



## Trip description

### 4 days along the Atlantic Coast from La Rochelle to Oléron Island

Your bike trip takes you along the scenic Atlantic Coast from La Rochelle to Rochefort. From there, you ride over the last transporter bridge of France to reach the Oléron Island, savour the oysters of Marennes, with their distinctive taste, and discover the island's long, sandy beaches.



Destination	France
Location	La Rochelle and coast
Duration	4 days
Difficulty Level	Easy
Validity	From March to October
Minimum age	1 year
Reference	PC0401

Type of stay  
loop trip



### Itinerary



This round-trip provides a variety of scenery and attractions. You'll leave the beautiful city of La Rochelle and take the Velodysee bike trail along the Atlantic Coast. Enjoy the fresh salt air while pedaling through small fishing villages and along tranquil sandy beaches. You'll probably spot storks and herons flying overhead as you make your way to Rochefort.

Explore the city of Rochefort with its distinctive naval atmosphere and architecture. Admire the Hermione, the three-masted ship rebuilt with traditional 17th century techniques. A highlight of this tour is using the last transporter bridge in France as you continue your ride to Oleron Island.

Take time to dangle your feet in the water while savoring a dish of Marenne's oyster. Each day gives you the opportunity to enjoy beaches, discover traditional fishing villages on the island and also take a boat ride back to La Rochelle

## DAY 1

### La Rochelle – Rochefort-sur-mer

Bike  
42km

Begin by riding on the seaside cycling path through small villages such as Les Boucholeurs or Chatelaillon-Plage. As you pedal along the marshes, try and spy the birds, herons and storks in the area.

When you reach Rochefort, notice the distinct naval architecture. The city was an active naval base from the time of Louis XIV until 1926. You might want to tour the Corderie Royal, an interesting rope factory where all the ropes for military sailboats were made. Enjoy flowers? The Conservatoire du Begonia houses the world's largest collection of begonias!

## DAY 2

### Rochefort-sur-Mer - Saint-Trojan-les-Bains

Bike  
47km

Start the day by admiring France's last transporter bridge. Classified as a national monument, the bridge gets walkers, runners and bikers cross the river safely. A moveable section of the bridge carries a segment of the roadway across a river. It is currently under construction, so you'll take a ferry to cross the river.

Meander on the bike path along the marsh area. Originally this marsh was covered with water, making it a valuable site for the salt trade. The city of Brouage was built in the 16th century as a fortified port. The sea receded but part of Brouage remained. Explore the over 2km hike on the ramparts as well the many buildings still towering over the marsh. The route continues through the marshes of the estuary to the island of Oleron. From the bridge you'll see the magnificent silhouette of Fort Boyard. End your day with a delicious bowl of Marennes oyster. These oysters grow in oysters beds all their life, so they are less bitter than oysters caught in the sea.

## DAY 3

### Saint-Trojan-les-Bains

Bike  
31km

Today is designed for relaxation and fun. Don't miss enjoying beautiful Gatseau beach, hidden behind a pine forest. It is accessible only by walking, biking or taking a small train but worth the extra effort!

If you like, take a day bike trip and discover the island of Oleron with its quaint villages, oyster ports and of course, beaches and forests.

## DAY 4

### Saint-Trojan-les-Bains - La Rochelle

Bike  
21km

Boat ride between Boyardville and La Rochelle

Begin the day with a short ride to Boyardville, where you can fish, shop or look at the oyster farms. You could even try to surf! From here, take a boat ride back to La Rochelle. This small cruise lets you admire the coastline without pedaling. Keep your eyes open to see Fort Boyard, visible on clear days.

## Accommodation

### Category A

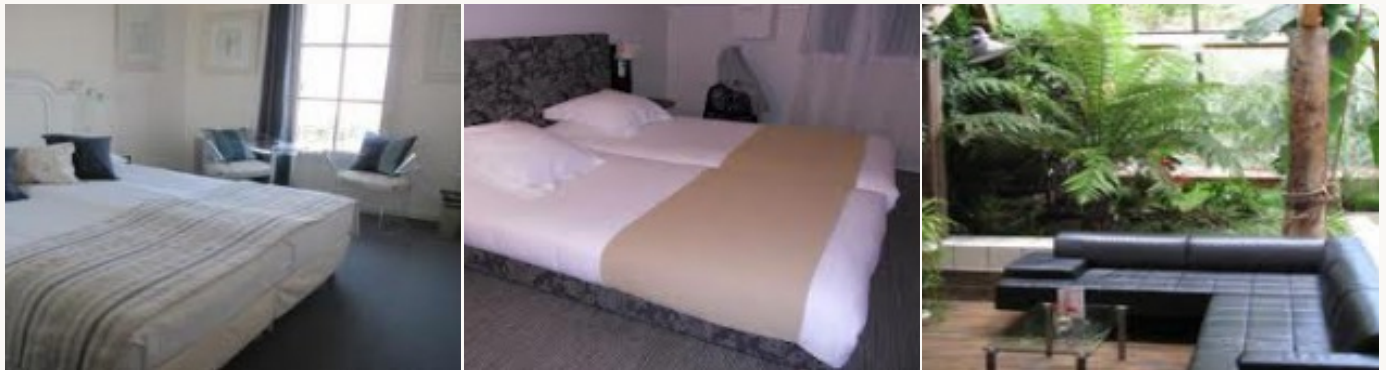
You'll enjoy staying in these clean and cozy 2-Star hotels that give you a pleasant rest after your day of biking. Breakfast is included when you spend the night in these friendly and family-run hotels.



*\* Example of the type of accommodation*

### Category B

You'll get a good night's sleep when you stay in these 3-star hotels or Bed and Breakfasts. All properties have been selected for their cleanliness, style and friendliness of the staff. A hearty breakfast is included!



*\* Example of the type of accommodation*

## Practical information

### To get to departure point:

**By plane:** flight to La Rochelle.

**By train:** from **Paris Montparnasse station**, you can take a **direct TGV (fast trains)** to La Rochelle. The duration of the trip is about 3h15. To plan your trip, [www.raileurope.com](http://www.raileurope.com).

### Parking

If you drive to La Rochelle, you can park your car in a secured car park located in the city center: parking Saint-Nicolas (rue de la Sardinerie) or parking Verdun (place Verdun). The weekly rate is about 45€.

However, we advise you to park in the surroundings of the landing of the shuttle Transpertuis (boat Boyarville > La Rochelle) from where you leave the last day. There are plenty of free parking spaces near the university.

## Meeting time:

You pick up your bikes in the morning between 9.30am and 12.30pm. We recommend you to arrive around 10am to enjoy your day fully without rushing and be able to do the visits on the way.

**If you chose luggage transport, you must arrive before 10am to drop off your luggage.** Bikes pick up point and luggage drop off point are located next to the train station and will be given in your travel documents.

## Price description

**Category A** **345 €/pers**  
Double room fare

3 nights in \*\* hotels  
3 breakfasts  
4-day rental of a fully-equipped bike (saddle bags, locks, toolkit)  
the boat ride from Oléron Island to La Rochelle with bikes  
a road book with maps and descriptions of the routes  
the delivery and the return of the bikes  
local visitors' taxes  
sending charge of the travel documents  
24h/24 hotline

High season extra (\*) 30 €/pers

Halfboard 26 €/dinner

Extra for a single room 46 €/night

Extra night in La Rochelle 60 €/pers

**Category B** **420 €/pers**  
Double room fare

3 nights in \*\*\* hotels  
3 breakfasts  
4-day rental of a fully-equipped bike (saddle bags, locks, toolkit)  
the boat ride from Oléron Island to La Rochelle with bikes  
a road book with maps and descriptions of the routes  
the delivery and the return of the bikes  
local visitors' taxes  
sending charge of the travel documents  
24h/24 hotline

High season extra (\*) 50 €/pers

Halfboard 28 €/dinner

Extra for a single room 63 €/night

Extra night in La Rochelle 80 €/pers

## Options

Extra for luggage transport (\*\*) 60 €/pers

Extra for the rental of an electric bike (4 days) 20 €/pers

Discount if you ride your own bicycle -45 €/pers

(\*) **High season** :  
from 01.07 to 30.09.2019

(\*\*) Minimum 2 participants

**Children discounts** (in the same room as 2 full rate participants)

0-4 year : -70%

5-11 year : -50%

12-17 year : -30%

**The package doesn't include:**

the journey to the tour location

the drinks

the entrance fee to sites

insurances (optional)

For more information or booking : [www.levelovoyageur.com](http://www.levelovoyageur.com)

+33 (0)1 80 91 98 18 or [bonjour@levelovoyageur.com](mailto:bonjour@levelovoyageur.com)