

Along the Loire until the Atlantic

River landscapes, island world and royal castles. The Loire, Noirmoutier and Yeu islands, and the « Marais » offer you a real paradise that you can access by beautiful paths, mainly cycling roads. Small fisher places, wonderful beaches and the Sun of the South will be your fellow travellers

Day 1

Arrival by train or by car in Challans. Reception in the early evening and you will have your first French diner.

Day 2 Noirmoutier 52 km

We begin our trip from our castle hotel to Noirmoutier Island. The bridge will lead you through the intertidal mudflats to Noirmoutier. A visit of an oyster-park with a tasting are scheduled. During the exploration of the island, you will enjoy the 12th century Saint Philibert abbatial church and the 11th century tower block « le Donjon ».

Day 3 Vélodyssée – Talmont St Hilaire 60 km

From the hotel, we'll head directly towards the splendid Vélodyssée who always go along the Atlantic coast. The Vélodyssée is a new cycling path that covers the coast in its entirety. During today's trip, small fisher houses will alternate with magnificent villas and beautiful beaches. The picnic on the beach can go along with an enjoyable swimming. The day ends with the historical castle of Talmon St Hilaire and then we reach the hotel.

Day 4 Nantes –Pointe St Brévin 64 km

The transfer to Nantes is organised. The city was already under Welsh occupation before the romans invaded it. Nantes will be later designated hometown of the Dukes of Brittany. Thanks to its favourable geographical position, next to the Loire estuary, the city had known an economic boom in the 18th century and became one of the most important port town in France. In Quai de la Fosse, the landing place where boats were taking slaves is now replaced with a memorial of the Abolition of the Slavery. Our Tour leads us along a nice side of the Loire.

Day 5 Ile d'Yeu 48 km

Today, we head towards the sea and once we reach the coast, we take a boat to the Yeu Island. The sight of dolmens and menhirs will remind you of the Prehistory. You will also enjoy the old castle with its remains and the Saint-Sauveur romantic church of the Middle Age. To conclude this little cycling paradise, you will explore beautiful villages with colourful shutters, dream creeks and wild coasts.

Day 6 Loire river estuary – Vélodyssée until Bouin 59 km

After a quick transfer, we reach the Loire estuary area in the Atlantic. Our bike odyssey starts here along the Vélodyssée, a very nice tour overlooking the sea. Beautiful landscapes dunes escort us to the little city of Pornic, an idyllic place to fish or swim. Then, we cycle further until the Bourgneuf bay. The main salt trade centre took place here until the end of the 16th century. The salt production in the bay exists since the Carolingians. Countless salt manufacturing, salt lakes and salt marshes have been invested during the past centuries, which has help Bourgneuf to arise in the coast. A visit of a salt manufacturing is planned before we head towards Bouin. You will learn a lot in this city about the « Guerre de Vendée », which takes place after the French Revolution.

Day 7

Departure after breakfast, but you still have the possibility to extend your stay in this beautiful region.

Guided cycling tour 7 Days / 6 Nights

Route characteristics: ●

Easy tracks along cycling paths and side roads.

Dates : 23.06. – 29.06.2019
21.07. – 27.07.2019

Price per person	Euro
Double room full-board	1.218,00
Single room full-board	1.384,00
Bike rental	
21-Gear -bike	80,00
Ebike	160,00

Services included:

- ✓ 6 nights in 3* Castle Hotel with beautiful gardens - Swimming pool- Shower/ Bath/ WC
- ✓ Daily breakfast
- ✓ **4-Course-Menu**
- ✓ **5 Picnics including regional specialties and drinks.**
- ✓ Qualified guide
- ✓ Boat tickets to the Yeu Island
- ✓ All mentioned transfers
- ✓ Oyster degustation with wine
- ✓ Entrance tickets

