



Trip description

Cycle tour through the Poitevin Marshes

From the Poitevin Marshes to the Atlantic coast, explore the hidden gems of Poitou-Charentes region.

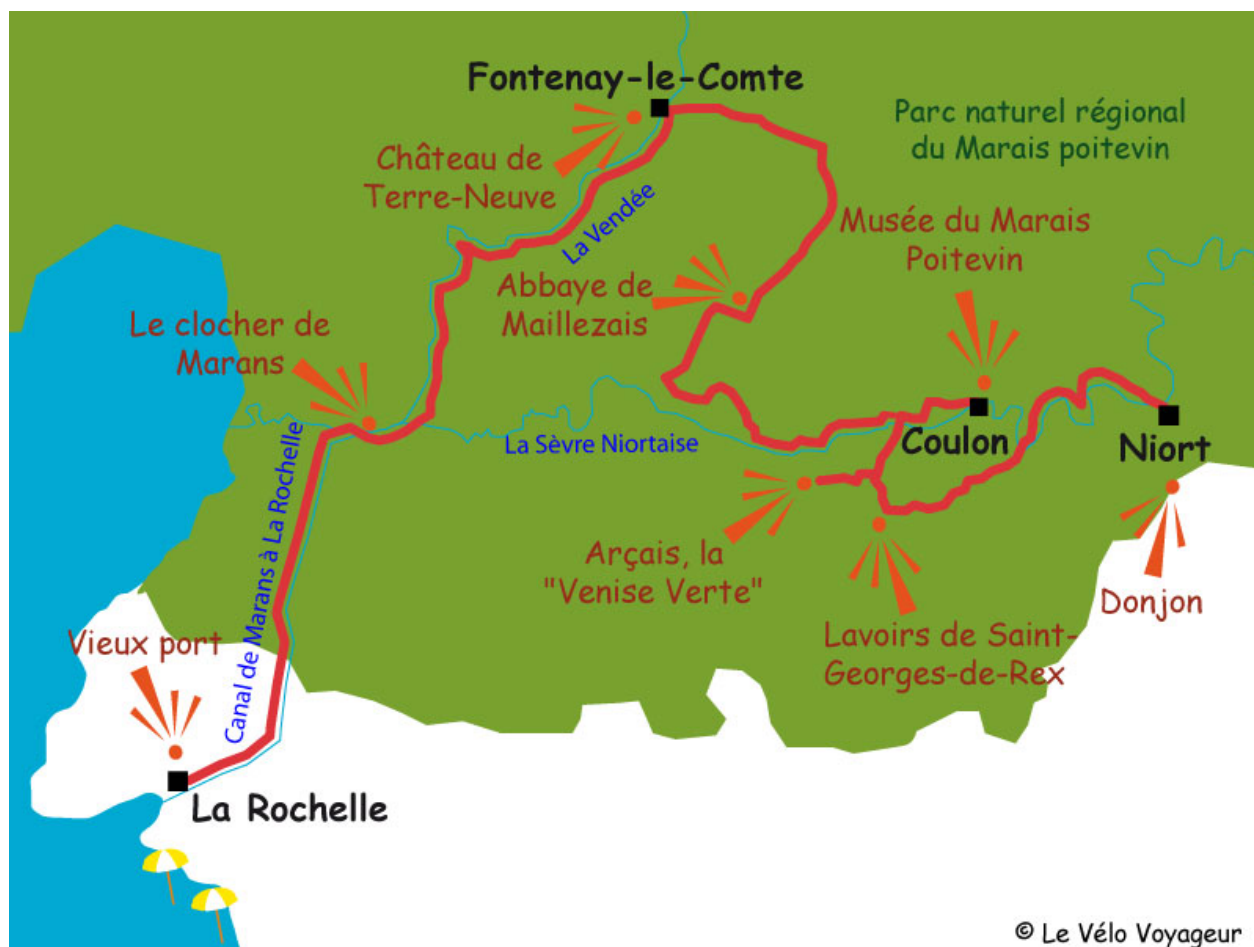


Destination	France
Location	Charente-Maritime
Duration	5 days
Difficulty Level	Moderate
Validity	From April to October
Minimum age	10 years
Reference	PC0302

Type of stay
itinerant trip



Itinerary



Explore the Poitevin marshes by bike for 5 days. You start your bike trip in Niort where you can admire its imposing keep, then you cycle on small roads and along the narrow canals of the Poitevin marshes. You cross the small villages, discover the fauna and flora of the marshes with a guide on a

boat and visit the magnificent abbey of Maillezais. Stop in the city of art and history Fontenay-le-Comte before leaving the wild Marais Poitevin to reach the beautiful port city of La Rochelle. The city prosperous past can be easily noticed thanks to its nice architecture from which the old fortified harbor is remarkable. La Rochelle offers a wide range of cultural and touristic activities. Do not miss La Rochelle aquarium. The city is very well equipped with cycling paths, which makes it perfect for discovering it on a bicycle.

Day 1

Niort

You arrive at your own pace in the small town of Niort. You can stroll through the old town, admire the dungeon and the old district.

Day 2

Niort - Coulon

Bike
46km

You ride along on the bike path along the river to leave Niort and reach the small country roads in the marshes. Through the quiet and lovely small villages, you reach Arçais also called the "Green Venice of the Marais Poitevin". After a lunch on the harbor, you can board small boats and navigate through the narrow canals to discover the rich flora and fauna (coypus, the "angélique" a local plant, etc.).

In the afternoon, your bike tour take you to the picturesque charm of the wild marshes through Saint-Georges-de-Rex before reaching Coulon, a small village with white stone houses. You can visit the interesting museum of the marshes to complete your knowledge of the region.

Day 3

Coulon - Fontenay-le-Comte

Bike
54km

You leave Coulon through the marshes of the Marais Poitevin by riding on the dams. You cross a large part of the wet marshes. Your bike ride leads you to Maillezais where you visit an abbey of the 11th century, one of the starting point of the history of the Marais Poitevin. The bike route takes you then to the city of Fontenay-le-Comte, where you can enjoy a leisurely stroll, visit the many churches and the Renaissance castle of Terre-Neuve.

Day 4

Fontenay-le-Comte - La Rochelle

Bike
58km

You follow the Vendée river to Marans and enjoy the charm of the marsh Marais Poitevin. In the afternoon, you ride through La Rochelle countryside following a canal before reaching the old port of La Rochelle.

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Day 5

Departure from La Rochelle

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

Accommodation

Category B

You stay in **/** hotels. Breakfast is included.



** Example of the type of accommodation*

Practical information

To get to departure point:

By plane: flight to La Rochelle, then take a train to Niort.

By train: from Paris Montparnasse station, you can take a direct TGV (fast trains) to Niort. The duration of the trip is about 2h30. To plan your trip, www.raileurope.com.

Parking

If you drive to Niort, you can park your car in a secured car park located in the city center: parking St Jean (Place Saint Jean) or parking Espace Nortiais (Rue du Mûrier).

To get back to starting point:

Regional trains take you back to your starting point if you wish. They are accessible without booking in advance and bicycles are free. You have to buy your ticket on spot. You will find the timetable of the day in your travel documents.

We can also organise a transfer in a private vehicle on demand.

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 B

Double room fare

569 €/pers

4 nights in ** or *** hotels
4 breakfasts
3-day rental of a fully-equipped bike (saddle bags, locks, toolkit)
a road book with maps and descriptions of the routes
the return of the bikes
sending charge of the travel documents in France
24h/24 hotline

High season extra (*)	20 €/pers
Half-board (except in Niort - 3 dinners)	109 €/pers
Extra for a single room	55 €/night
Extra night in Niort	79 €/pers
Extra night in La Rochelle	83 €/pers

Options

Extra for luggage transport 88€/pers

Extra for luggage transport - Low season 128 €/pers
From April 1 to June 14 and from September 16 to October 31, 2023

Extra for solo traveller 55 €/pers

Extra for the rental of an electric bike (3 days) 55 €/pers

Discount if you ride your own bicycle -55 €/pers

High season :
 from 01.07 to 31.08.2023

Children discount (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 meals which are not included

the entrance fee to sites

insurances (optional)

For more information or booking : www.levelovoyageur.com
 +33 (0)1 80 91 98 18 or bonjour@levelovoyageur.com