

# FRANCE

## The Chateaux of the Loire Valley



### 7 Days ✨ 6 Nights

**Day 1.** Arrive via train in Tours. Bicycle fitting; warm-up ride. Introductions followed by a sumptuous French meal. **Lodge at four star Domaine de la Tortiniere.**

**Day 2.** Today we visit two chateaux: **Azay-le-Rideau & Villandry.** Enjoy a wine tasting this evening or just relax by the pool. (31 or 43 miles)

**Day 3.** A pleasant ride through farm country today taking in **Chateau de Nitray** for lunch and a wine tasting. Lodge in a medieval chateau. (31 or 40 miles)

**Day 4.** Enjoy a stunning ride through the heart of the Loire Valley to Montrichard situated along the River Cher. Taste sparkling wines at the caves of **Monmousseau.** (37 miles)

**Day 5.** Visit chateaux at **Chenonceau, Amboise,** and the manor home of Leonardo da Vinci, **Clos Luce.** (16 or 31 miles)

**Day 6.** From Montrichard, ride to Cheverny, and finish with a breathtaking ride to **Chambord** via a forest road. (35 or 45 miles)

**Day 7.** A short transfer into Blois will surely prompt photo opportunities. Depart via train from Blois.

Our Loire Valley trip invites the epicure! Fine wine, excellent cuisine, and superb accommodations entice and delight the senses. The Loire, known as the playground for French nobility, offers us their legacy of more than 100 chateaux, ranging from fortified castles to elegant Renaissance mansions. Not only will we visit a number of them, but they will be our home for five nights!! You'll likely feel like a noble too, enjoying this region's natural beauty and pleasant microclimate, as we begin with a two night stay at the luxurious four star **Domaine de la Tortiniere.** Other hotels include the Chateau de Breuil, Chateau de la Bourdaisiere, and the Chateau de Chissay.

Fairy tale chateaux, picturesque countryside, rolling vineyards and the backdrop of the Loire River are splendid reasons to cycle here. You'll also marvel at art treasures and architecture of the feudal, Gothic, and Renaissance styles. History will accompany you throughout your trip with echoes of Charles the VII, Joan of Arc and Leonardo da Vinci.

This tour is suited for all riding levels. The terrain includes both flat and rolling sections, with moderate cycling distances. Our route follows the most scenic and traffic-free country roads, and you can opt to shorten or lengthen many of the rides.

- Highlights**
- Domaine de la Tortiniere
  - Azay-le-Rideau & Villandry Chateaux
  - Chateau de Nitray
  - Chateau de la Bourdaisiere
  - Loire Valley
  - Chateau de la Menaudiere
  - Clos Luce
  - Manoir Bel-Air
  - Monmousseau
  - Amboise



**Tour Price**  
\$2,489.00, 6 nights (includes breakfasts and all dinners)

**Tour Dates**  
May 27 - June 2  
September 16 - 22

**Bicycle Rental**  
\$120.00

**Single Supplement**  
\$500.00 (optional)

**Arrival**  
Tours train station

**Departure**  
Blois train station

**Cycling Level**  
Moderate

**Terrain**  
Flat to rolling terrain on a daily basis, with a few moderate hills. 25 - 40 miles average daily distances.

Chateau de la Bourdaisiere



*"Wonderful vacation, beautiful scenery, great food, thoughtful & attentive guides, great lodging!! We would repeat the entire vacation in a heartbeat."*

Bob & Linda Curtis  
Mill Valley, CA

