural shelter for the estuary, Pointe du Payré gives you a beautiful vista, with

brehtaking views of this strip of dunes between cliffs and holm oak forest. ③

[www.destination-vendeegrandlittoral.com](http://www.destination-vendeegrandlittoral.com)

#### Lunch at the Ô Château brasserie

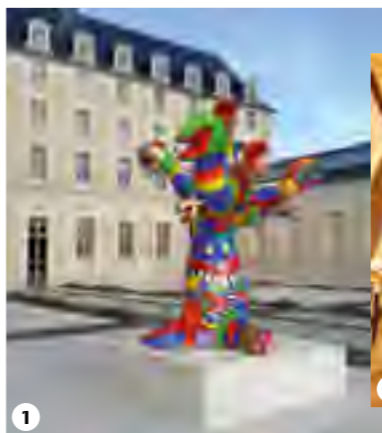
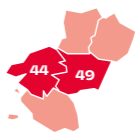
Nestled in the heart of the town centre, just a short walk from the mediaeval fortress of Talmont-Saint-Hilaire, known for being one of the oldest ones built in stone in France, the restaurant appeals to those who love great food who will enjoy the warm setting of this charming brasserie. The restaurant has a short but appetising menu with simple fine cuisine prepared using fresh, seasonal products, including the famous oysters from Port de la Guittièrre. ④

[www.brasserieochateau.fr](http://www.brasserieochateau.fr)



# A solo trip in spring

## A cultural trip touring between Angers and Nantes



### DAY 1

#### Angers and its famous museums

The capital of Anjou and the city of King René, known for its easy living, opens the doors to its two most famous museums. The David d'Angers Gallery, in a haven of light in the former Toussaint Abbey, is now home to the works of the sculptor. A 10-minute walk away, the Fine Arts museum houses a permanent exhibition over 3,000 m² distributed between two exhibition tours: the first is more contemporary and the second more historical. ①

[musees.angers.fr](http://musees.angers.fr)

#### L'Oisellerie : a house with character

Classified as a Historical Monument, this 17th-century house is probably one of the oldest in Angers. Located in the heart of the city centre, this charming house has 6 characterful rooms to stay in, a shop selling fine foods, as well as a chic, cosy apartment which is perfect for staying in if you're on business or enjoying a romantic break. Marlène and Johanna, the lucky owners, are happy

to show their guests the most secret corners of Angers. ②

[loisellerie.com](http://loisellerie.com)

### DAY 2

#### Head for Nantes, only 40 minutes from Angers by train!

#### Freia : the new address in Nantes for foodies to enjoy

Perched on the sixth and last floor of a contemporary building, this garden-restaurant is an new kind of place in the city due to its setting and view of the Nantes skyline from the rooftop, but its plant-based menu more than anything.

It is the new, highly-anticipated address of the young chef Sarah Mainguy, who was discovered on the famous Top Chef TV show in France. With its very personal cuisine showcasing the best Nantes products, its elegant and welcoming service, Freia is an invitation for they eyes and taste buds to enjoy good food. ③

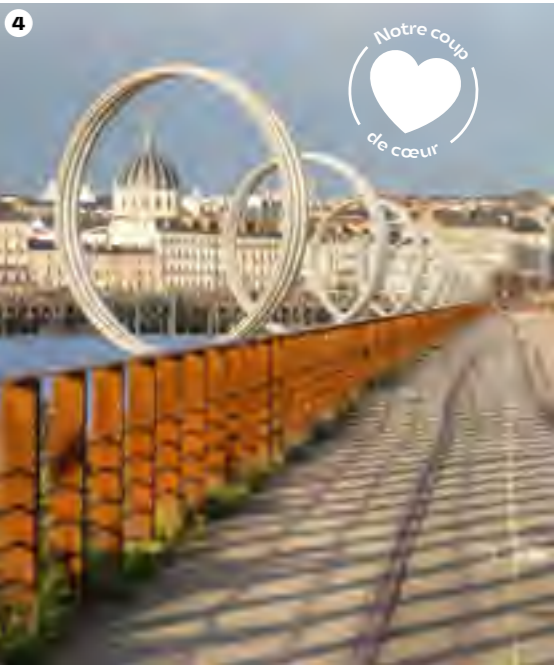
[www.freia-restaurant.com](http://www.freia-restaurant.com)

### Le Voyage à Nantes

Nantes is a permanent journey that reveals unique cultural and historical heritage. The city is home to a collection of around one hundred art works distributed throughout the public space all year round.

Nantes surprises in all seasons with museums, exhibitions, guided tours, cruises, monuments and art routes. While the summer event Le Voyage à Nantes is now internationally recognised, the balminess of spring provides the perfect conditions for an urban getaway. ④

[www.levoyageanantes.fr](http://www.levoyageanantes.fr)



# A family summer



Discovering the heritage of the Perche Sarthois



2



3



4

## DAY 1

### A tour of Château de Montmirail

For a family getaway, Montmirail Castle has personal guided tours for you to enjoy. Dating from the 15th century and listed as a Historical Monument, the Château is nestled on top of a hill overlooking the River Sarthe, giving visitors a outstanding panorama. Overlooking the Montmirail Petite Cité de Caractère, this place full of history invites children and older adults to go back in time. ①

[www.chateaudemontmirail.com](http://www.chateaudemontmirail.com)

### Cabins in the woods at Castel Camping Château de Chanteloup\*\*\*\*\*

For those who love glamping and fans of unusual experiences that combine comfort, green surroundings, relaxation and cosiness, the wooden cabins at Chanteloup campsite are hard to beat. Between its very high quality services with its heated outdoor pool, preserved nature with its large wooded park of 21 hectares and a fishing

pond, the campsite promises that families will enjoy a stay that gets everyone feeling full of energy again. ②

[www.chateau-de-chanteloup.com](http://www.chateau-de-chanteloup.com)

## DAY 2

### Au Bistrone, the restaurant that delights all ages

Simple and generous, this restaurant at La Ferté-Bernard showcases tradition with a delicious selection of food grilled over a wood fire. The interior is decorated in a contemporary bistro style, where everyone feels really comfortable. Au Bistrone stands out for its gourmet cuisine and respect for local products, giving each diner an authentic,

social experience. ③

[www.au-bistrone-restaurant-la-ferte-bernard.fr](http://www.au-bistrone-restaurant-la-ferte-bernard.fr)

### An electric boat ride at La Ferté-Bernard

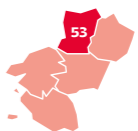
It's the perfect family outing! These electric boats, which are quiet and easy to steer, sail through the canals of the a town where bridges, walkways, wash houses and historic monuments are spread along the water. With the nickname "Little Venice of the West", La Ferté-Bernard is a mediaeval and Renaissance town with a rich and remarkably preserved heritage. It's impossible not to fall in love with! ④

[atlantic-loire-valley.com](http://atlantic-loire-valley.com)



1

# Autumn with friends



A foodie weekend in Laval



1



2



3

## DAY 1

### Immersion in La Cité du Lait

La Cité du Lait is both a centre for interpretation, a collection space and a place for educational activities. It is a unique site entirely dedicated to milk and its history. Thanks to a scenographic visit route featuring more than 4,000 pieces and numerous multimedia activities, visitors are invited to enjoy a delicious cultural experience at the heart of the dairy tradition, which is closely linked to the city. This was where André Besnier founded a family-owned company in 1933, which has now the Lactalis Group, one of the flagships of French industry! ①

[www.lacitedulait.com](http://www.lacitedulait.com)

### Spa & accommodation at the Domaine de Bachmay

This beautiful guest house in the heart of the city combines comfort with lovely decor. A unique atmosphere is found in each accommodation setting. All of the rooms have been tastefully decorated, and associated with a renowned painter, adding an artistic dimension to the living room. The Domaine de Bachmay has

a spa and well-being area with sauna, steam bath and jacuzzi for unwinding in a relaxing bubble. ②

[www.le-domaine-de-maybach.fr](http://www.le-domaine-de-maybach.fr)

## DAY 2

### A delicious break at the L'Effet Papilles restaurant

Near the Château de Laval, which overlooks the Mayenne, chef Adrien Barrier, who honed his skills with Yannick Alléno and Philippe Mille, among others, opened his restaurant to create an inventive and tasty bistro cuisine in a friendly atmosphere, giving new interpretations to tastes and textures. The fresh produce the chef uses tells a story, as it mostly comes from the local market and surrounding producers. ③

[www.effetpapilles.fr](http://www.effetpapilles.fr)

### Discovering the Ferme du Theil cider works

In Andouillé, not far from Laval, the Ferme du Theil spreads its 34 hectares of orchards over the heart of the wooded countryside in Mayenne. Brothers Olivier and Denis Rouland are the third generation to manage this cider farm. Apple juice, cider, perry and Pommeau de Maine are produced at the farm and certified IGP (Protected Geographical Indication) and HVE (High Environmental Value). The public can enjoy a tour and tasting all year round, and discover the unusual world here! At the end of the journey, head to the farm shop, which is full of tasty artisan products. ④

[www.fermedutheil.com](http://www.fermedutheil.com)



4

It's worth a visit!



**Sainte-Suzanne,**  
One of the most Beautiful Villages in France, perched on its rocky peak!

[www.coevrons-tourisme.com](http://www.coevrons-tourisme.com)

# Journey into nature

The Atlantic Loire Valley lies between land and sea, meaning that anyone coming to explore it will find a wide variety of landscapes there. Boasting its coastline with two islands, regional parks, rivers that can be sailed down, and 3,400 km of marked cycle routes, the region has everything that nature lovers will love, giving them many opportunities to explore it. On foot, riding a horse, cycling or on the water: the green vistas and hidden treasures are revealed to visitors looking to escape. Whether alone, with your family or friends, the Atlantic Loire Valley is the perfect destination for recharging your batteries as close as possible to the fauna and flora.



## Brière Regional Nature Park - 44

Discovering the village of Kerhinet and a ride on a barge

The second largest marsh in France, after that of the Camargue, La Brière is an exceptional protected natural reserve, currently being labelled by UNESCO. Over 3,350 plant and animal species have been identified in these 50,000 hectares of wetlands. There's nothing like a ride on a barge through the canals to see them. This traditional flat-bottomed boat means you can go anywhere through the marsh. A stop-off in a traditional Briéron village makes the tour even better. That of Kerhinet, with its 18 traditional thatched houses, is certainly the most typical!

[atlantic-loire-valley.com](http://atlantic-loire-valley.com)



It's worth a visit!



**Guérande**  
and its fortified city!

[www.ville-guerande.fr](http://www.ville-guerande.fr)



## The Maison Langlois in Saumur - 49

Tour of the vineyard in a horse-drawn carriage

What could be more romantic and bucolic than visiting this prestigious vineyard in the Val de Loire by horse-drawn carriage? A ride to the gentle pace of horses, through the vineyards and hillsides, allows you to fully immerse yourself in this pretty setting and learn more about the particularities of organic viticulture. After this break for a change of scene in the heart of nature, there is time for a tasting, during which the mysteries of how the famous Crémant de Loire is made will be partly revealed, because the House keeps its secrets.

[www.ot-saumur.fr](http://www.ot-saumur.fr)



It's worth a visit!



**Terra Botanica**  
the first park dedicated to plants in Europe!  
[www.terrabotanica.fr](http://www.terrabotanica.fr)



## The Saulges Caves - 53

Climbing and introduction

While the natural site of Saulges, in Mayenne, is known for its famous caves and museum dedicated to prehistoric history, it is also a major spot in the west of France for climbing. It impresses amateurs and beginners with how diverse it is and its number of tracks, original layout and green setting. With its introduction and development areas, the Saulges site makes it possible to go up in the world and experience thrills in the middle of nature.

[www.grottes-musee-de-saulges.com](http://www.grottes-musee-de-saulges.com)



## Parigné Cheval Aventures - 72

Treks on horseback

This equestrian centre gives you the opportunity to discover the formidable natural heritage found in the Sarthe following the paths and trails reserved for horse riders. Horse rides of a few hours to several days for all levels, mean you can follow long sandy paths in the shade of the forest, or to wind through the hills on boggy paths. It's the opportunity to discover the region in peace and quiet.

[parigne-cheval-aventures.com](http://parigne-cheval-aventures.com)

## The Marais Poitevin Regional Nature Park - 85

A boat ride from the pier at Maillezais Abbey

Nestled between land and sea, the Marais Poitevin is a unique, preserved space where time stands still. Two environments people have landscaped since the Middle Ages, lie alongside each other: the dried marsh and its boggy fields, and the wet marsh with several canals. It is here, in the heart of this land of water and greenery, that the Maillezais Abbey pier gives those enjoying a walk the opportunity to go for boat rides. With a boatperson or completely free by yourself, it's an invitation to daydream!

[www.vendee-tourisme.com](http://www.vendee-tourisme.com)



## The Domaine des Vieilles Rues – 44

### A getaway in nature

30 minutes south of Nantes, the Domaine des Vieilles Rues is a setting of nature and greenery for a moment to enjoy some calm and switch off while staying there. On the edge of a pond or in the heart of the forest, 3 Finnish kotas and 2 heated wooden chalets enable you to fully enjoy this peaceful haven. You can choose from relaxing, enjoying a siesta, going fishing, or a ride and how about a ride in a horse-drawn carriage along the country paths, between the vineyards and wooded trails.

[www.domainedesvieillesrues.fr](http://www.domainedesvieillesrues.fr)



## Rêver Ailleurs – 53

### Ecodomain in Mayenne

Providing accommodation for well-being and nature, the Écodomaine Rêver Ailleurs is a little corner of paradise. It is a new place full of charm, surrounded by animals and forest, where Aurélie and Arnaud, the lucky owners, welcome their visitors with a smile and generosity. Whether in a gypsy caravan, yurt or Indonesian hut, everyone will find all the comforts and amenities of high-end hospitality here, while being environmentally-friendly. It's all about getting back to nature and the simple pleasures of life!

[www.reverailleurs.com](http://www.reverailleurs.com)



## The Insolites de JSK – 72

### A night sleeping under the stars

Nestled in the heart of the Mancelles Alps and its wooded and hilly landscapes, this unique place is the perfect destination to enjoy a moment suspended in time. Far from the hustle and bustle of the city, this 4-hectare estate has 9 places to stay in, each more unusual than the next. With tents, lodges, barrels, cottages, kotas, bubbles or perched domes, these premium accommodation units are an invitation to escape and dream. There are plenty of activities to do and the bucolic walks in the heart of this green setting really promise you can get back to your roots.

[www.insolites-jsk.fr](http://www.insolites-jsk.fr)



## Gîte La Petite Feuille – 85

### A quiet stay in the countryside

At the heart of the Vendée wooded countryside, in Lucs-sur-Boulogne, this gîte dating from the beginning of the 19th century has been converted to accommodate up to 14 people. It has been completely renovated using environmentally-friendly materials and tastefully furnished, with old meeting contemporary. It is the perfect accommodation where you can get together with family or friends. The La Petite Feuille gîte is open all year round, and is in the perfect location for discovering all the charm of the Vendée for tourists.

[www.gite-lapetitefeuille.com](http://www.gite-lapetitefeuille.com)



## Fontevraud L'Ermitage – 49

### A romantic setting in the heart of the Abbey

Founded in 1101 by Robert d'Arbrissel, the Royal Abbey of Fontevraud remains Europe's largest monastic city today that was inherited from the Middle Ages. Listed as an UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2000 with all of the cultural site of the Loire Valley, the abbey combines heritage, culture, lifestyle and a sense of hospitality. The 4-star hotel in the heart of this historic place, which has been awarded a Michelin key, has 54 rooms with streamlined design and elegant, contemporary furnishings.

[www.fontevraud.fr](http://www.fontevraud.fr)

# The Atlantic Loire Valley region, Cycling country, but that's not all

Nothing beats a cycling tour for exploring a region gently and at your own pace. The Atlantic Loire Valley, criss-crossed by 6 major cycle routes (La Loire à Vélo, La Vélodyssée®, La Vélo Francette®, La Vélobuissonnière®, La Régalante et La Vélidéale), offers more than 3,400 km of landscaped and signposted cycle routes, suitable for beginners and experienced cyclists. From north to south or east to west, along the coastline or through the vineyards, the region is an ideal playground for travelling differently and enjoying the great outdoors. More than 710 establishments with the Accueil Vélo label are ready to welcome you during your stay.

## The 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of La Loire à Vélo



In 2025, La Loire à Vélo is celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

The Loire à Vélo is a section of the EuroVelo6 that connects the Black Sea to the Atlantic, covering almost 4,700 km. This 900 km marked route, along the Loire in the Centre-Val de Loire and Atlantic Loire Valley regions, welcomed 1.8 million cyclists in 2022. Almost 806,000 cyclists take the 373 km of routes in the Atlantic Loire Valley each year.

It is easy to ride along, especially for families, or for a first experience cycling, and follows the course of the river. On the route, you use different types of safe and signposted lanes.

With family or friends, on a hike or a simple walk, La Loire à Vélo provides a range of services so you can organise your trip in the best possible way:

accommodation located less than 5 km from the route, bicycle hire and repair, luggage transfer and bicycle transport, organised parking areas, packages for light travel or hiring a bicycle in one city and dropping it off in another, and so on.

Its route attracts many travellers every year, dazzled by the landscapes along this majestic cycle route. At every partner tourist office, cycle tourists can have their La Loire à Vélo passport stamped with a unique seal to certify their passage and keep a paper souvenir of their two-wheeled journey.

The Loire à Vélo also connects up to several cycle routes. In the Atlantic Loire Valley, it is connected to 5 véloroutes and several loop networks.

[www.loireavelo.fr](http://www.loireavelo.fr)



## The Vélo Francette® A journey through the sweet France



The Vélo Francette® provides a route of more than 644 km connecting Ouistreham to La Rochelle, crossing three regions: Normandy, Atlantic Loire Valley and Nouvelle-Aquitaine. It takes an old railway track for 20 km and then follows the river along the towpath from Mayenne to Daon (85 km). This safe, easy route provides services adapted to cyclists in a preserved environment. La Vélo Francette® will be celebrating its 10th anniversary in 2025.

[www.lavelofrancette.com](http://www.lavelofrancette.com)



## The Vélobuissonnière® An escape in nature

With 250 km of cycle routes on quiet roads and greenways, the Vélobuissonnière® connects Alençon to Saumur via Le Mans. This véloroute off the beaten track runs through the small valleys of the Alpes Mancelles, along the intimate riverbanks of the Sarthe or Loir and through the quaint, character-filled villages of the Loire Valley before reaching Saumur with its majestic castle. The landscape of this itinerary attracts cyclists, particularly the Mancelles Alps with their thousand-year-old stones and mountainous scenery, labelled as an UNESCO World Geopark in 2024.

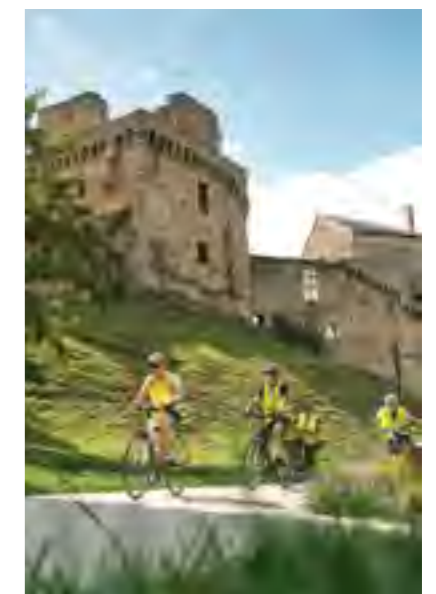
[www.lavelobuissonniere.com](http://www.lavelobuissonniere.com)

## The Régalante A new cycle route since spring 2024



The Régalante is a 275 km cycling getaway between Normandy, Brittany and Atlantic Loire Valley, from Mont-Saint-Michel to Nantes. One journey that can be divided into nine steps to take the time to travel through history, to marvel and to feast. The Régalante is a relatively flat route with little relief, ideal for a first family touring adventure. This cycle route is dotted with points of interest and picturesque towns including Châteaubriant and its magnificent old manor houses.

[www.francevelotourisme.com/itineraire/la-regalante](http://www.francevelotourisme.com/itineraire/la-regalante)





## The Véridéale – 44 LA VÉRIDÉALE

### A cycling adventure at the heart of biodiversity

The Véridéale is a new cycle route that gives you immersion as close as possible to nature, at the crossroads of the most beautiful landscapes and multiple rivers, listed marshes and sensitive spaces. In Loire-Atlantique, cyclists take the light paths that connect Clisson to Saint-Nazaire, from the Vineyards of Nantes to the Atlantic coast. Three days to switch off and enjoy a bubble of nature and heritage, discovering remarkable sites and authentic heritage.

[www.lavelideale.fr](http://www.lavelideale.fr)



## The Vélodyssée® – 85

### A cycle ride from the Baie de Bourgneuf to the Marais Breton Vendéen

From Brittany to the Basque Coast, The Vélodyssée® offers 1,300 km of cycle route with the ocean as the backdrop. Head for the Baie de Bourgneuf, oyster country, as shown by its many oyster ports, for this two-day stage. It's perfect for those who love pedalling around authentic territory in shades of blue and green. A stopover at Port du Bec, also known as the "Port Chinois" with its wooden pontoons reminiscent of decor from Asia, is a must. Later on, the legendary Passage du Gois, which connects Noirmoutier to the continent, is a unique site that you can only walk on at low tide and one that is well worth discovering. The ride continues further south, where the Marais Breton Vendéen rolls out its authentic, calm vista, with a heady impression of infinity!

[www.lavelodysee.com](http://www.lavelodysee.com)

## The Route Européenne d'Artagnan – 49

### The first European equestrian route

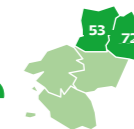
The Route Européenne d'Artagnan leads riders to explore an incredibly rich and diverse natural and cultural heritage site along more than 6,000 km of equestrian trails, greenways and small signposted roads. In Anjou, it crosses the rolling countryside of the Mauges before reaching the Loire Valley via Angers and Saumur. On the way emblematic places in the region such as the Royal Abbey of Fontevraud, the Château de Montsoreau, charming villages in tuffeau stone can be seen... It's the opportunity to discover the gems of the Loire region at the pace of your horse.

[www.anjou-tourisme.com](http://www.anjou-tourisme.com)



## A readymade experience

### 48 hours in nature in Mayenne and Sarthe



### DAY 1

#### Visit to the ancient town of Jublains

Considered the largest and best testimony of the Gallo-Roman era in the Great West, the archaeological site of Jublains is an open book about ancient history. The remarkably well-preserved remains testify to an active Roman city in the first century of our era. The self-guided tour gives visitors the opportunity to discover a temple, thermal spas and theatre offering a remarkable view of the surrounding landscape. The departmental archaeological museum intersperses the visit. 1

#### A night in the heart of nature

With original accommodation that those looking for nature and getting back to their roots will love, Doma is odd accommodation that is unlike any other. There is no electricity here to remain in keeping with nature, and the toilets are dry ones located a short distance from the room and its half-circle bed. Made only from natural materials, such as hemp, soil and

lime, the Doma enables you to completely disconnect. 2

[www.abracadaroom.com](http://www.abracadaroom.com)

### DAY 2

#### Hiking in the Alpes Mancelles

In the heart of the Normandy-Maine Regional Nature Park, the Alpes Mancelles are a real green paradise. At the gates of Le Mans, this background of nature with its steep hilly areas and cliffs plunging into the river that winds in and out through the valleys gives a truly steep setting. Want to go hiking? A 17 km marked circuit follows the meandering of the Sarthe. It gives hikers the opportunity to enjoy breathtaking vistas! 3

[www.tourisme-alpesmancelles.com](http://www.tourisme-alpesmancelles.com)

#### A well-being break and delicious food at La Maison du Gasseau

The Maison du Gasseau is a unique place, nestled in the Alpes Mancelles, which promises to give everyone who pushes open the door an unforgettable moment in a haven of peace that combines serenity, well-being and responsible cuisine. The restaurant, with Victoire and Dorine behind the ovens, has refined, delicious recipes based on local, organic products, bought directly from producers, showcasing plants. The hotel's six warmly decorated rooms offer stunning views of the surrounding nature for those who want to extend their stay to discover the other gems in the territory. 4

[www.lamaisondugasseau.com](http://www.lamaisondugasseau.com)



# An energising journey

An experience where dynamism  
and revitalization are possible  
in the Atlantic Loire Valley!

From lost paths to peaceful rivers, the region  
offers a range of experiences designed to awaken  
the senses and revitalize the body. Each activity  
is a pretext for escape, between moments  
of discovery and inspiring interludes.

An invitation to explore and let yourself be carried  
away by the vitality of an authentic setting,  
to reconnect with what matters most.



## Pont-Caffino leisure base - 44

A pure moment of relaxation

Pont-Caffino has many relaxation and leisure activities in a unique natural setting. Nestled in the heart of the Maine Valley, the outdoor activities centre gives you landscapes reminiscent of a real canyon, for the greatest pleasure of walkers and families. Climbing, kayaking, tree climbing, tyroleaning, archery or even paddleboarding and hiking are possible all year round. As part of the Voyage à Nantes journey, the Porte-View, a contemporary work by architect Emmanuel Ritz, gives you an exceptional panorama and a unique experience for the senses.

[www.pontcaffino.fr](http://www.pontcaffino.fr)



## The Vélobuissonnière - 72

Cycle ride between La Suze  
and Malicorne-sur-Sarthe

Between La Suze and Malicorne-sur-Sarthe, a newly developed section runs along this charming valley. 35 km for going wherever you want to for a getaway to one of the gems in the Sarthe Valley. The charming city of Malicorne is a must-see. Today, Malicorne-sur-Sarthe is labelled "Ville et Métiers d'Art" for its traditions around working the land and famous ceramics, and one those who love history and crafts shouldn't miss.

[www.sarhetourisme.com](http://www.sarhetourisme.com)



## The vines according to Val - 49

Original wine hikes

In the beautiful Layon valley, perfect for escapism, the landscapes change throughout the season, at the rhythm of the vineyard. In order to allow visitors to discover the beauty of this terroir so dear to her heart, Valérie organises various themed hikes from 4 to 8 km long. Walkers follow the hillside paths, offering unique viewpoints that can only be reached on foot. It's the opportunity to learn more about the particularities of these wines, to find out about biodynamics and agroforestry (combining trees and crops on the same plot), before ending with a traditional tasting.

[www.lesvignesselonval.com](http://www.lesvignesselonval.com)

## The Bois du Tay estate - 53

A ride on an off-road electric scooter

Nothing beats a ride on an electric scooter to discover the Bois du Tay, a real scene of nature located in the north of the Coëvrons in Mayenne, and get around its paths easily. Families and friends can enjoy this activity that needs balance and skill for lots of thrills at the heart of this majestic 135-hectare forest.

[www.mayenne-tourisme.com](http://www.mayenne-tourisme.com)



## Bocage Hike in the Pouzauges area - 85

Hiking in complete freedom

Between hills and valleys, the Pays de Pouzauges is known for its many sunken tracks and authentic heritage that offer a beautiful range of panoramas to discover. Designed by the Tourist Office and the Vendée Departmental Hiking Committee, new walks invite you to a new bucolic escape. There's a choice of two stays, for 3 or 4 days, combining discovery tours, delicious restaurants and comfortable accommodation. Baggage can also be transported so you can walk without being weighed down.

[www.tourisme-paysdepouzauges.fr](http://www.tourisme-paysdepouzauges.fr)



Its worth a visit!

### Vouvant

Most Beautiful Villages in France,  
and its Mélusine tower!

[www.fontenay-vendee-tourisme.com](http://www.fontenay-vendee-tourisme.com)



## Slow OM - 44

### A stop for nature and a Slow Life break

This guest house is a peaceful place in the calm of the countryside, at the edge of meadows and vast expanses of nature, just a stone's throw from the Canal de Nantes to Brest. You come here to recharge your batteries, let go of stress and find yourself in harmony again. There's only one thing to do: let go! Various themed stays can be offered during which Ayurvedic treatments, yoga classes, meditation sessions or massages deliciously enhance this Slow Life break.

[www.slow-om.fr](http://www.slow-om.fr)



## Le Haras de la Potardière - 72

### A charming Castle Hotel

The Haras de la Potardière is a place full of charm and greenery. It's ideal for a refreshing stay. Fourteen well-decorated, fully restored rooms and two gîtes (one at the stud farm, the other on the farm) have around thirty beds welcome travellers looking to get it away from it all. A well-being area with a jacuzzi can be used and can be booked privately for a break just for you. Massage sessions are also offered to make this stay unique!

[www.potardiere.fr](http://www.potardiere.fr)



## La Doucelle - 53

### An ode to easy living

Located in the heart of the Normandy-Maine Regional Nature Park, this former presbytery, restored with love and taste by the owners, has now become a charming centre surrounded by forests and wooded countryside. The guest house has 5 beautiful rooms, including a family suite. Designed to be an invitation to relaxation, contemplation and reconnection with nature and the senses, the well-named La Doucelle regularly puts on musical weekends, well-being courses and sound therapy sessions.

[www.ladoucelle.fr](http://www.ladoucelle.fr)

## La Mission - 85

### Hotel & Spa on Île d'Yeu

To discover the pearl of the Atlantic, Île d'Yeu, what could be more romantic than a 4-star experience at the La Mission hotel. A true gem hidden in the island, this establishment has a history: being made up of two former schools in the past, before being transformed into a cinema and concert hall, it has now become a high-end holiday resort. With a hotel, restaurant and spa, plus its treatment rooms, hammam and indoor pool, La Mission is an ode to getting away from it all.

[www.lamissionyeu.com](http://www.lamissionyeu.com)



## Côté Rivière - 49

### Quiet and exceptional lodges

With a focus on relaxation and disconnection, this guest house charms travellers with its peaceful atmosphere and exceptional views of the river and the charming port of Grez-Neuville. Two exceptional lodges with a spa, hammam or sauna await all those looking for well-being. Côté Rivière also offers à la carte stays with massage sessions given directly in the room. Switching off is guaranteed!

[www.cote-riviere.com](http://www.cote-riviere.com)



Its worth a visit!

Notre coup de cœur

**Saint-Gilles-Croix-de-Vie**

A maritime escape with a sea tang that's full of charm!

[www.payssaintgilles-tourisme.fr](http://www.payssaintgilles-tourisme.fr)

## Les Canalous – 49

### New paths of freedom on the Rivières de l'Ouest®

From Chenillé-Changé, in Anjou, all those who love sustainable, bucolic river tourism can enjoy a host of treasures and gems. Les Canalous gives you a cruise on board a permit-free boat you can stay on to explore the 300 kilometres of waterways of the Rivières de l'Ouest®, with a choice between the blue waters of the Mayenne, the wildest course of the Oudon, or the elegant, tranquil Sarthe. They wind through a multifaceted territory, where the locks and crossing them give you unforgettable memories.

[www.lescanalous.com](http://www.lescanalous.com)



## Canotika – 53

### Miniboats: single-seater electric boats

Ahoy sailor, who has never dreamed of being alone on board being captain of their boat? The electric miniboats, which can be rented from the marina at Château-Gontier, give you this unusual experience. These small boats, 85 centimetres wide and almost 2 metres long, allow you to sail safely and enjoy the dolce vita on the Mayenne river. The miniboat is very easy to use, being steered with a steering wheel and a joystick that allow you to go forwards or backwards. Kids and adults all love using these snazzy, fun boats!

[www.canotika-tourisme.fr](http://www.canotika-tourisme.fr)

## Anjou Navigation – 72

### A river cruise in the Sarthe Valley

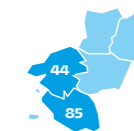
Anjou Navigation's boats which don't need a licence invite you to experience a real adventure for a weekend or stay for several days, with your family, friends or the two of you. Between Sablé-sur-Sarthe and Le Mans, this river cruise crosses the Sarthe valley for you to enjoy an escape between nature, heritage and discovery. Several stops are a must, such as the abbey of Solesmes, the Petite Cité de Caractère of Asnières-sur-Vègre or the pottery makers of Malicorne-sur-Sarthe, which has the "Ville et Métiers d'Art" label.

[www.anjou-navigation.fr](http://www.anjou-navigation.fr)



## A readymade experience

### 48 hours of disconnection in Loire-Atlantique and In Vendée



## DAY 1

### Lunch opposite the port at Pornic

The Café du Port certainly gives you the most beautiful view of Pornic and its ria. Its exceptional location and idyllic setting make it a place not to be missed at the old port, well located between the new casino of the famous beach resort, the botanical garden and the thalassotherapy centre. This former port bar, which has been renovated in a very contemporary style, offers simple, seasonal and quality products to enjoy on the beautiful sun-drenched terrace on warm days ❶

[www.cafeduport-pornic.fr](http://www.cafeduport-pornic.fr)

### Yoga session and introduction to the permaculture vegetable garden

The Éco-domaine La Fontaine is a place where you can connect with yourself and the surrounding nature. Between a yoga and meditation session, you can take a well-being break to let go thanks to introductory sessions like these provided on the estate. The permaculture vegetable garden, which is based on synergies between crops, also means those

wanting to learn more about what nature has to offer and what it teaches us every day can go for an revitalising wander. ❷

[www.ecodomaine-la-fontaine.fr](http://www.ecodomaine-la-fontaine.fr)

### Overnight stay at the Éco-domaine La Fontaine

Sea and land: this is the perfect equation for this enchanting place. The Eco-domaine La Fontaine is both a four-star hotel and a high-end residence, a restaurant with a restaurant serving 100% homemade, local and seasonal cuisine with products from the permaculture vegetable garden, a self-sufficient energy spa and educational farm as well as a lush garden. With the Atlantic Ocean as a backdrop, this little corner of paradise is infused with easy living with a sea tang in the air, which celebrates nature and distils enjoyment. ❸

[www.ecodomaine-la-fontaine.fr](http://www.ecodomaine-la-fontaine.fr)

## DAY 2

### A stay untouched by time at Le Puy du Fou

Le Puy du Fou has been voted "Best Amusement Park in the World" several times and is a unique experience where you can experience intense emotions. At the heart of a hundred-year-old forest, it's an unmissable destination that all ages and audiences can enjoy. It's much more than a traditional theme park, it's a real journey untouched by time! With grandiose decors, breathtaking shows, original creations, vintage villages and an enchanting setting, there is nothing like Le Puy du Fou and it attracts more and more visitors every year. ❹

[www.puydufou.com](http://www.puydufou.com)



# An unexpected journey

With architectural gems you wouldn't expect, unusual places or talented producers, the Atlantic Loire Valley has plenty of surprises for the most curious visitors. It's the opportunity to discover the region from a new perspective, sometimes far away from the crowds and off the beaten track. See where a film was made, marvel at the heart of a troglodytic site, meet a couple of seaweed harvesters or go back in time for a weekend... all unexpected promises in the Atlantic Loire Valley.



## The Hellfest site - 44

### An unusual tourist site

Every year in June, Clisson hosts one of Europe's biggest heavy metal music festivals: Hellfest. Today, the 83-hectare site is becoming an unmissable stopover in the Vineyards of Nantes to visit all year round. Decors with a unique aesthetic, gigantic works of art and scenography inspired by religious, mythological and mediaeval universes diverted by metal culture give the venue a dreamy, incomparable character. An "extra" ordinary open-air museum!

[www.levignobledenantes-tourisme.com](http://www.levignobledenantes-tourisme.com)



## Le Mystère des Faluns - 49

### A journey to the centre of the earth

Having been exploited as a stone quarry for a long time, this amazing troglodytic site has now been transformed into an artistic trail to explore the underground heritage of the Saumurois. The scenography of the Mystère des Faluns can be seen in the 20-metre-high domed cellars. Walking through this maze of galleries with light and sound, visitors discover the site's history, the geological upheavals that saw it emerge, the animals that lived there and the men who dug and shaped it.

[www.le-mystere-des-faluns.com](http://www.le-mystere-des-faluns.com)



## The Robert Tatin Museum - 53

### Monumental works in the middle of nature

In the 1960s the painter and architect, the unclassifiable Robert Tatin, decided to return to his homeland of Mayenne to live in this corner of nature. Motivated by a profound humanistic approach, he has been building monumental works inspired by his many journeys around the world for 20 years. The Meditation Garden, the Dragon, the Butterfly Refuge, or the Alley of the 19 Giants, all give the place this unique character, for an enchanting visit.

[www.patrimoine.lamayenne.fr](http://www.patrimoine.lamayenne.fr)



Its worth a visit!

## Ma Région Virtuose

An exceptional musical event that takes place throughout the Atlantic Loire Valley region 24 to 26 January 2025. An exceptional journey to the heart of classical music with more than 150 concerts throughout the area. New in 2025: "out-of-the-city" concerts are programmed with an touring stage covering nearly 25 municipalities and covered markets...

See more information about this event on page 40



## Les 24 Heures of Le Mans - 72

### The Guided Tours of the museum and circuit

The city of Le Mans is known worldwide for its famous endurance race, which brings together the best drivers on the planet every year in June. Enthusiasts or curious individuals can walk this legendary 24-hour circuit all year round and stroll through the museum that looks back at the full history of the site. There's nothing like being accompanied by a guided speaker to enjoy the most surprising anecdotes that have marked this legendary event.

[www.lemans-musee24h.com](http://www.lemans-musee24h.com)



## Vendée Railway - 85

### Unusual train rides

Who hasn't dreamt of one day being one of those privileged travellers of the Orient Express whose name symbolises both luxury, countryside, romance and adventure? From Mortagne-sur-Sèvre station, in the Vendée Bocage, you can go back in time on board an authentic steam train or spend a unique moment having lunch in the Grands Express carriages. This picturesque 22 km long line, with its magnificent viaducts, gives those seeking authenticity a romantic, fairytale journey.

[www.vendeetrain.fr](http://www.vendeetrain.fr)



## Les Jardins de la Mer at Le Croisic - 44

### A couple of seaweed harvesters

Valérie and Jean-Marie have an odd job, harvesting seaweed on the wild coast of the Guérande Peninsula. On this former sea salt flat, which has been naturally fed by the sea for more than 500 years, this marine farm does aquaculture farming and grows seaweed. As a member of the French Culinary College and a partner of the region's largest fine dining restaurants, Les Jardins de la Mer farm also offers the public an introduction to this cuisine with a tang of the sea to learn all about its benefits.

[www.lesjardins-delamer.fr](http://www.lesjardins-delamer.fr)



## Savonnerie Martin de Candre - 49

### A soap maker artisan and perfumer for three generations

For more than 50 years, the history of this artisanal soapmakers has been based on preserving unique know-how and passing it on. First there was Rosine, then her daughter Hélène, and now the third generation with grandson Augustin who has just joined the family adventure. Martin de Candre is now one of the last French artisanal soapmakers to practice saponification that's 100% natural. They are also perfumers, making the essential oils that perfume their products themselves.

[www.martin-de-candre.com](http://www.martin-de-candre.com)



## Sous nos mains - 53

### A collective of artisans and artists from the Mayenne

In the beautiful village of Lassay-les-Châteaux, around fifteen craftsmen and artists have got together to raise awareness of their profession and sell their products and works in one shop: Sous nos mains. This original place allows them to showcase themselves outside their workshops and meet the public to talk about and promote their know-how. Whether a stonecutter or illustrator, each of them highlights their creations in a place with a human dimension.

[www.mayenne-tourisme.com](http://www.mayenne-tourisme.com)



## Au Pré des Abeilles - 85

### A honey farm at the heart of the Marais Breton Vendéen

After working for a long time at the Office National des Forêts, it was meeting Claude Poirot, a beekeeper at "La Folie de Finfarine", that made Anne-Laure want to open her own honey farm. Surrounded by nature from a young age, she makes the most of the extraordinary biodiversity of the Marais Breton Vendéen to set up her 200 beehives. Here, she can practice beekeeping in line with her values, being committed to having organic farming certification.

[www.paysdesaintjeandemonts.fr](http://www.paysdesaintjeandemonts.fr)



## The Cadres Noirs Percherons - 72

### The beekeeper for Michelin-starred restaurants

Patrick Cholet is a former executive of a large oil group who switched to become a bee farmer in a charming village typical of the Sarthe, Bonnétable. Since 2015, Les Cadres Noirs Percherons, his beekeeping company, has been producing honeys known for their unique purity with notes of coriander, carrot flower or buckwheat. Patrick Cholet has transformed the nectar into an art, becoming the beekeeper for star chefs such as David Bizet, Alain Passard and Arnaud Viel.

[www.les-cadres-noirs-percherons.fr](http://www.les-cadres-noirs-percherons.fr)



## The Maillé-Brézé - 44

When a military frigate becomes a submarine

The Maillé-Brézé, this former escort ship, listed as a historical monument since 1991, is now the pride of Nantes' maritime heritage. Moored on the Loire docks, in the heart of the city, this military ship turned into a museum recently provided the setting for the filming of *À toute allure*, a film by Lucas Bernard released last November. The Maillé-Brézé demilitarised frigate served as the main backdrop to recreate the world of submarines.

[www.maillebreze.com](http://www.maillebreze.com)

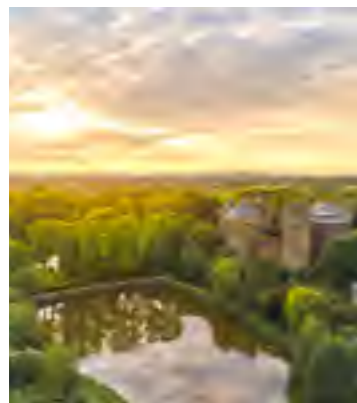


## Lassay-les-Châteaux - 53

*La Famille Béliet* filmed in Mayenne

*La Famille Béliet* by Eric Lartigau became a great success in French cinema when it was released on 17 December 2014 and went on to become very popular. Filmed in Mayenne, next to Lassay-les-Châteaux, this touching, funny film brings Karine Viard, François Damiens and singer Louane to the screen. The filming took place for five weeks in the heart of the rural and green landscapes of the north of Mayenne with the beautiful farm in the small hamlet of Remieu as the main setting.

[www.mayenne-tourisme.com](http://www.mayenne-tourisme.com)



## The Cité Plantagenêt - 72

Le Mans, a city where films are made

The Cité Plantagenêt, the historic centre of Le Mans, is a real open-air setting for filming large historic frescoes. Its hidden gems, such as small cobblestone alleys and old half-timbered houses, provide the directors with a unique setting. Among the greatest film classics shot in Le Mans city are *Cyrano de Bergerac*, *On Guard*, *Man in the Iron Mask* and *D'Artagnan and the Three Musketeers*.

[www.lemans-tourisme.com](http://www.lemans-tourisme.com)



## Noirmoutier - 85

An island in the movies

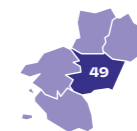
With its sheltered creeks, fine sand beaches, pine forests, small oyster ports, and salt marshes, the Bois de la Chaise and its exceptional setting, the Gois and its landscapes that change with the rhythm of the tides, Noirmoutier gives directors unique natural decors. A real land for filming, the island has welcomed many films, starting with *César and Rosalie*, or more recently *Les Vacances du Petit Nicolas*.

[www.ile-noirmoutier.com](http://www.ile-noirmoutier.com)



## Turnkey experience

Discovering unsuspected gems of the Anjou



1



2



3

### DAY 1

#### The musée du Textile et de la Mode

The Musée du Textile et de la Mode is an exceptional place in the territory's industrial heritage. This former canvas bleaching factory, built in 1881, is one of the last witnesses to the textile business in the handkerchief town. Now a museum, this site offers a rich and lively panorama, giving new life to the weaving trades and paying tribute to the weavers who, from their cellars to the factories, saw the Cholet fabric industry grow. 1

[www.museedutextile.com](http://www.museedutextile.com)

#### Exceptional guest rooms at the château de la Brûlaire

Built at the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century by the Nantes shipowner François-Marie Bonaventure, Count du Fou, the Château de la Brûlaire is nestled in the valley countryside of Les Mauges. In the heart of a five-hectare wooded park, five rooms that have been tastefully and elegantly decorated, wait for visitors for a day or travellers who want to

unpack their suitcase for a longer break. This revitalising place also has a fine dining restaurant to extend the experience. 2

[www.domainedelabruilaire.fr](http://www.domainedelabruilaire.fr)

### DAY 2

#### Le Stofflet restaurant at Château Colbert

Overlooking the Parc Oriental de Maulévrier, Château Colbert celebrates the French art of living. This luxury hotel with a Petit Versailles style serves fine cuisine in its Le Stofflet restaurant which focuses on the terroir and the products from its 800 m<sup>2</sup> organic vegetable garden, twice voted to the best vegetable garden in France. Just like this extraordinary place,

the restaurant focuses on elegance and flavour. 3

[www.chateaucolbert.com](http://www.chateaucolbert.com)

#### The Parc Oriental de Maulévrier

15 minutes from Cholet, a total change of scenery awaits visitors. Europe's largest Japanese garden, Le Parc Oriental de Maulévrier covers almost 30 hectares, bringing together more than 600 plant species grown according to the landscape codes of the land of the rising sun. This site, labelled as a "Jardin remarquable" (Remarkable Garden), enchants all nature enthusiasts during a long walk where time stands still. 4

[www.parc-oriental.com](http://www.parc-oriental.com)



4

Buzz to the rhythm  
of major events

Ma Région Virtuose  
Classical music for everyone



Having enjoyed a successful launch last year, this new musical event aims to appeal to as many people as possible, intending to reach audiences who don't listen to classical music as much. Under the artistic direction of René Martin, this 2025 edition aims to highlight the musical works that tell stories, follow narratives, and speak to everyone through their imagery and poetry. A bold programme with a 2025 theme of "Stories, tales and legends". With 150 concerts scheduled throughout the Atlantic Loire Valley region, and tickets from €2 to €12, musical excellence is now accessible to everyone.

24 to 26 January 2025

[www.paysdelaloire.fr](http://www.paysdelaloire.fr)

Région Pays de la Loire Tour  
A great moment of sport and emotions

Part of the international cycling union calendar, the Région Pays de la Loire Tour accommodates around twenty professional and semi-professional international teams. This third edition promises a great sporting show, over four days, where the best cyclists will battle it out on the region's roads and try to take their leader to the ultimate victory. The race's route illustrates the wealth and diversity of the regional natural and cultural heritage, and runs through the most beautiful landscapes in the five departments. Like last year, a women's one-day race brings a new dimension to this challenge and promotes equality in sport.

8 to 11 April 2025

[www.regionpaysdelaloire-tour.fr](http://www.regionpaysdelaloire-tour.fr)



Events

throughout the year

February

**Food'Angers (49)**  
31 January to 9 February 2025  
[www.foodangers.fr](http://www.foodangers.fr)



**Made in Angers (49)**  
10 February to 7 March 2025  
[www.madeinangers.fr](http://www.madeinangers.fr)



March

**La Corde Raide Festival in Pontchâteau (44)**  
28 March to 6 April 2025  
[www.festival-lacorderaide.fr](http://www.festival-lacorderaide.fr)



April

**Spring Carnival at Pornic (44)**  
24 and 25 April 2025  
[www.pornic.com](http://www.pornic.com)



**National Day of Tourism and Disability (53)**  
April 2025  
[www.tourisme-handicaps.org](http://www.tourisme-handicaps.org)



**Le Printemps de la Sardine in Saint-Gilles-Croix-de-Vie (85)**  
19 April to 3 May 2025  
[www.payssaintgilles-tourisme.fr](http://www.payssaintgilles-tourisme.fr)



May

**Les 3 Éléphants Festival in Laval (53)**  
From 14 to 18 May 2025  
[www.les3elephants.com](http://www.les3elephants.com)



**The Night of Museums in Mayenne (53)**  
17 May 2025  
[www.mayenne-tourisme.com](http://www.mayenne-tourisme.com)



**The Vélo Fourchette in Mayenne (53)**  
From 17 May to 15 June 2025  
[www.civambio53.fr](http://www.civambio53.fr)



Festival de l'Epau

**Festival de l'Epau (72)**  
From 20 to 27 May 2025  
[www.epau.sarthe.fr](http://www.epau.sarthe.fr)



**French Motocross Grand Prix in Ernée (53)**  
24 and 25 May 2025  
[www.ville-ernee.fr](http://www.ville-ernee.fr)



**Gravel Sarthe Tour (72)**  
29 Mai to 1 June  
[www.passionnemansgravel.fr](http://www.passionnemansgravel.fr)



June

**Festivini in Saumur (49)**  
June to September  
[www.saumur-tourisme.com](http://www.saumur-tourisme.com)



**The 24H Le Mans automobile race (72)**  
11 to 15 June 2025  
[www.24h-lemans.com](http://www.24h-lemans.com)



**Les Foulées du Gois (85)**  
15 June 2025  
[www.lesfouleesdugois.com](http://www.lesfouleesdugois.com)



Les Foulées du Gois





A large crowd of people is gathered in a city square, sitting on the ground and eating. They are surrounded by historic buildings with many windows and a tall spire in the background. The scene is lively and festive, with people wearing hats and casual clothing.



5



Events  
throughout the year

December

**Christmas Market  
in Château de Tiffauges (85)**  
Décember 2025  
[www.vendee-tourisme.com](http://www.vendee-tourisme.com)



**4<sup>th</sup> edition Le Voyage à Nantes in Winter (44)**  
Décember 2025  
[www.levoyageanantes.fr](http://www.levoyageanantes.fr)



**Light and sound journey  
at the Abbey of Épau (72)**  
December 2025 and January 2026  
[www.epau.sarthe.fr](http://www.epau.sarthe.fr)



And also in 2025

**The 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Cadre Noir de Saumur**  
Monday 10 February to Friday 31 October 2025  
[www.ifce.fr/cadre-noir](http://www.ifce.fr/cadre-noir)

**15 years of Terra Botanica**  
From 29 March 2025  
[www.terrabotanica.fr](http://www.terrabotanica.fr)

**The 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of La Loire à Vélo**

**1000 years of Château de Montreuil-Bellay**

**10 years of La Vélo Francette®**



The 200th anniversay of the Cadre Noir de Saumur

Unmissable things to see  
and do in the Atlantic Loire Valley



Notes

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# Journeys

in the Atlantic Loire Valley

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