



Tourism & Business Events Loire Valley - Western France

15 - CRUISE, CASTLE AND WINE



Welcome to the Loire Valley!

In the beautiful region of Western France, the Loire river runs through one of France's richest regions. Known as the Garden of France, the Loire Valley boasts many important sites and historical châteaux, royal hunting grounds for the Kings of France.

Producing original, varied and exquisite wines, the region is divided into smaller appellations (such as Anjou, Bourgueil, Saumur, and Touraine, to name but a few) spread over 1000 for kms; with 54 appellations, there is a wine for every taste and every occasion.

This region is also well-known for its many historical figures, from Joan of Arc to Richard the Lionheart and Leonardo Da Vinci.

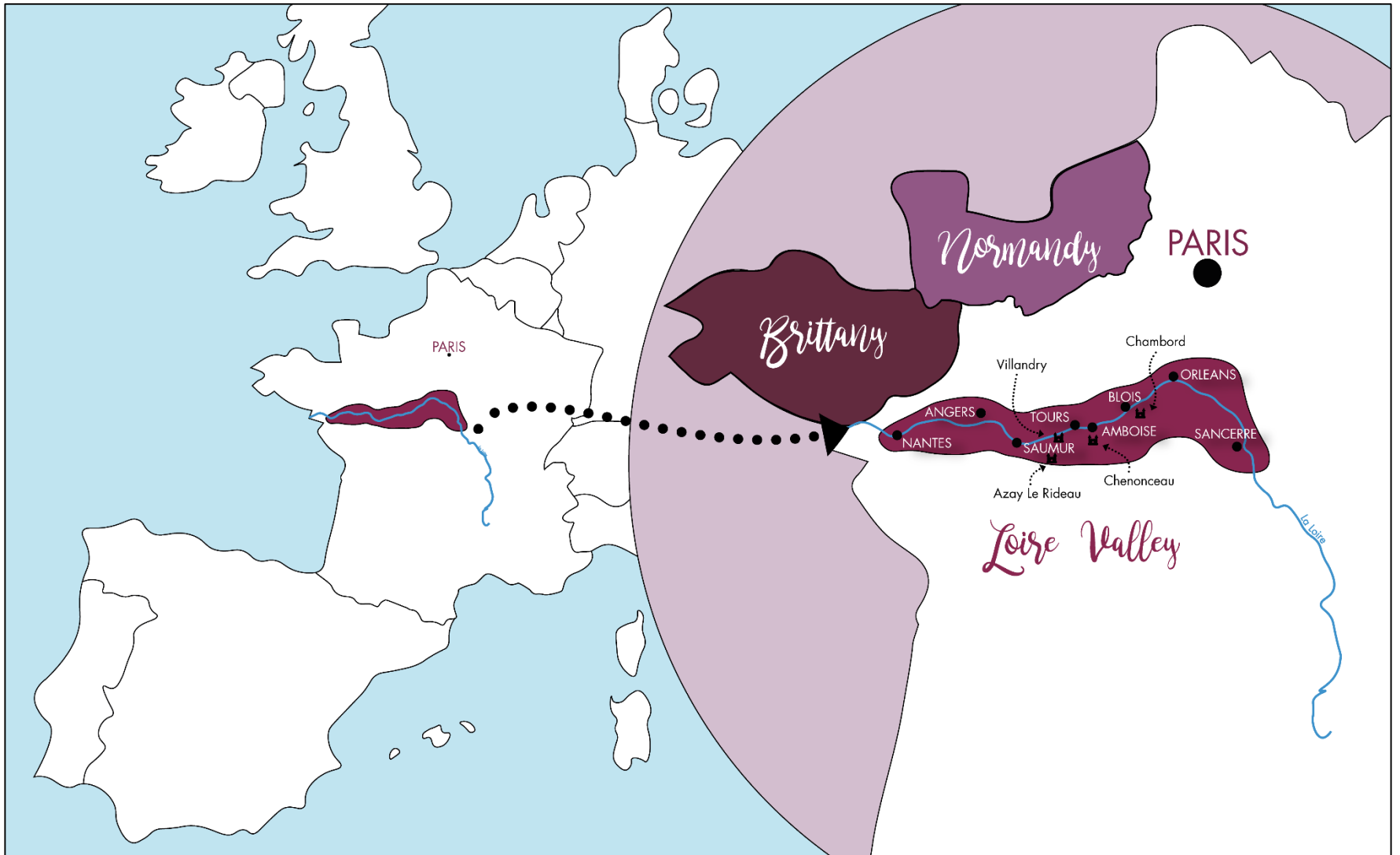
In 2000, the Val de Loire was awarded the status of UNESCO World Heritage Site in recognition of the exceptional cultural value of its landscapes and the quality of its architectural heritage.

Why travel with Loire Secrets?

We are a small local organisation, born and bred in the Loire Valley, we know our région, we are passionate about it and we want to share this passion with you. Being locals, we have an inside knowledge of the very best places to go, people to meet and ways of getting around. Our main aim is to provide you with an unforgettable experience, an experience adapted to your unique needs and special wishes.

How do we do this? What do we offer?

Private and exclusive tours with your own English– Spanish– Portuguese– German- speaking driver guides. These private guides will accompany you everywhere, will adapt to your every wish and generally take care of you from the start of your trip to the very end.



Option 1:

Villandry Château & gardens

The last of the great Renaissance castles built on the banks of the Loire, Villandry owes its renown, beyond the shadow of a doubt, to the unrivaled combination of a perfect harmony between architecture and nature. The garden, the only one of its kind in Europe, is composed of three levels: a first level centered around an extensive lake, a flower garden also planted with box and yew trees, and an ornamental kitchen garden where a wide range of plant varieties produce, in the sunny season, astonishing mosaics of color. Yet the interior itself, renovated in the 18th century in the grand neoclassical style, is equally worthy of admiration.

Arrive in a quaint village along the Loire river and enjoy a **2 hours private river cruise** on a traditional wooden boat of the Loire.

Your skipper is also a great winemaker from the area and you will enjoy a wine tasting on board accompanied by a gourmet picnic.

You will discover the wild landscapes of the Loire and beautiful charming villages and castles from the river.

A truly magic experience!

Later, discover **Chinon medieval** town and stop for a **cellar tour and a wine tasting** in a unique winery of the region



Villandry





Cruise on the Loire





Chinon wine region



Option 2:

Chambord castle.

The castle of Chambord is a Renaissance masterpiece. You will discover the Beast's **castle** in Beauty and the Beast!

The royal apartments of Francis I, constructed in 1519, were later restored by Louis XIV. The double-spiral staircase forms the centerpiece of the décor.

You will be impressed by the size of this cultural treasure with its 426 rooms, 77 staircases and 282 chimneys!

Explore this historical chateau, from its view of the Grand Canal to the wealth of its local flora and fauna.

This royal hunting lodge is today one of the most recognized chateaus in the world featured on the UNESCO World Heritage list.

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Continue with the visit of a family-run wine estate in **Amboise AOC** wine region. Set on the banks of the Loire, near Amboise, this winery will offer a unique and friendly tour followed by a wine tasting.



Chambord Chateau





Private cruise on the Loire River





Amboise AOC wine tour





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