



Christmas at the Châteaux

Experience the magic of Christmas at the Loire Valley Châteaux, with giant Christmas trees, tinsel, toys, presents, Christmas carols, mulled wine, sweets and much more! Here, Christmas spirit is brought to life right down to the smallest details.



CHÂTEAU OF CHENONCEAU

Floral art and Christmas trees with XXL decorations

www.chenonceau.com/en



CHÂTEAU OF AZAY-LE-RIDEAU

Enchanting culinary decorations: sculptures, suspensions...

www.azay-le-rideau.fr/en



CHÂTEAU OF LANGEAIS

Candles, lanterns and light animations

www.chateau-de-langeais.com/en



ROYAL CHÂTEAU OF AMBOISE

White Christmas scenes and giant nativity scene

www.chateau-amboise.com/en



ROYAL FORTRESS OF CHINON

A magical journey around the 3 characters: Saint Nicholas, Father Whipper and... Santa Claus !

www.fortressechinon.fr/en



CHÂTEAU OF VILLANDRY

Enchanted forest, foliage, trees and animals

www.chateauvillandry.fr/en



CHÂTEAU OF CLOS-LUCÉ

Leonardo da Vinci's residence decorated in the colours of Christmas.

www.vinci-closluce.com/en



CHÂTEAU OF CHEVERNY

Christmas in a big way with giant decorations

www.chateau-cheverny.fr/en



ROYAL CITY OF LOCHES

Dive into the world of Prokofiev's musical tale "Peter and the Wolf".

www.citeroyaleloches.fr/en

ROYAL CHÂTEAU OF BLOIS

A hundred of Christmas trees decorated in the colours of each room!

www.en.chateaudeblois.fr



CHÂTEAU DE CHAMBORD

Fir trees and illuminations of the interior and exterior of the castle

www.chambord.org/en



CHÂTEAUX OF THE LOIRET

At the **Château of Meung-sur-Loire** and the **Château of la Ferté-Saint-Aubin**, Christmas is a time for family, with both châteaux hosting stories, carols and creative workshops.

www.chateau-de-meung.com - www.chateau-ferte.com

DOMAIN OF CHAUMONT-SUR-LOIRE

In the greenhouses, discover three incredible winter gardens full of exotic plants. Keep your children entertained with creative workshops from 21st December. *From November to January - Group price €11.20*

www.domaine-chaumont.fr



Loire Valley Châteaux



Discover the 280km UNESCO World Heritage Site between Sully-sur-Loire and west Angers.

An impressive number of famous sites with **22** Châteaux, **15** of which are in Centre-Val de Loire

CHÂTEAU OF CLOS-LUCÉ



A new visitors' space dedicated to Leonardo da Vinci

In the park surrounding the Château of Clos-Lucé, you can now explore a new 500m² visitors' space dedicated to the painter and architect Leonardo da Vinci. This fun and innovative area comes with a virtual gallery, models, interactive tables, 3D animations and virtual reality. www.vinci-closluce.com

Travel back in time with HistoPad

You can now virtually immerse yourself in the history of 5 châteaux in the Loire Valley thanks to HistoPad, a tablet which gives a 360° animation of what the châteaux looked like in the past. The HistoPad is available in several languages.

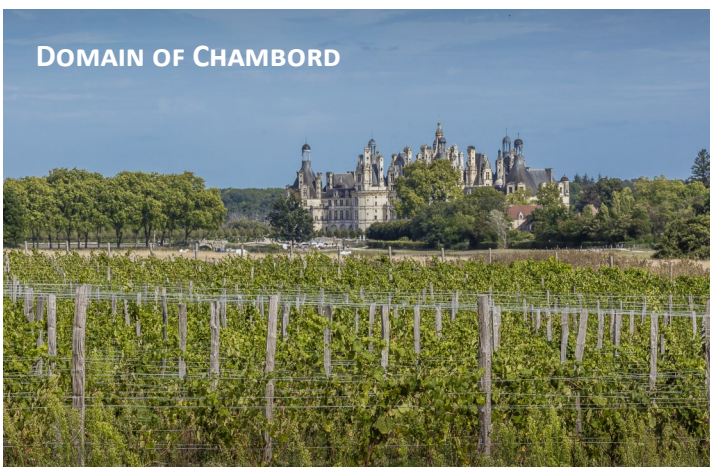
Tablet hire is included in the admission price (except at Chambord).



ROYAL CHÂTEAU OF BLOIS— DOMAIN OF CHAMBORD
ROYAL CHÂTEAU OF AMBOISE— CHINON FORTRESS
ROYAL CITY OF LOCHES

www.chateaublois.fr - www.chambord.org—www.chateau-amboise.com - <http://fortressechinon.fr>
<https://citeroyaleloches.fr>

DOMAIN OF CHAMBORD



Francis I returns to Chambord

In 2015, as its founder Francis I had imagined, the Domaine de Chambord planted 14 hectares of vines in the Romorantin grape variety. The first harvests and then the first tastings having been satisfactory, it is now possible to taste this wine in a private room at the Château. Three wines are offered with local products.

www.chambord.org



Catherine de' Medici's potions

Explore the newest room of Château of Chenonceau - the Queen's apothecary. Beautifully restored in its original place in the château, the room transports you back in time with solid wooden furniture filled with 500 jars and pots in blue and white earthenware, vials, scales and mortars which were used to crush substances that were thought to treat illnesses.

www.chenonceau.com



Relaxation at the Royal Château of Blois

Soprolgy and qi gong are installed in the Royal Castle of Blois to offer a sensorial and original approach to relaxation through art. In the hushed atmosphere of the Queen's Gallery, a sophrologist and a Qi Gong master propose relaxation, stretching and meditation exercises throughout the year. www.chateaublois.fr



Panoramic picnic at the Royal Château of Amboise

To enjoy the gardens of the Château and its 360° panoramic view of the Loire, the Royal Château of Amboise offers picnic evenings on several summer evenings. The sunset show is accompanied by musical entertainment, and the lawns are exceptionally accessible for the occasion.

www.chateau-amboise.com



On 30th November 2000, the Loire Valley was named a UNESCO World Heritage Site thanks to its incredible cultural landscapes. The area covers 280km, from the east of Sully-sur-Loire to the west of Angers. Until autumn 2021, the Loire Valley celebrates 20 years of being a UNESCO World Heritage Site!

Contact: Loire Valley Regional tourist board

www.loirevalley-france.co.uk

presse@centre-valde Loire.org

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The gardens of the Loire Valley



Discover the 280km UNESCO World Heritage Site between Sully-sur-Loire and west Angers.



With French gardens, English gardens, Renaissance gardens, contemporary gardens, rose gardens, romantic gardens... It's not hard to see why the Loire Valley is known as "the garden of France"!



CHÂTEAU OF RIVAU

Fairytale gardens

The 14 gardens at the Château of Rivau are inspired by fairy tales from the Middle Ages. The magical gardens combine horticultural and contemporary art and are grown without chemical fertilizers. The château now has 7 new guest rooms where you can sleep in like princes!

www.chateaudurivau.com/en

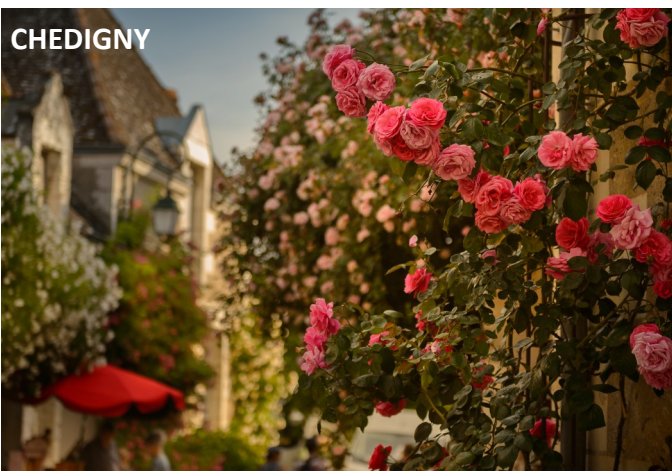
International Garden Festival

The theme of the 30th edition of the festival in 2020 will be "Biomimetics at the garden". The festival is a great way to discover the work of landscape gardeners from around the world in the beautiful setting of the Regional Domain of Chaumont-sur-Loire.

www.domaine-chaumont.fr/en/home



REGIONAL DOMAIN OF CHAUMONT-SUR-LOIRE



CHEDIGNY

Festivals of Roses

The extraordinary collection of roses climbing up the walls of every house in the village has led to Chédigny being named the only "garden village" in France. The village's Festival of Roses every year in May is an unmissable event!

www.chedigny.fr

The Château of Rivau boasts a conservatory filled with scented roses and hosts its own Rose Festival every year in June. www.chateaudurivau.com





CHÂTEAU OF CHAMBORD

Permaculture vegetable garden at the Château of Chambord

More than 40 varieties of vegetables are grown in the new permaculture vegetable garden at the Château de Chambord, which can be discovered during a guided tour to raise awareness of the benefits of sustainable agriculture. And the best part: visitors can leave with vegetables from the garden!

www.chambord.org

Sweet garden at the Château of Cheverny

The brand new sweet garden at Château de Cheverny is a real treat for the sweet tooth. 160 fruit trees (apple trees, quince trees, persimmons, cherry trees, fig trees...) have been planted over an area of 3000m², offering a new space for walks at



CHÂTEAU OF CHEVERNY



CHÂTEAU OF CHENONCEAU

The flower studio at the Château of Chenonceau

Each room of the Château of Chenonceau is decorated with refined flower arrangements, which are beautifully curated by a *Meilleur Ouvrier de France*. Every morning, you can watch them make the bouquets in their flower studio, using flowers picked straight from the gardens.

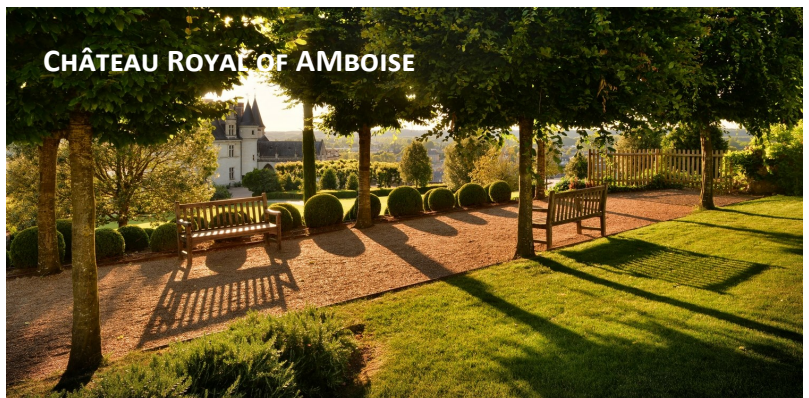
Group price for the Château and the Park: €11.50

www.chenonceau.com

Gardens classified as birds refuge (LPO) in Amboise

The gardens of the Royal Château of Amboise are home to 82 species of birds. 22 nesting boxes have been installed in the gardens to protect these species. Guided tours in the gardens are also offered to retrace the history of these gardens and discuss maintenance practices.

www.chateau-amboise.com



CHÂTEAU ROYAL OF AMBOISE

Tomato festival

Every year in September, the Château-Hotel of la Bourdaisière organises the Tomato Festival. The events include tastings, exhibitions, talks, farmers' markets, games and competitions.

www.labourdaisiere.com/en

La Nuit des Mille Feux (Night of a Thousand Lights)

Every year in July and August, the Château of Villandry's gardens are lit up by thousands of candles. The evening ends with an incredible show on the lake, a sound and light spectacular projected onto the château and fireworks.

www.chateauvillandry.fr/en

A New Garden with Panoramic Views

The Royal Château of Blois has just made their visiting experience even better with a new garden on the Foix terraces. The garden offers a breath-taking view over the town and the Loire, with a layout similar to the historical gardens on the Châteaux's terrace - www.chateaublois.fr

Contact: Loire Valley Regional tourist board

www.loirevalley-france.co.uk

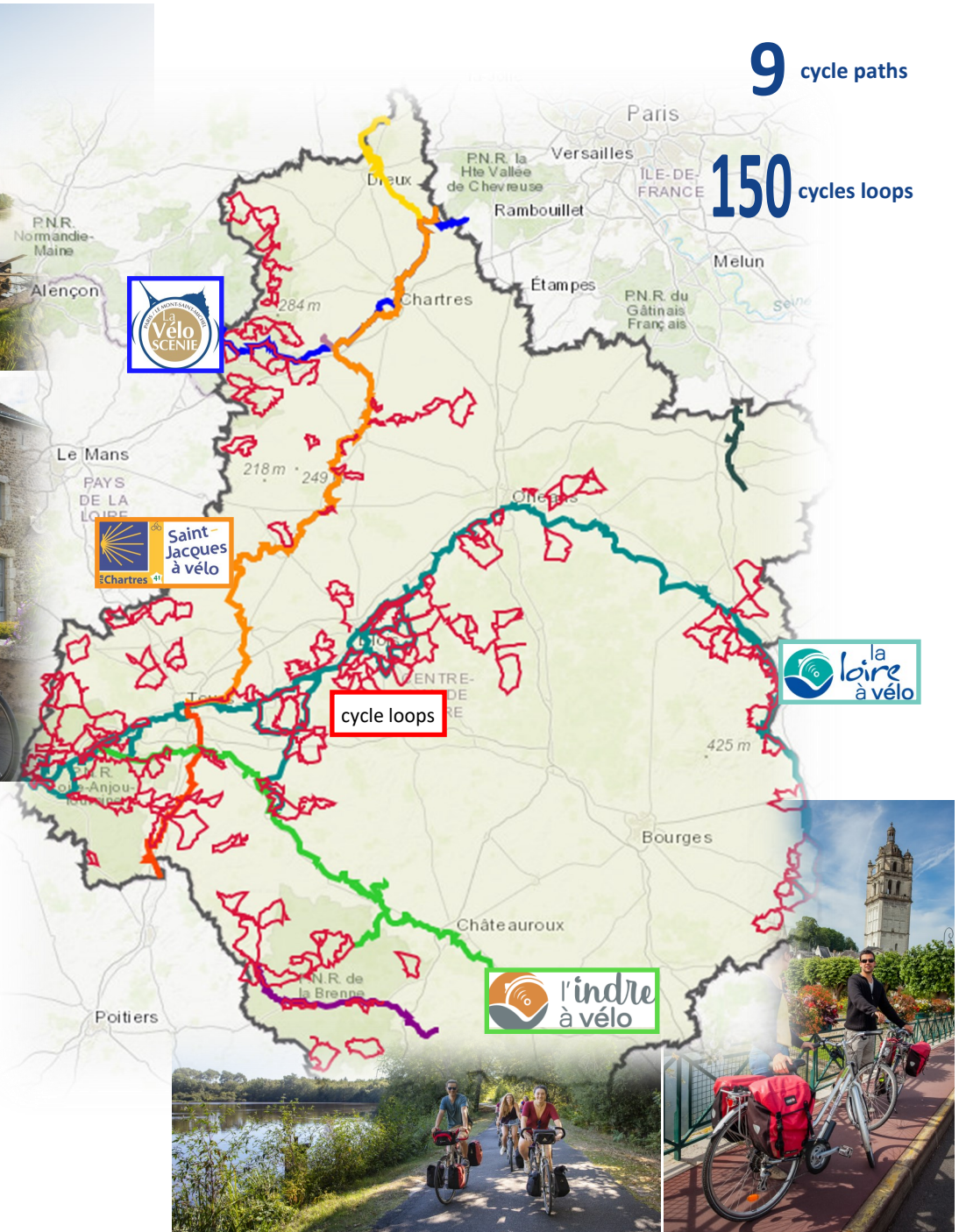
presse@centre-valde Loire.org





Cycling tourism

No.1 destination for cycling tourism in France





www.loirebybike.co.uk

LA LOIRE À VÉLO

- 900km of safe and sign-posted routes from Cuffly to the Atlantic Ocean
- 1 million cyclists each year
- a route for everyone: families, seniors, groups or experienced cyclists
- a website dedicated to helping you plan your route, calculate the distance you want to cycle and download the routes in GPS
- possibility of hiring electric bikes
- a luggage-carrying service is available along the whole route
- If you hire a bike, you don't need to bring it back to the same place you hired it from
- The "Train Vélo Loire" service allows you to bring your bikes with you on the train and runs between June and September
- 650 member institutions of the "Accueil Vélo" network are committed to providing equipment and services especially for cycle tourists



INCOMING AGENCIES

Cheverny voyages - www.cheverny-voyages.com

Rando Vélo - www.biking-france.com

Détours de Loire - www.detoursdeloire.com/en

BICYCLE RENTAL AGENCIES AND LUGGAGE TRANSFER

- Détours de Loire: www.detoursdeloire.com/en

- Loc Val de Loire: www.loc-valdeloire.com/en

- Loire Vélo Nature: www.lav.loirevelonature.com/en

- Les Vélos Verts: www.lesvelosverts.com/en

- Bagafrance: Luggage, bike and passenger transport - www.bagafrance.com/en



OTHER ITINERARIES



450 km from Paris to Mont-Saint-Michel via Chartres www.veloscenic.com



220km along the Indre river, from Azay-le-Rideau to the south of Châteauroux
<https://en.francevelotourisme.com/cycle-route/indre-a-velo-indre-by-bike>



380km on the way to Santiago de Compostela via Chartres, Vendôme and Tours.
<https://en.francevelotourisme.com/cycle-route/saint-jacques-by-bike>



3600 km from the Atlantic Ocean to the Blac Sea (via the Loire by bike road)
<https://en.eurovelo.com/ev6>

Contact: Loire Valley regional tourist board
www.loirevalley-france.co.uk
presse@centre-valdeloire.org



The Loire Valley, land of the Châteaux

The Centre-Val de Loire region has an exceptional variety of châteaux which go far beyond the 21 “Loire Valley châteaux”. The châteaux in the region are both public & private and are filled with many stories or family secrets!

CHÂTEAU OF LA BUSSIÈRE

To the east of Orléans, this private château is also known as “the fisherman’s château” and belongs to the Bommelaer family. In summer, red berries from the château’s gardens are picked, and there are several family activities on offer all year round. In 2020 new guest rooms will be available so you can experience life in the château!

Entry to the château and gardens: individual €9, group €7 - Open from April to November and over Christmas

www.chateau-de-la-bussiere.fr/uk

CHÂTEAU OF MAINTENON

Louis XIV gave the château of Maintenon to his secret wife, Madame de Maintenon. To round off your visit to the château and gardens, why not stay at the Castel Maintenon 4-star hotel? The hotel has luxury rooms, a 600m² spa and an 18-hole golf course right next to the château’s park.

Group admission to the château and gardens €6.50 open between February and November

Castel Maintenon: rooms from €111

www.chateaudemaintenon.fr/en

www.castelmaintenon.com



CHÂTEAU OF LA BUSSIÈRE



CHÂTEAU OF MAINTENON



CHÂTEAU OF MEUNG-SUR-LOIRE

CHÂTEAU OF MEUNG-SUR-LOIRE

Xavier Lelevé opens the doors to his “château with two faces”. 20 rooms in the château are beautifully furnished and filled with interesting, everyday objects. You’re guaranteed to be thrilled by the château’s underground passages!

Admission to the château and park €9 - Open April to November and Christmas.

www.chateau-de-meung.com/en



CHÂTEAU OF L’ISLETTE

CHÂTEAU OF L’ISLETTE

This château was where famous French sculptors Auguste Rodin and Camille Claudel met and lived their love story. Today, you can enjoy a picnic in the park, take a boat ride along the water and visit the château’s furnished rooms which are still lived in and used by the owners! Group admission €8, individual admission €9.50 - Open between May and the end of September.

www.chateaudelislette.fr/en

CHÂTEAU OF BEAUREGARD

With its unique gallery of portraits of illustrious 327 tracing 315 years of history, the **Chateau of Beauregard** is the ideal introduction to the history of France and a tourist route in the Loire Valley. The landscaped park of 40 ha offers an unforgettable trip full of surprises cultural, botanical and animal.

Group admission €10, individual admission €12,50 - free access to the park - Open between March and the end of October. www.beauregard-loire.com/en/



CHÂTEAU OF CHAMPCEVRIER



CHÂTEAU OF CHAMPCEVRIER

Champcevrier is a private chateau which is still occupied by its owners. The family have owned the chateau since 1728. Discover the chateau's renaissance architecture, moats which are still filled with water, secret rooms and the French tradition of hunting with hounds.

*Group admission €7.50, individual admission €9.50
Open between mid-June and the end of September.*

www.champcevrier.fr/en

CHÂTEAU OF FOUGERES-SUR-BIEVRE



CHÂTEAU OF FOUGÈRES-SUR-BIÈVRE

At the Château of Fougères-sur-Bièvre, you can discover something a little different. This chateau and medieval fortress is a lot simpler than the other classical Renaissance chateaux in the region. It has been part of the Monuments Nationaux (National Monuments Center) since 1912 and has belonged to the state since 1932.

Group admission €5, individual admission €6 - open year-round

www.fougeres-sur-bievre.fr/en

CHÂTEAU OF AINAY-LE-VIEIL

With its medieval appearance, this imposing 14th-century fortress is surrounded by water and gardens, including a rose garden with around 180 varieties of roses. New: opening of gîtes and guest rooms in the castle and a restaurant in the garden.

Group admission €7, individual admission €8, open from May until the end of October

www.chateau-ainaylevieil.fr



CHÂTEAU OF BOUGES

Nestled in the heart of an 80-hectare park, this chateau is a replica of the Petit Trianon in Versailles, complete with French gardens, an English park, a pond and flower gardens. The chateau's stables are a must-see for any visitor! *Group admission €6.50, individual admission €8, open from March to November*

www.chateau-bouges.fr/en



Contact: Loire Valley Regional tourist board

www.valde Loire-france.com

presse@centre-valde Loire.org

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Travel along the water



Discover the 280km UNESCO World Heritage Site between Sully-sur-Loire and west Angers.

Paddle or canoe on the Loire and its tributaries

- around Sancerre: Canoë Raid Aventure - www.canoeraidaventure.fr
- around Orléans: Destination H2O - www.destinationh2o.fr and Absolutement canoë - www.location-animation-orleans.absolumentcanoë.com
- on the Cher river in Chenonceaux or on the Loire near Amboise - www.canoe-company.fr
- around Blois - www.loirekayak.com/en
- around Tours - Tours&Canoë - www.tours-canoë.fr



Travel along the river in a traditional Loire Valley boat

There are several amazing journeys available: sunrise or sunset, a trip with a tasting, flora and fauna observation, and many more. These are all accompanied by enthusiastic guides.

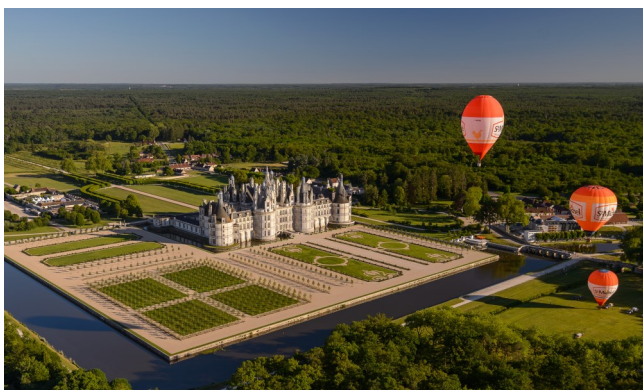
- around Orléans: Les Passeurs de Loire - *Capacity: 12 to 45 people* - www.passeursdeloire.fr
- in Chaumont-sur-Loire and in Amboise: Millière-Raboton - *Capacity: 12 people* - www.milliere-raboton.net
- in Chinon: Compagnie de Navigation Vienne Loire - *Capacity: 50 people* - www.bateaux-promenades-chinon.com



Walk along the GR3

The GR3 was France's first signposted long-distance walking trail. It follows the entirety of the Loire river for 1243km and can be divided into 52 stages.

www.loirevalley-france.co.uk/outings/other-trips-and-excursions/gr3-legendary-itinerary



The Loire from above

Hot-air balloon flights over the Loire are available year-round. However, the flights are weather dependent.

- Aerocom - www.aerocom.fr/en
- Touraine Montgolfière
www.touraine-montgolfiere.fr/flights?lang=uk

For another incredible experience, why not take a flight in a microlight plane:

- Loisirs Loire Valley - www.loisirs-loirevalley.com

River cruise

Several boats offer journeys along the Cher river or the Loire canal.

- Tourist boats in Briare - journeys for 1h30 or a journey/lunch
www.les-bateaux-touristiques-briare.com
- CroisiEurope, travels from Nevers to Briare capacity 22 people - www.croisieurope.com
- French Canal Boat Company - cruises offered all week along the Cher river, capacity: 6 people
<http://frenchcanalboatcompany.com>
- La Bélandre, travels along the Cher river - daily - capacity: 60 and 100 people www.labelandre.com



Cycle along La Loire à Vélo itinerary

The Loire à Vélo is a 900km cycle route which goes through the unique countryside of the Loire Valley, with its châteaux and vineyards. The route is perfect for people of all ages, especially families. The path is safe and well signposted, alternating between greenways and small roads with low traffic. There is also a luggage-carrying service along the route and trains have places to put your bikes.

There are also several places where you can hire bikes along the route, and you don't need to worry about returning them to the same place! You can easily hire a bike from one point and hand it in at another further along the route.

www.loirebybike.co.uk



...en roue libre
CENTRE - VAL DE LOIRE

With its new brand "en roue libre", the Loire Valley tourist board is highlighting the slow tourism offers in the region. As the leading destination for cycling tourism, you will find all the cycling offers, but also all the activities dealing with well-being, good living and good eating! www.enrouelibre-centrevaldeloire.com

Contact: Loire Valley regional tourist board
www.loirevalley-france.co.uk
presse@centre-valdeloire.org





Wine and the « art of living »

All the information on Loire Valley wines on www.vinsvalde Loire.fr/en and www.vins-centre-loire.com/en

CHÂTEAU OF CHAMBORD

In 2015, 14 hectares of organic grape vines were replanted so that now, the château has a Romorantin white wine variety (originally introduced by Francis I) and two red wine varieties in PDO Cheverny.

In 2020, the château will have just completed the first architectural winery in the Loire Valley, created by Jean-Michel Wilmotte. The winery will have a space dedicated to wine tasting and sales.

www.chambord.org/500-ans/post/le-vin-de-chambord



EXPERIENCES FOR WINE-LOVERS

- **Wine-making escape game:** You want to make the heist of the century? Away with the greatest possible bottles? You will have 60 minutes to be the first to unlock the secrets of this legendary Chinon cellar . If you succeed, you'll be able to escape from the wine-making room - *open every day, book by telephone, price from €19.50 per person*

<https://pb-couly.com>



- **Gyroway :** a truly unique visit to all the different wine PDO's in the Loire on an off-road segway. *Price from €49 per person for a 2hr visit*

www.activite-insolite-val-de-loire.com

- **La Maison des Sancerre :** discover the passion and knowledge of wine-growers in a unique setting with 4D animation, interviews and cartoons *Open from March until November, group price €6.40*

www.maison-des-sancerre.com



WINE TOURS: You can also enjoy a guided tour of the vineyard, led by guides who are passionate about winemaking

- **Le Tasting room :** www.letastingroom.com
- **Vinoloire :** www.vinoloire.fr
- **Val de Loire Travel :** www.valde Loire-travel.com
- **Ame Wine :** <http://amewine.fr/>
- **Wine Geometry Tours :** <https://winegeometrytours.com>



DISCOVER THESE AMAZING WINE CELLARS

LES CAVES DUHARD in Amboise

Fun and exciting tours which engage all 5 senses. Specialised wine cellar which conserves vintage wines (some of their bottles date back to 1874!) - Price: individual €12 per adult - group €8.10 per adult

www.caves-duhard.fr

CAVES MONMOUSSEAU in Montrichard

Explore the 15km of underground galleries brought to life in a unique setting with light projections. Wine tasting at the end of the visit.

Price: €3.50 per person - www.monmousseau.com

DOMAIN OF NOIRÉ in Chinon

Travel through the vineyards in a carriage, enjoy a gourmet candle-lit meal in the wine cellar or have a picnic prepared by a local chef with a boat ride along the Vienne - price from €40 per person.

www.domainedenoire.com

CHÂTEAU GAUDRELLE in Vouvray

"Chef & winemaker" workshop: after tasting a Brut Millésimé wine, enjoy a combination of wine and local dishes.

Price: From €105 per person, workshop for 2 to 10 people.

www.chateaugaudrelle.com

LES GRANDES CAVES SAINT ROCH in Rochecorbon

Why not take a segway, electric scooter or fatbike tour? They offer 3 unique ways to discover the biggest wine cellars in Touraine.

Price: from €58 per person - Group price classic tour: €2

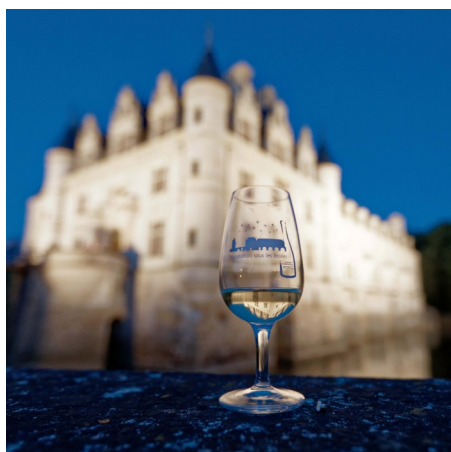
<https://fr.grandescavesstroch.com>

DOMAIN HENRI BOURGEOIS in Sancerre

Journey through the vineyards, have a picnic made with food from the Berry region and prepared by the chef Jean-Marc Bourgeois, or try your hand at wine tasting. - www.henribourgeois.com



3 WINEGROWING EVENTS THAT YOU CANNOT MISS



Tasting under the stars at the Château of Chenonceau : Spend an incredible evening under the stars at the Château of Chenonceau with over 20 different winemakers. www.chenonceau.com



« **Vignes Vins Randos** » (Vines, wines and walks) is an event which offers 17 walks in the heart of the Loire Valley's wine estate, these can be done solo, as a family, or with friends. Price: adult €7 - €3 under 18. www.vvr-valde Loire.fr/en

Vitiloire in Tours this friendly open-air event has an incredible atmosphere and brings together more than 135 people promoting wine making and gastronomy in the Loire Valley.

Tastings and light meals. Free access - for tasting and workshops, glass €6 www.vitiloire.tours.fr

Contact: Loire Valley regional tourist board

www.loirevalley-france.co.uk

presse@centre-valde Loire.org

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 **enroulelibre**
CENTRE - VAL DE LOIRE

 **loire valley**
VAL DE LOIRE • FRANCE

Gastronomy & « art of living »

Michelin starred chefs

In 2019, the Loire Valley counts 15 Michelin-starred restaurants. Two of them has been awarded 2 Michelin stars including the restaurant La Maison d'à Côté, half-way between Blois and Chambord. The chef Christophe Hay only cooks with regional ingredients and works with local producers. He grows his own vegetables in his kitchen garden which is right next to the restaurant.

Menus from €98

www.lamaisondacote.fr/en



Cook with a two Michelin starred chef

Le Domaine des Hauts de Loire is the second two Michelin-star restaurant. Its former chef, Rémy Giraud, offers individual cooking courses, or courses in groups of up to 8 people.

Cooking workshops on Wednesdays and Fridays at €130 per person, pastry-making courses on Sundays at €90 per person

www.hautsdeloire.com/en/cooking-school

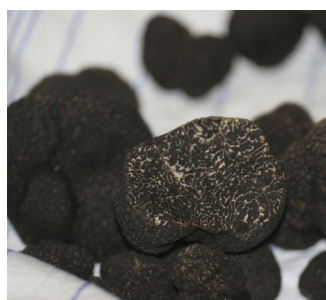


Cooking classes at La Grange aux Savoir-Faire

Near Blois, La Grange aux Savoir-Faire offers workshops for learning how to make your own bread, preserves, cold meats, pastries, jams and even beer!

Workshops are held daily, from €120

www.lagrangeauxsavoirfaire.fr



Le Baron de la Truffe

Come for a tasting or breakfast to the biggest truffle farm in France. Why not choose the VIP option, with a helicopter ride from Paris which gives you a bird-eye view of the truffle patches?

Visit and tasting: €40 - Visit and breakfast: €200 - Helicopter ride, visit and breakfast: €9900 for 6 people

www.barondelatruffe.com/en

Gastro and troglodyte experience

Being at the same time a vineyard, a truffle farm, a restaurant and a troglodyte site (traditional rooms dug out of a hill), “La Cave” welcomes groups for a gastronomic experience in a traditional setting in Montlouis-sur-Loire. Capacity for 400 people. In mid-November, you can taste our menu with truffle-based dishes.

Menus from €24 - www.restaurant-la-cave.com

« Guinguettes » (open-air cafés) by the Loire

These cafés symbolise the way of life in the Loire Valley. Every summer, they bring the banks of the Loire river to life with concerts, shows, theatre or even open-air cinemas. You can enjoy all of this with a glass of local wine or craft beer!

- around Orléans: La Sardine, La Paillote, le Boui-Boui, La Corne des Pâtures (30 km from Orléans)
- around Tours: Tours-sur-Loire, Rochecorbon (the biggest one in France!)

And also, the summer wine bars:

- around Amboise: Domain Lise and Bertrand Jousset, Volupia

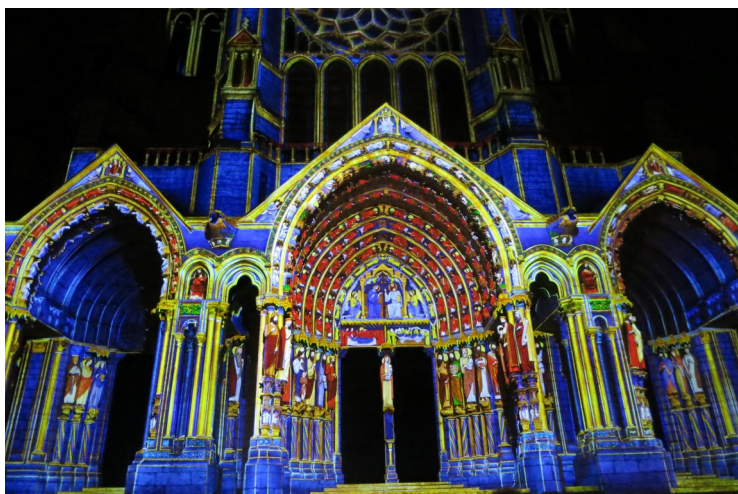
www.loirevalley-france.co.uk/outings/loire-valley-wines-and-vineyards/wines-loire-valley/guinguettes-wine-bars-restaurants-best-places-loire-valley



Chartres en Lumières, VIP offer

The Chartres Tourism Office is offering a new experience to discover the event “Chartres in Lights”. Treat yourself to an aperitif-lunch in the wine cellar of the Hôtel-Spa Le Grand Monarque, a guided tour of the cathedral’s crypt by candlelight, followed by a tour of the incredible sites lit up by the Chartres in Lights festival.

€70 per person - www.chartres-tourisme.com



« Maîtres Restaurateurs », guaranteed quality

160 restaurants have earned the title of Maîtres Restaurateurs (Master Restaurant Chefs) which means that they make all of their own food with natural and local produce, favouring local producers. A plaque at the entrance of the restaurant tells you whether they have earned the title.

*Maître
Restaurateur*

Contact: Loire Valley regional tourist board

presse@centre-valde Loire.org - www.loirevalley-france.co.uk

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City breaks



2 Cathedrals listed as UNESCO World Heritage

The **Cathedral Notre-Dame of Chartres** is an incredible example of French Gothic art, and its stained-glass windows are particularly impressive. It has been listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1979.

The **Cathedral Saint-Etienne of Bourges** has been listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1992. The building is renowned for its magnificent stained-glass windows, tympanum and sculptures.



TRAVEL THROUGH TOURS IN A VINTAGE SIDECAR

Led by a passionate driver, this tour offers a quick, thorough and unique perspective on Tours, all from a motorbike sidecar! 4 tours are offered ranging from 30mins to 3 hrs 30mins. The tour can also include a drive past the Loire Valley châteaux.

Price from €59 to €299 - one or two passengers per sidecar: 2 sidecars available per trip, 4 people maximum.

www.retro-tour.com/en/chateaux-de-la-loire



A FUN AND ALTERNATIVE WAY TO SEE ORLÉANS

Explore Orléans and its surroundings in an interesting way by hiring small electric vehicles (scooters or small cars) with a vintage feel. Hire by the hour, day, or several days.

Prices from €15 to €25 per hour and €150 to €200 per day.

www.motrecity.com

DISCOVER BLOIS IN A HORSE-DRAWN CARRIAGE

Take a magnificent tour around the city and château inside a covered carriage. The tour lasts between 25 and 75 mins. You can even pair the ride with a tasting of regional produce.

Group price for a minimum of 20 people starting at €6 - www.attelagesdeblois.fr



TRAVEL THROUGH BOURGES' MARSHES BY BOAT

Right in the centre of the city, you can visit the marshes either on foot or by boat. You can even organise a private country lunch in a secluded location at the end of the trip.

Price on request - max 6 people per boat

www.bourgesberrytourisme.com

 **loire valley**
VAL DE LOIRE • FRANCE

 **...enrouelibre**
CENTRE • VAL DE LOIRE

AUDIO-VISUAL SHOWS

Chartres: *Chartres in Lights*, every evening at nightfall, 24 sites in the centre of the city will be lit up by different scenographies, from April to October - *free*

Orléans: Sainte-Croix Cathedral, at 11pm Tuesday to Saturday in June, July and August - *free*

Tours: *Renaissance nights* at the Musée des Beaux-Arts (Fine Art museum), every evening from 10:45pm in July and 10:15pm in August - *free*

Bourges: *Nuits Lumières* offers a unique way to travel around the city. An illuminated route will be projected on several buildings. At 10pm between the end of June to the end of July and at 9:45pm August - 21 September - *free*



LOCAL FARMERS' MARKETS

Orléans: market at the quai du Roy, every Saturday morning

Tours: les Halles, from 7am to 7pm Monday to Saturday and Sunday morning

Tours: flower market from 8am to 7pm every Wednesday and Saturday

Amboise and Loches have some of the most beautiful markets in France: **Amboise**, every Sunday morning, **Loches**, every Saturday morning



MUSEUMS AND CENTRES OF ART

ORLEANS, Musée des Beaux-Arts (Fine Arts Museum) - group price €3 - www.orleans-metropole.fr

TOURS, CCCOD, Olivier Debré Centre for Contemporary Creation - group price €5 - www.cccod.fr

BLOIS, Fondation du Doute is a centre of art dedicated to the Fluxus movement - group price €5.50

www.fondationdudoute.fr

BOURGES, Palais Jacques Cœur, a 15th-century townhouse - group price €6.50 - www.palais-jacques-coeur.fr

INCOMING AGENCIES

- Tourist office of Blois-Chambord : www.bloischambord.com
- Tourist office of Tours-Val de Loire: www.tours-tourisme.fr
- Bourges Berry Tourisme: www.berrytourisme-groupes.fr

Contact: Loire Valley Regional Tourist board

www.loirevalley-france.co.uk

presse@centre-valde Loire.org







Top-range accommodation

IN TOURS

		
Hôtel Océania L'Univers Tours **** www.oceaniahotels.com	91	✓
Clarion Hôtel Château Belmont **** www.chateaubelmont.com	65	✓
Le Grand Hôtel **** www.legrandhoteltours.com	114	✓
Mercure Tours Centre Gare et Congrès **** www.accorhotels.com	92	✓
Mercure Tours Nord **** www.accorhotels.com	93	✓
Mercure Tours Sud **** www.accorhotels.com	76	✓
Novotel Tours Centre Gare **** www.accorhotels.com	105	✓



NEAR TOURS

		
Relais et Châteaux Hôtel Les Hautes Roches www.leshauteroches.com	14	✓
Domaine de la Tortinière **** www.tortiniere.com	32	✓
Art Hôtel **** www.art-hotel-tours.com	28	✓
Loire Valley Lodges (treetop lodges with private jacuzzi) www.loirevalleylodges.com	18	?

IN AMBOISE

		
Au Charme Rabelaisien **** www.au-charme-rabelaisien.com	10	✓
Le Pavillon des Lys **** www.pavillondeslys.com	9	✓
Le Manoir Saint-Thomas **** www.manoir-saint-thomas.com	10	✓
Le Clos d'Amboise **** www.leclosamboise.com	20	✓
Le Choiseul **** www.le-choiseul.com	30	✓
Le Manoir les Minimes **** www.manoirlesminimes.com	15	✓
Novotel Amboise **** www.accorhotels.com	121	✓

NEAR THE CHÂTEAU OF CHENONCEAU

		
Auberge du Bon Laboureur **** www.bonlaboureur.com	26	✓


NEAR THE ROYAL CITY OF LOCHES

		
Hôtel de Roche-Ploquin **** www.chateaularocheploquin.com	20	✗
Les Hauts de Sainte Maure **** www.hostelleriehautsdestemaure.fr	10	✓

NEAR CHINON AND THE CHÂTEAU OF RIVAU

		
Château de Marçay **** www.chateaudemarçay.com	28	✗

NEAR THE CHÂTEAU OF AZAY-LE-RIDEAU

		
Le Grand Monarque **** www.legrandmonarque.com	35	✓

NEAR THE CHÂTEAU OF LANGEAIS AND THE CHÂTEAU OF VILLANDRY

		
Château de Rochecotte **** www.chateau-de-rochecotte.fr	37	✓
Château de Beauvois **** www.beauvois.com	35	✗



NEAR AMBOISE

		
L'Aubinière **** www.aubiniere.com	12	✓
Château de Noizay **** www.chateaudenoizay.com	19	✓
Château de Pray **** www.chateaudepray.fr	19	✓



IN BLOIS			
Novotel Blois - Centre Val de Loire **** www.accorhotels.com	78	✓	
Mercure Blois centre **** www.accorhotels.com	96	✓	
Les Hauts de Loire **** www.domainehautsloire.com	31	✓	

NEAR THE CHÂTEAU OF CHEVERNY			
Le Relais des Landes **** www.relaisdeslandes.com	28	✗	
Le Château de La Rozelle **** www.chateaudelarozelle.com	21	✓	
Relais des Trois Châteaux **** www.relaisdestroischateaux.com	36	✓	
Grand Hôtel du Lion d'Or **** www.hotel-liondor.fr	16	✓	
Les Sources de Cheverny **** www.sources-cheverny.com	49	?	

NEAR THE CHÂTEAU OF CHAMBORD			
Le Relais de Chambord **** www.relaisdechambord.com	55	✗	
Hôtel Le Prieuré de Boulogne **** www.leprieuredeboulogne.com	30	✓	
La Maison Tatin (waiting for classification) www.lamaisontatin.fr	16	?	

IN ORLÉANS			
Empreinte Hôtel & Spa **** www.empreinte-hotel.com	34	✓	
Mercure Orléans Centre Bords de Loire **** www.accorhotels.com	111	✓	
Mercure Orléans Portes de Sologne **** www.accorhotels.com	114	✓	
Novotel Orléans La Source **** www.accorhotels.com	121	✓	
Novotel Orléans - Saint Jean de Braye **** www.accorhotels.com	107	✓	
Best Western Hôtel d'Arc **** www.bestwestern.fr	35	✓	

IN MONTARGIS			
Domaine de Vaugouard **** www.vaugouard.com	42	✗	

NEAR THE CHÂTEAU OF LA FERTÉ-SAINT-AUBIN			
Hostellerie du Château des Muids **** www.chateau-les-muids.com	20	✓	
The Originals L'Orée des Chênes **** www.loreedeschenes.com	26	✗	

IN SANCERRE AND ITS SURROUNDINGS			
Le Domaine des Roches **** www.domainedesroches.fr	13	✓	
Hôtel Le Panoramic **** www.panoramic-hotel.com	52	✓	

IN BOURGES			
Best Western Plus Hôtel d'Angleterre **** www.bestwestern-angleterre-bourges.com	31	✓	
Novotel Bourges **** www.accorhotels.com	93	✓	
Hôtel de Bourbon Mercure Bourges **** www.accorhotels.com	58	✓	
Hôtel Villa C **** www.hotelvillac.com	12	✓	

IN CHARTRES AND ITS SURROUNDINGS			
Best Western Premier Le Grand Monarque Hotel & Spa **** www.bw-grand-monarque.com	58	✓	
Mercure Chartres Centre Cathédrale **** www.accorhotels.com	66	✓	
Hôtel Jehan de Beauce **** www.jehandebeauce.fr	35	✓	
Novotel Chartres **** www.accorhotels.com	112	✓	
Castel Maintenon Hôtel Restaurant & Spa **** www.castelmaintenon.com	78	✓	

IN CHATEAUROUX AND ITS SURROUNDINGS			
Best Western Plus Hôtel Colbert **** www.bestwestern.fr	74	✓	
Relais Saint-Jacques **** www.relais-st-jacques.com	40	✓	
Hôtel Les Dryades Golf & Spa **** www.les-dryades.fr	85	✓	
Manoir de Pierre Levée **** www.theoriginalshotels.com/hotels/manoir-pierre-leeve	6	✗	

5 STARS HOTELS *****

Near the Château of Sully-sur-Loire: Auberge des Templiers, 28 rooms www.lestempliers.com

Near Tours: Château d'Artigny, 56 rooms www.chateau-artigny.com

Near Fontainebleau: Château golf & spa d'Augerville, 40 rooms www.chateau-augerville.com

Contact: Loire Valley regional tourist board
www.loirevalley-france.co.uk - presse@centre-valde Loire.org