

LOIRE



LOIRE | THE BERRY

In the heart of France lies the Berry, crossed by gentle valleys with small rivers and green plateaus. Stronghold of the former nobility, granary of France and a province that could fill an entire history book and is bursting with sights. Numerous castles, abbeys and picturesque villages surrounded by canals make the Berry a cycling destination worth seeing. The capital of the Berry is Bourges with its famous Saint-Etienne Cathedral, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This trip is just right for all France lovers who are looking for culture, history and enjoyment far away from the classic destinations.

LEVEL

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KM

253

LENGTH

7 Days

6 Nights

ARRIVAL

24.05 – 30.05.2026

19.07 – 25.07.2026

Day 1 Bourges

Arrival in Bourges. Room check-in and first French dinner.

Day 2 Chateau Menetou and menhirs 44 km

Our first day of cycling takes us to Chateau Menetou. Built in the 12th century by Jacques Coeur, great financier of King Charles VII and heavily modified in the 19th century in the neo-Gothic style. 800 hectares of park and high-quality interior design are worth the visit. After the route was dominated by cornfields in the morning, we now reach the wooded Berry with its fern bushes and dense forest cover. After a stop at the Pierre Pointue menhir and an excursion into the time of the megaliths, we continue our bike tour. Transfer back to the hotel.



Day 3 St Amand Montrond and Noirlac Abbey 51 km

Today we start on our bikes from the hotel and enjoy our first stop in St Amand de Montrond with its wonderful location on the Canal du Berry. Its fortress is the only bastion fortress built in central France. It lies on an isolated limestone hill at the confluence of two rivers. The first fortification with a large round keep dates from the early 13th century. After the tour, our cycle route leads partly along the Canal du Berry to the Cistercian Noirlac Abbey. The Abbey of Cistercian Art of the 12th century is one of the best-preserved monastic units in Europe. Return transfer.



Day 4 Canal de Vierzon and Chateau Valencay experience 62 km

We start the day on a beautiful cycle route along the Canal de Vierzon. We just let ourselves roll along and enjoy the picturesque atmosphere. On the program today is part of the history of Berry and at the end of the day the Chateau Valencay. Welcome to Prince Talleyrand's house. In Valencay you enter the house of a great public servant. The collections of furniture, sculptures, paintings and valuable objects in the Chateau de Valencay give it the character of a residence still inhabited. Witnessing the regime changes that ruled France during the prince's lifetime, the different styles harmonize and add to the charm of the place. The garden's flowerbeds are renewed every season, giving the castle a colorful setting that reflects its architectural value. The forest with its 25 tree species is carefully maintained. The garden and castle are among the most impressive complexes in the Loire region. Return transfer.





Day 5 Apremont-sur-Allier river landscapes 53 km

Today the water once again determines our cycle route. Apremont-sur-Allier, a charming medieval village upgraded in the interwar period by the ironworks owner Eugene Schneider of Le Creusot. A wonderful job: no brick, no half-timbering, no turret and no hollyhock that doesn't contribute to the harmony of the whole thing.



A few kilometres downstream we pass the circular lock of Lorrains and then the canal bridge of Guetin, both built in 1838. The latter allows the side canal of the Loire to flow 11 meters above the Allier. Our destination is Charite-sur-Loire. Here the river, the Loire, shows itself in all its splendor. The Ile du Faubourg offers the most beautiful view of the city, which is reflected in the water of the river. The elegant arches of the old stone bridge take us to the Cluniac Priory and to the Church of Notre-Dame, which was one of the largest churches in Christendom in the 12th century Return transfer.



Day 6 From Cher to Issoudun and the vineyards 43 km

First thing in the morning we visit the cathedral of Bourges, which is worth seeing, before we head to the Cher after a short transfer. Here we start by bike and experience one of the most important tributaries of the Loire before turning into the wine-growing region to Reuilly. Soon the first gentle hills with their vines appear. The day ends with a wine tasting and a return transfer for the farewell dinner.

Day 7 departure

Before leaving, we recommend visiting the colorful Bourges market!



GUIDED BIKE TOUR

TRAVEL DATES

- 24.05 – 30.05.2026
- 19.07 – 25.07.2026

Mindestteilnehmer: 10 Personen
bis maximum: 16 Personen

INCLUDED SERVICES

- 6 nights in 4-star charm
- Hotel in Bourges in a room with bath/shower/WC
- Daily extensive breakfast
- 4-course menu in the evening
- 6 lunch picnic with regional specialties
- Drinks included
- Qualified tour guide during the entire trip
- All transfers mentioned
- 1 wine tasting
- Guided tours according to. Programm
- All entrance fees
- Spa and local tax

PER PERSON

ROOM	
DBLE/DU/WC/VP	1430 €
SGL/DU/WC/VP	1690 €
BIKE RENTAL	
21/27-Gear- Hybrid bike	90 €
E-Bike (250 € Deposit)	170 €