



Trip description

The Atlantic cycle route from Pornic to La Rochelle

Go for a self-guided cycle holiday on the Atlantic between Pornic and La Rochelle. This tour on the Velodyssey cycle route includes a stopover to cycle Noirmoutier island, one of the pearls of the French coast.



Destination	France
Location	Vendée
Duration	8 days
Difficulty Level	Moderate
Validity	From April to October
Minimum age	14 years old
Reference	VO0806

Type of stay
itinerant trip



Itinerary



Discover the beautiful landscapes of the Atlantic coast on this cycle holiday along the Velodyssey. You start your trip in the charming little town of

Pornic. You cycle first along the Bourgneuf bay. Your first stop is the cute village of Bouin nested in the marshland, and the next one is the delightful island of Noirmoutier. The ones who want to explore the island can choose to spend one more day there, which we strongly advise. After Noirmoutier, your cycle route keeps running along the Vendee coast of the Atlantic. You alternatively pass sandy beaches and rocky coastline, oyster farming land and pine forests. You will be warmly welcomed on the way in the sea resorts of Saint-Jean-de-Monts, Les Sables d'Olonne or La-Tranche-sur-Mer. Your tour ends in La Rochelle after riding through the Aiguillon bay. Enjoy the taste of the local products, fresh oysters, mussels or sardines and plenty of savory bakery products like the "brioche vendéenne".

Day 1

Arrival in Pornic

Pornic is a charming port with a flair from Brittany. The town center is spreading on the hills surrounding the moorage, where boats are lying protected from the winds. Take time to stroll around the old town.

Day 2

Pornic - Bouin

Bike
32km

You cycle from the Loire Atlantique region to the Vendee country. The Velodyssy route is going on the corniche and provides nice views on early 20th century houses on the sea front. You meander through residential neighborhoods and after Les Moutiers-en-Retz, cycle an open landscape named "Marais breton", literally Breton marshland. On one side, you will see the pastureland and on the other side, the shore dotted with fishing nets or oyster ports. You overnight in Bouin, a village in the middle of marshland which was formerly an island!

Day 3

Bouin - Noirmoutier-en-l'Île

Bike
37/60km

Cycle the polders to the "passage du Gois", a submersible road which connects the island of Noirmoutier to mainland. At low tide, you can cycle across the bay on this road and get directly to Barbâtre. If you arrive there at high tide, you need to ride a longer route on mainland to take the bridge more South. The route is then going all the way through marshland to the Northern part of the island, to the village of Noirmoutier-en-l'Île.

Extra day (optional): tour on Noirmoutier island

Bike
21km

We are suggesting to stay one more day on Noirmoutier to discover the treasures of the island! You ride the Northern coast to the Port de L'Herbaudière and come back to Noirmoutier-en-l'Île through picturesque salt marshes. Take time to visit the castle of Noirmoutier and stop on one of the beautiful beaches to chill and jump in the sea.

Day 4

Noirmoutier-en-l'Île - Saint-Jean-de-Monts

Bike
41km

Today's route is along the West coast of Noirmoutier island, facing the ocean. You cycle through salt marshes to L'Epine and follow the route of the ancient mills along the beaches. Enjoy the view on the long beaches and pine forests before crossing the bridge. You ride afterwards into the forest of Pays de Monts. The cycle path goes up and down along the dunes and takes you peacefully to the sea resort of Saint-Jean-de-Monts.

Day 5

Saint-Jean-de-Monts - Les Sables d'Olonne

Bike
55km

Not long after Saint-Jean-de-Monts, sandy beaches are followed by a spectacular rocky coastline called "corniche vendéenne". You'll be fascinated by the movement of waves crashing into the shore. You ride further through Saint-Gilles-Croix-de-Vie, which is well-known for sardines fishing. Your route continues along the coast and then meanders between marshland and forests in the Olonne country. View the nice panorama on "La

Day 6

Les Sables d'Olonne - La Tranche-sur-Mer

Bike
50km

After the bay of Les Sables, you ride along a rocky coastline punctuated by small coves such as the bay of Cayola. Don't miss the detour to the beach of Le Veillon located on a mouth between marsh and ocean. Have a break a little further in the oyster port of La Guitière if you are amateurs! The itinerary continues towards Saint-Vincent-sur-Jard where you can visit the last house of WW1 French leader, Georges Clémenceau. You cycle through the pine forest of Longeville before arriving in La Tranche-sur-Mer.

Day 7

La Tranche-sur-Mer - La Rochelle

Bike
73km

This stage is longer but easy to cycle with some prolonged straight lines. You cycle through the Aiguillon bay to Marans. You will see many natural sites, such as the lagoon of Belle Henriette, the headland of L'Aiguillon, the limestone plateau of the Dive island, or the locks of Brault. Marans is a pleasant stop, with nice terraces looking at the river. Last, you ride along a canal which goes almost all the way to the Old Port of La Rochelle.

Day 8

Departure from La Rochelle

After breakfast, you leave for your next destination or extend your stay as you wish.

Accommodation

 Category A

You stay in 2* or 3* hotels where you will be hosted with a warm welcome. Some of the accommodations have a swimming pool. Breakfast is included.



* Example of the type of accommodation

Category B

You stay in superior rooms in 2* hotels or in 3* hotels with more comfort. Some of the accommodations have a swimming pool. Breakfast is included.



* Example of the type of accommodation

Practical information

To get to departure point:

By plane: flight to Nantes-Atlantique airport. To get to Pomic, the easiest is to take a taxi (about 45min ride). To return, you can take a flight in La Rochelle-Ile de Ré airport if your destination is served.

By train: go to Pomic train station. To plan your trip : www.sncf-connect.com

Parking:

If you drive to Pomic, you can park for free in the parking of Pomic train station, using the white painted spots located at the back of the car park. Spots cannot be booked in advance. It is an outdoor parking with no surveillance system.

All details will be given in your travel documents.

To return to the departure point:

You can take the regional trains back to Pomic, with a connection in Nantes. If you travel with your own bikes, please note that bike spots are limited and need to be reserved on Intercités trains between La Rochelle and Nantes. The rate is €5/bike. You can take the bikes for free on TER trains between Nantes and Pomic. The travel will take between 4 and 5.30 hours depending on the duration of the connection in Nantes. You buy your ticket yourself. You will find the timetable of the day in your travel documents.

Meeting time:

The first day is an arrival day without cycling. You arrive whenever you want depending on from where you come. Please note that rooms are usually available in the middle of the afternoon depending on your accommodation. We thank you to advise us if you plan to arrive late.

Price description

Category A

Double room fare

€1179 /pers

7 nights in 2* or 3* hotels

7 breakfasts

6-day rent of an equipped hybrid bike

luggage transfer

the access to our mobile app including the roadbook and the practical and tourist information

the delivery and return of the bike

7/7 hotline

High season (*)

€70 /pers

Half-board (5 dinners)

€153 /pers

Single room extra (**)	€70/night
Extra night in Pomic	€72 /pers
Extra night in La Rochelle	€65 /pers
Extra night in La Rochelle - High season (From 01/07 to 31/08)	€68 /pers
Supplement for 1 extra day in Noirmoutier	€106 /pers

Category B

Double room fare

7 nights in superior rooms in 2* hotels or 3* hotels	€1299 /pers
7 breakfasts	
6-day rent of an equipped hybrid bike	
luggage transfer	
the access to our mobile app including the roadbook and the practical and tourist information	
the delivery and return of the bike	
7/7 hotline	
High season (*)	€70 /pers
Half-board (5 dinners)	€163 /pers
Single room extra (**)	€80 /night
Extra night in Pomic	€94 /pers
Extra night in La Rochelle	€85 /pers
Supplement for 1 extra day in Noirmoutier	€118 /pers

Options

Extra for solo traveller	€90 /pers
Discount if you bring your own bike	-€95 /pers
Ebike supplement	€90 /pers

(*) **High season:**
from 07.01 to 08.31.2023

(**) valid for minimum 2 participants

Children discount (in the same room as 2 full rate participants):

0-4 years: -70%
5-11 years: -50%
12-17 years: -30%

The package doesn't include:

the journey to the tour location
the drinks
the meals which are not included
the entrance fee to sites
insurances (optional)

For more information or booking : www.levelovoyageur.com
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