



Randonnée Tours

Amboise and Chambord Cycling 8 Days

Summary

8 days/7 nights, with at least 6 days of cycling

Dates

Start any date between May 1 and October 31

Level

The day rides vary from 25 to 62 km (16 to 39 miles) depending on your level of accommodation and the routes you select

Your Route Descriptions will provide information on distances and terrain and you can choose each day which ride to take

The terrain is mainly flat to moderately hilly, but there are options for rides with climbs

Base yourself in two spectacular locations in the "valley of the kings". Enjoy the bustle of Amboise, a delightful town that was once home to the royal court, then ride through world-famous vineyards to troglodyte houses and breathtaking châteaux. Then head for the peace of the countryside at Chambord. Here other dazzling châteaux await you, as you wind your way through shady forests, and explore the narrow streets and romantic courtyards of Blois.

Itinerary



Day 1

Arrive in Amboise, nestled at the foot of an escarpment crowned by the remains of a castle and hugging the bank of the Loire. Stroll through its picturesque streets. Perhaps visit the Manoir du Clos-Lucé, where Leonardo Da Vinci spent the last few years of his life. Our Area manager will give you the bikes and a briefing for the tour.

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Day 2

Pedal to Chenonceau, one of the most dramatic castles in France, a château that seems to float as it stretches across the Cher River. Then head to Monpoupon, a medieval castle rebuilt into a Renaissance manor. (61.5 km/38 mi)

Day 3

Wind your way through the vineyards around Vouvray, famous for fruity, white wines made from the Chenin Blanc grape. (50 km/31 mi) Or bike to Chaumont-sur-Loire, the 11th-century castle of the Counts of Blois, now restored and set among magnificent gardens. (41.9 km/26 mi)

Day 4

Pedal into the hills above the Loire, visit the charming town of Montlouis and the 16th-century chateau of Nitray. (37.4 km/23 mi) Or take a break from cycling and hop the train to Tours. Browse through chic boutiques and antique shops, visit the Musée des Beaux Arts, and have coffee at a Romanesque church that has been converted into a café.



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Day 5

This morning you're transferred to Chambord, where you'll stay in the tiny village dominated by the largest château of the Loire Valley. Take some time to visit the castle, surely the most lavish hunting lodge imaginable, then walk or bike through the Forest of Boulogne, the nature reserve belonging to Chambord and the largest enclosed forest park in Europe. (48 km/30 mi)

Day 6

Head into the Sologne wine region to visit the fascinating château of Cheverny, Beaugerard, Villesavin, and Troussay. (53 km/33 mi) Or bike to Blois, a beguiling town with narrow hilly streets and romantic courtyards. Relax at a café on the Place Vauvert before returning to Chambord. (32 km/20 mi)



How to get there?

Amboise and Chambord are located approximately 250 km southwest of Paris. To reach Amboise you need to take a train to Amboise or to Saint-Pierre-des-Corps and a taxi to your accommodation. The trip from Paris takes less than two hours.

To depart from Chambord you'll need to take a taxi to Blois, from where you can depart by train for other destinations.

The Price includes:

- 7 nights hotels
- All breakfasts and 1 dinner
- Use of a top quality 21-speed hybrid bike complete with handlebar bag, pump, and all the necessary accessories for changing flats. We recommend that you bring your own helmet for safety and hygiene reasons
- Detailed route instructions and map
- Transfer between Amboise and Chambord
- Area Manager available throughout the tour

Itinerary

Day 7

Enjoy lovely views of the Loire and easy cycling as you glide to the pretty medieval town of Beaugency, which has a marvellous 12-th century Romanesque church and remnants of its old fortifications. Take time to stroll along the river before heading back to Chambord (55 km/34 mi)

Day 8

There's time for a stroll in the park before heading off on your next adventure.

Accommodation

Classic



Hotel Le Clos d'Amboise

Amboise

This 16th century manor house is in a large landscaped park with a pool, enclosed by ancient stone walls in the heart of the old town. The spacious rooms have original wood flooring, fireplaces and ancient paneling.



Hôtel du Grand St-Michel

Chambord

The only hotel facing the Chambord Castle, guests can enjoy the illuminated castle view from the café-terrace in the evening. This historic country house has a cozy lobby, tastefully decorated rooms, and a restaurant.

Luxe



Hotel Le Choiseul

Amboise

This luxury 4stars hotel is in an 18th-century residence, surrounded by terraced gardens, overlooking the Loire. Nestled below the ramparts of the great Château d' Amboise, the rooms boast wonderful views.