

ANGERS & SAUMUR LOIRE VALLEY GEMS



#AtlanticLoireValley #Anjou #Angers #Saumur



Atlantic Loire Valley boasts:

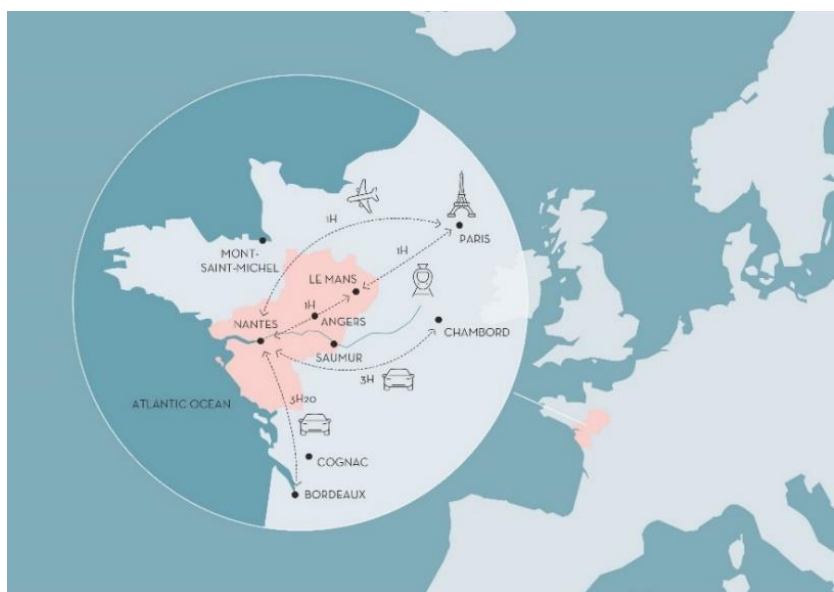
- **bustling cities** such as Nantes, Angers and Le Mans
- **still-inhabited châteaux** at the heart of the Loire Valley, listed on the UNESCO heritage list
- **winegrowers** eager to share their passion about **Loire Valley wines**, from world-class AOC-labelled wines and lesser-known gems
- **local gastronomic specialties** from the ocean (sea-salt, fresh fish or oysters) or the land (tender chicken or rillettes from Le Mans), not to forget the Cointreau orange liquor
- **natural landscapes**, whether sandy beaches by the Atlantic Ocean or 4 regional nature parks



3 days, 3 nights

Highlights of the trip:

- Angers, the city set by the Maine River
- Saumur, a lovely town with its chateau overlooking the Loire River, listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.
- The cave dwellings typical of the Loire. Former tufa stone carriers which have now become wine cellars, mushroom farms and even private homes and hotels
- The Clos Cristal, a secret vineyard plot
- A boat ride on the Loire.
- Gastronomic and bistronomic restaurants and a stop at the local market to tickle your tastebuds!
- A magical experience at Fontevraud Abbey – the largest monastic center in Europe 900 years-old, also a Michelin star restaurant and **** hotel



Tour leader

Brigitte PAULMYER

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Atlantic Loire Valley Tourism Board

Atlantic Loire Valley  **RÉGION PAYS DE LA LOIRE**

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Atlantic Loire Valley Tourism Board



DAY 1: FRIDAY 27 SEPTEMBER – ANGERS – LOURESSE-ROCHEMENIER

40 km



Time	Activity	Address
Morning	Arrival in Angers	Angers railway station
	Welcome to <u>Angers</u>. Depending on your arrival time in Angers, discover the city on your own	
18:00 or 18:30	Transfer to Southern Saumur surroundings in Louresse-Rochemenier - 38 km 40 min	
18:45	Check-in at Hôtel Rocaminori	
19:30 to 21:00	Dinner at <u>Les Caves de la Genevaie</u> , a cave-dwelling restaurant. Typical from this area, you will sample les "fouées" – little fluffy bread filled with goat cheese, beans	Les Caves de la Genevaie Armand Justeau 13 rue du Musée 49700 Louresse-Rochemenier +33 (0)2 41 50 03 12
21:30	Overnight at <u>Hôtel Rocaminori</u>** Cave dwelling hotel – including non-cave dwelling rooms, semi /cave-dwelling /rooms opening on two courtyards linked one another by a little tunnel enhancing the impression of being in a village	Hôtel Rocaminori *** 13 rue du Musée 49700 Louresse-Rochemenier





DAY 2: SATURDAY 28 SEPTEMBER – WINE PROPERTIES AND LOIRE RIVER BY BOAT



Time	Activity	Address
8:15	Transfer to Saumur, 25 km – 30 min	
9:00	Board a vintage combi VW to explore the Saumur Champigny vineyard enjoying fabulous views and learning about the Loire river heritage & vineyards	Loire Vintage Discovery Karine Nouteau 8 rue Bonnemère - 49400 Saumur +33 (0)7 71 86 89 55
10:00 – 10:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stop at "Le Clos Cristal", a unique place since 1890 when Antoine Cristal invented a technique of growing the vines between walls creating a balance between light and shadow for an amazing wine 	Le Clos Cristal - Aude Bonnin 38 Rue du Clos Cristal 49400 Souzay-Champigny +33 (0)6 88 09 10 40
11:00 – 11:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit and wine-tasting at Domaine des Varinelles. 	Domaine des Varinelles Nicolas Daheuille 22 rue du Ruau - 49400 Varrains +33 (0)2 41 52 90 94
12:00 -12:30 12:30 - 14:00	Walk in the streets crossing the local market. Lunch at the Bistrot de la Place . Bistronomic restaurant awarded "France's best wine list" by French magazine <i>Terre de Vins</i> in 2022.	Bistrot de la Place 16 Saint-Pierre - 49400 Saumur +33 (0)2 41 51 13 27
14:30 - 16:00	Guided tour of the Ackerman cave dwelling, wine cellars in Saumur since 1811. In the cave dwelling, you will learn all about the traditional method of Saumur sparkling wine (Crémant) surrounded by works of arts	Caves Ackerman – Julien Goudeau 19 rue Léopold Palustre - 49400 Saumur +33 (0) 6 63 84 33 26
16:30 – 18:00	Aboard a traditional Loire boat with Loire Evasion , learn more about the local Loire wines from the Saumur wines organization.	Loire Évasion Vincent & Emilie Poquereau Quai Lucien Gautier - 49400 Saumur +33 (0)6 26 99 85 77
18:30	Checking at Hôtel Anne d'Anjou ****	
20:00	Dinner at L'Essentiel , a gastronomic restaurant. Food & wine pairing workshop by Vanessa from Le Secret des Papilles . Local seasonal products and a truly delicate and savory cuisine.	L'Essentiel 11 rue Raspail - 49400 Saumur +33 (0)2 41 67 71 10 Le Secret des Papilles Vanessa Godfrin +33 (0)6 99 42 36 20
22:30	Overnight at Hôtel Anne d'Anjou **** : 41 room-hotel located in the center of Saumur, between the Loire and the chateau. Refurbished in 2020, it mixes up traditional elements with contemporary design.	Hôtel Anne d'Anjou **** 32 Quai Mayaud - 49400 Saumur



Bistrot de la Place



Hotel Anne d'Anjou



Cabernet Franc grape

The Saumur Champigny vineyard tour continues until you stop for a **VERY** special moment at Fontevraud!

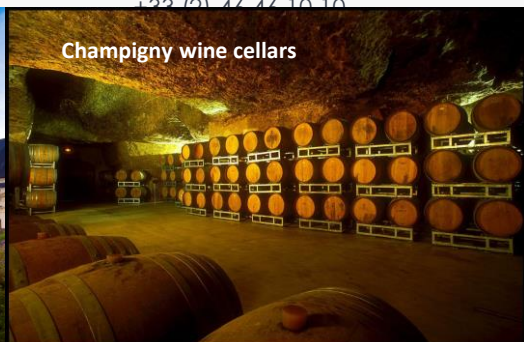
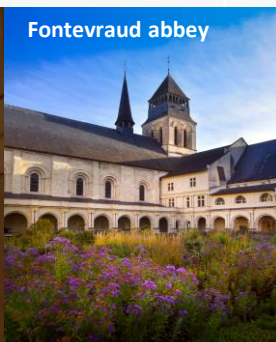


DAY 3: SUNDAY 29 SEPTEMBER – EXCLUSIVE EXPERIENCES

 20 km



Time	Activity	Address
8:30	Transfer to Bellevigne-les-Châteaux 24 km – 30 min	
9:00 – 10:30	Move on with your Champigny vineyard tour . First stop at Domaine de Nerleux : a family-owned wine property for 9 generations (organic wines)	Domaine de Nerleux - Amélie Neau 4 rue de la Paleine - Saint-Cyr-en-Bourg 49260 Bellevigne-les-Châteaux +33 (0)2 41 51 61 04
11:00 to 12:30	Discover the Maison Edonis New : reopening since April 2024 (but the cellar was created back in 1956 by 40 winemakers digging 10 km of galleries in total). Explore this cave dwelling decor & discover the secrets of the Loire Valley vineyard. In total 12 steps combining sound, visual art creations and historical contents	Vignobles Edonis – Cave Robert & Marcel Aude Bonnin Route de la Perrière Saint-Cyr-en-Bourg 49260 Bellevigne-les-Châteaux +33 (0)6 88 09 10 40
13:00	Lunch at <u>Hôtel de la Croix-Blanche</u>	La Croix-Blanche hotel & restaurant Mieke Chabenat 7 Place Plantagenêts 49590 Fontevraud l'Abbaye +33 (0)2 41 51 71 11
15:00 16:00 17:30	A few steps from the Saumur-Champigny vineyard, Fontevraud Abbey , the largest monastic center in Europe is expecting you. Guided visit of the Museum of Modern Art with Severine. Check-in at the hotel and free time in the Abbey	Abbaye Royale de Fontevraud Sophie Goujon +33 (0)6 71 13 17 28 Grégoire Rebeilleau 07 84 24 36 10 38 rue Saint-Jean de l'Habit 49590 Fontevraud-l'Abbaye
19:00 - 22:00	Dinner at <u>Fontevraud l'Ermitage</u> 1* Michelin star and one green Michelin star . The menu changes every moon and is fully inspired by seasonal products. The fruits and vegetables are for the most part produced in the gardens.	Chef Thibaut Ruggeri
22:30	Visit of the Abbey by night. 900 years of History. It houses the tomb of the Plantagenets including Richard Lionheart and Alienor of Aquitaine	Abbaye Royale de Fontevraud 38 rue Saint-Jean de l'Habit 49590 Fontevraud-l'Abbaye +33 (2) 46 46 10 10
23:30	Overnight in <u>Fontevraud l'Ermitage</u>****, a 54-room hotel in the heart of the Abbey . Expect elegant and contemporary furniture in a historical atmosphere.	Fontevraud l'Ermitage 38 rue Saint-Jean de l'Habit 49590 Fontevraud-l'Abbaye +33 (2) 46 46 10 10





DAY 4: MONDAY 30 SEPTEMBER – DISCOVER ANGERS

 80 km



Angers half-timbered houses

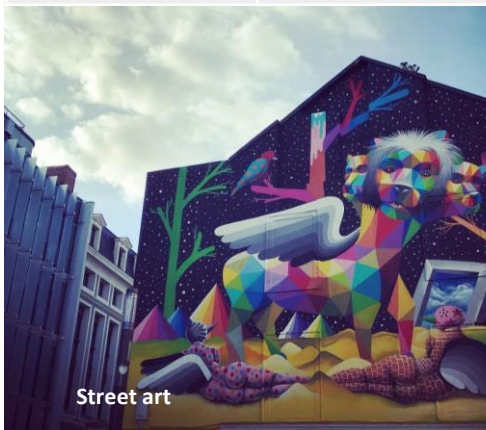


Apocalypse Tapestry



Angers Medieval Chateau

Time	Activity	Adress
9:00	Transfer to Angers by minibus	
10:30	Arrival in Angers	
11:00	<p>Guided tour of Angers followed by lunch</p> <p>The capital of Anjou is renowned for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Its Chateau: the Loire Valley's biggest medieval fortress is home to the Apocalypse Tapestry, listed on the UNESCO world heritage. – Its medieval architecture, museums; half-timbered houses and cobbled streets – Its Cointreau liquor & Anjou wines – Its quality of life and greenery 	<p>Angers Tourism Board Olivier Bouchereau +33 (0)6 43 28 15 44</p>
12:30	Lunch at La Brasserie du Ralliement	<p>La Brasserie du Ralliement Place du Ralliement 49000 Angers</p>



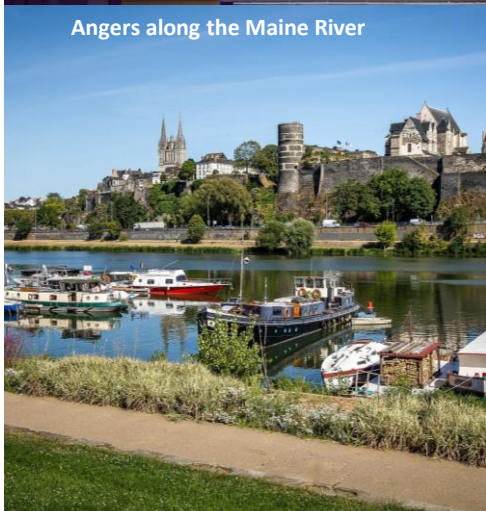
Street art



Musée des Beaux-Arts



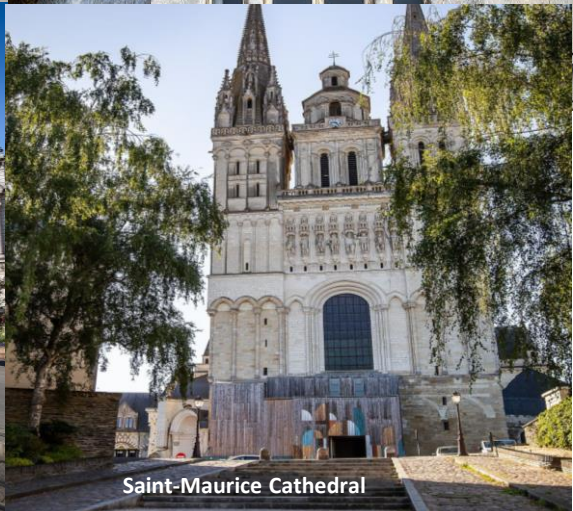
La Maison Bleue



Angers along the Maine River



Place du Ralliement



Saint-Maurice Cathedral



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Restaurants

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[La croix Blanche / Fontevraud](#)

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Wine estates

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Activities

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Accommodation

[Rocaminori Hotel***](#)

[Hotel Anne d'Anjou****](#)

[Fontevraud l'Ermitage ****](#)