

Velo Francette | Saumur - La Rochelle - 7 days

This cycling tour on La Vélo Francette offers a superb route over the water, from Loire Valley to the Atlantic Ocean via the Sèvre Niortaise. Discover an authentic route and off the beaten track for a road movie “Sweet France”, between pretty villages and charming countryside. From Saumur and its vineyards to the Atlantic and La Rochelle via the “Green Venice” of the Marais Poitevin, this circuit reveals many architectural treasures with many cities of character and a bucolic and preserved landscape.

Day 1: Arrival in Saumur

Discover this elegant city of Art and History and its vineyards. Ideas for a visit: The Cadre Noir riding school, the imposing Saumur Castle with its exceptional view over the Loire river and an inevitable visit of a cellar to taste a glass of Saumur sparkling wine.

Day 2: Saumur > Thouars, ~43 km

First step along the water, from Loire Valley to the Thouet Valley, which presents beautiful cities of character. The fortified city of Montreuil-Bellay and Thouars on their rocky outcrops are the must-sees. In Taizon, the remarkable bridge of the 13th century is also to be seen.

Day 3: Thouars > Parthenay, ~67 km

Never far from the Thouet river, this bucolic and more rugged route allows to discover some gems of Romanesque Art like Saint G n roux or Airvault. Saint Loup, city of character, is also a must stop. His castle would have inspired the French Writer Charles Perrault. Shortly after, Cebron Lake is perfect for a relaxing break before arriving in the medieval town of Parthenay.

Day 4: Parthenay > Niort, ~54 km

A rural stage that combines remarkable heritage (Champdeniers-Saint-Denis and Collegiate of Saint Marc la Lande) and beautiful landscapes along the S vre Niortaise. Arriving in Niort, you are greeted by the 12th century dungeon and the large 19th century covered market, in Baltard style.

Day 5: Niort > Damvix, ~37-41 km

Between land and sea, discover the charms of “Green Venice” and its small villages, including Coulon “small city of character”. The Regional Natural Park of the Marais Poitevin is a place apart, poetic. A boat trip in this charming green labyrinth is a good time, a relaxing break.

Day 6: Damvix > La Rochelle, ~53 km

Ultimate stage of the “V lo Francette”, the route stays true to the water. First S vre Niortaise to Marans, nice river city with its marina, its historic center and its futuristic bell tower. Continue on bike paths along the canal of Marans to arrive in apotheosis on the ocean and its magnificent beaches. The historic center of La Rochelle is full of architectural treasures.

Day 7: Individual departure

Individual departure after breakfast. Why not lengthen your trip on the Ile de R ?

Services:

6 nights in 2** and 3*** hotels
 6x copious breakfast
 tourist tax
 luggage transfer (1 piece per person)
 travel folder with maps FB, FR
 Navigation App with GPS
 service hotline

additional services:

extra night, double, BnB, Saumur	105 €
extra night, double, BnB, La Rochelle	120 €
extra night, double, BnB, Saumur	65 €
extra night, double, BnB, La Rochelle	75 €
extra piece of luggage	100 €
supplement solo traveler (luggage)	320 €
rental bike 21 gears	135 €
electric bike	240 €
own bike	0 €

Price:

