

TOURS



WELCOME GUIDE

NEOLAIA
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WELCOME TO TOURS!

This dynamic, welcoming town in the heart of the Loire Valley will win you over with its historic heritage, lively cultural life and friendly atmosphere. Whether you're a history buff, a gourmet or a fan of going out with friends, you're bound to find something that suits you in Tours.

This guide invites you to discover the must-sees of the city, as well as the favourite places and activities of young adults. Get ready for an unforgettable experience!

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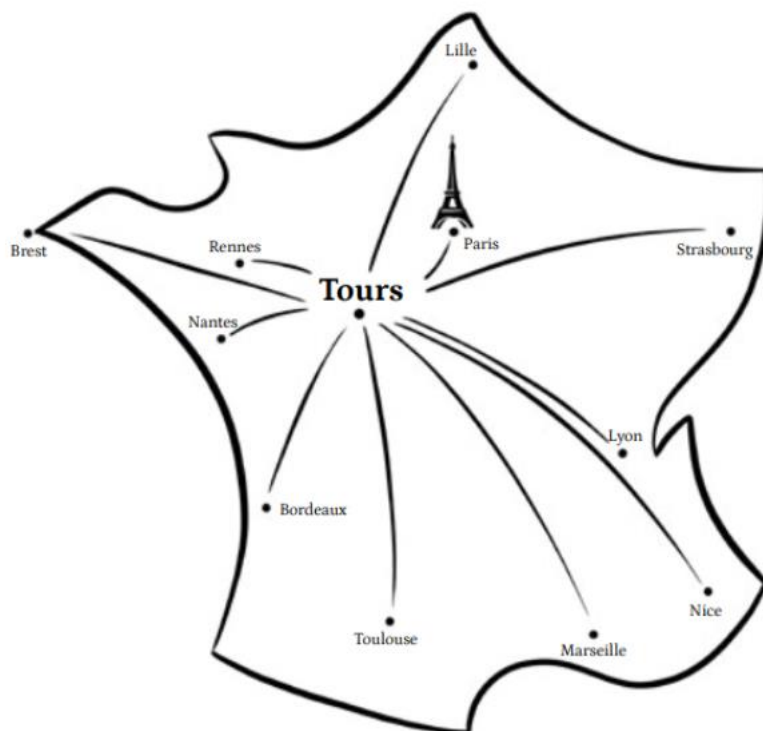
Amboise

Chenonceau

Villandry

Langeais

EN ROUTE TO TOURS



Paris · 240 km	2h10	1h10	Londres	1h15
Bordeaux · 330 km	3h15	2h00	Marrakech	2h30
Nantes · 196 km	1h45	1h35	Marseille	1h20
Lyon · 432 km	4h00	3h30	Porto	2h00

TOURIST OFFICE

78/82, rue Bernard Palissy, Tours - 02 47 70 37 37 - info@tours-tourisme.fr

The tourist office is open all year round, providing information on activities and places to visit:

- Ticket sales for the major tourist sites in the Loire Valley,
- Hotel reservations,
- Guided tours,
- excursions and flights in hot-air balloons, helicopters, etc.

GET AROUND EASILY

TOURS STATION

Nearly 30 TGV trains run daily between Tours and Paris via Tours and Saint-Pierre-des-Corps stations. The bus station is also the starting point for a number of coach services operated by FlixBus and Trainline.



FIL BLEU BUS NETWORK

Trams, buses and bike hire complement each other to form a dense and efficient network, offering a wide range of travel options 7 days a week.

SELF-SERVICE PONY

Take advantage of the self-service bicycle hire scheme: 500 classic bicycles and almost 1,100 two-seater electric-assist bicycles.

CYCLING AND WALKING RECEPTION

Go to 31 bd Heurteloup to find out about routes in and around Tours. The centre also offers luggage storage, small repairs and a wide range of services. to recharge your mobile phone or electric bike.

MAP OF THE CITY



THE UNIVERSITY AND ITS FACULTIES

Today, the University of Tours welcomes more than 30,000 students at its sites in Tours and Blois.

The Tanneurs

Location: in the heart of Tours on the banks of the Loire

Number of students: 8.616

Subjects: Literature, Languages, Humanities and Arts

The 2 Lions

Location: South of the city, in 2 Lions district

Number of students: 6.038

Subjects: Law, Economics and Social Sciences, Polytech



The Faculty of Medicine

Location: near Bretonneau University Hospital, in the heart of the city

Number of students: 6.268

Subjects: Medicine, Pharmacy, Midwifery, Odontology, Paramedical disciplines

Grandmont

Location: South of the city

Number of students: 5.136

Subjects: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, Computer Science, Earth and Environmental Sciences

SAINT-GATIEN CATHEDRAL

A masterpiece of Gothic architecture



DID YOU KNOW?

The staircase in the Psalette cloister is thought to be a replica of the one built by François I in the Château de Blois around 1520.

INIMITABLE STYLE

Built between 1170 and 1547, the cathedral is a listed historic monument. It houses an exceptional collection of 18th century stained glass windows, an imposing 16th century organ and a 17th century tabernacle with ebony and ivory veneers. It contains the tombs of two of the children of Charles VIII and Anne of Brittany, Charles and Charles-Orland, who died very young.

AMPHITHEÂTRE GALLO-ROMAIN

Go around the cathedral to take the cobbled Rue du Général Meusnier. It runs alongside the remains of the ancient amphitheatre at Caesarodunum.

RENDEZ-VOUS DES ARTS

An artistic and bucolic break

TASTING

Take a stroll along rue Colbert, one of the city's oldest streets. Admire the half-timbered facades and enjoy the cosmopolitan atmosphere. You'll find restaurants from all over the world!



CHÂTEAU DE TOURS

As a photographic exhibition venue and partner of the Jeu de Paume in Paris, the Château de Tours offers a programme that combines big names and local artists, exploring a wide variety of artistic worlds.

FRITZ, A SYMBOL AWARENESS

This 32-year-old colossus was exploited all his life by circuses. He was shot on June 11, 1902 following a fit of rage in the middle of a crowd that had come to see him. The elephant, which has become an emblem of the animal cause, has been naturalised and is on display in the courtyard of the Musée des Beaux-Arts.



MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Formerly the archbishop's palace, the museum boasts some of the richest collections in France. In the gardens, admire the magnificent two-hundred-year-old cedar of Lebanon, over 30 metres high, and the emblematic naturalised elephant Fritz.

OLD TOURS DISTRICT

Historic charm and a festive atmosphere



WE LOVE ❤️

Stop off at Madie's. A modern bistro at lunchtime and a tapas house in the evening. Inventive cuisine and a relaxed atmosphere in a pretty building dating from 1865.

PLACE PLUMEREAU

Nicknamed "Place Plum", this emblematic square in Vieux-Tours is renowned for its festive atmosphere and half-timbered houses. It's the ideal place to enjoy a drink on the terrace or dine with friends.



PLACE CHÂTEAUNEUF

A touch of Italy in the heart of Tours... Take a seat on one of the benches in this pretty square, surrounded by greenery, and enjoy an ice cream.

4 MONUMENTS TO SEE NEAR PLACE PLUM'

A stroll through the old town centre

1 Saint-Martin Basilica

An important place of pilgrimage, the basilica houses the tomb of the town's patron saint. Its neo-Byzantine architecture and mosaics are remarkable.



3 The Halles

The Halles de Tours is a leading centre for local gastronomy, and is bursting with fresh local produce. Indulge in regional specialities such as rillettes de Tours or Sainte-Maure-de-Touraine cheese.

2 Charlemagne Tower

This 11th century tower is a fine example of Romanesque architecture. Climbing up the 248 or so steps is rewarded with a 360° panoramic view over the roofs of the town and the banks of the Loire.

4 A Monster in Tours

Its shadow hovers over the Place du Grand Marché, with children imitating him and passing under his legs, some looking at him sideways, both worried and intrigued, Others take photos of themselves with... This is Xavier Veilhan's Monster.



A LITTLE CULTURE

Emblematic sites that bear witness to our heritage and contemporary creativity

THE VINCI

The Vinci-Palais des Congrès plays a major role in hosting a wide range of events: shows, concerts, trade fairs, etc.

THE STUDIOS

This arthouse cinema is renowned for its diverse programme where film buffs can meet up and talk about the 7th art.

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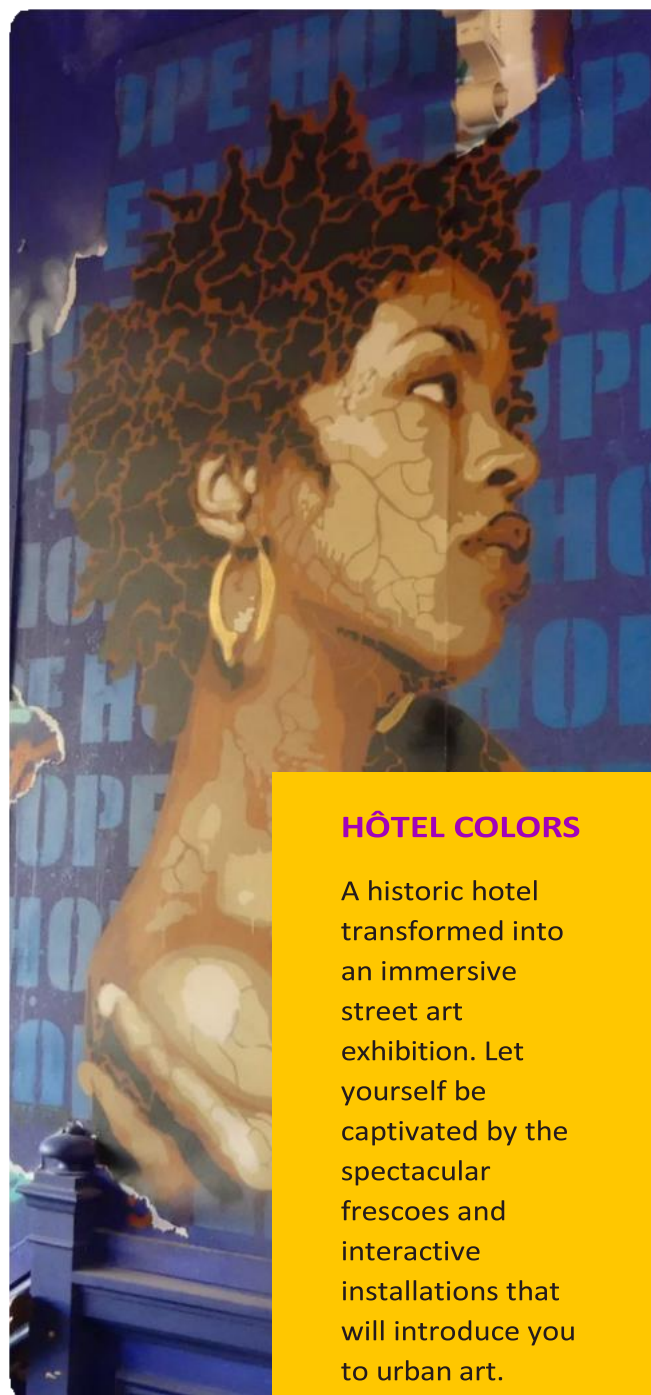
The Centre de création contemporaine Olivier-Debré is the place to be for all lovers of contemporary art.

LE GRAND THÉÂTRE

Listed as a historic monument, the Grand Théâtre, also known as the Tours Opera House, offers operas, ballets and symphony concerts.

LA COMÉDIE DE TOURS

This theatre, in the heart of Tours, offers a programme of comedy shows in a warm and intimate atmosphere.



HÔTEL COLORS

A historic hotel transformed into an immersive street art exhibition. Let yourself be captivated by the spectacular frescoes and interactive installations that will introduce you to urban art.

ENTERTAINMENT

Between fun activities and thrills



LASER GAME

A number of venues offer immersive labyrinths where you can enjoy this fun and friendly experience without moderation.

BOWLING

Two centres in Tours North and in the 2 Lions district for bowling, billiards and arcade games.

ESCAPE GAME

Experience immersive adventures in beautifully decorated rooms in virtual mode, or take a trip to Prison Island.

QUIZ ROOM

Immerse yourself in the world of game shows and answer as many questions as you can to win!

AXE THROW

Let off steam at Tours'N fun in Joué-lès-Tours or H-Game in St-Cyr-sur-Loire.

URBAN STROLLS

Absolute relaxation on the banks of the Loire

LA GUINGUETTE

Enjoy the open-air terraces with views over the river. On the programme: snacks, refreshments, live music and entertainment for all ages.

THE BEACH

Every summer, come and enjoy an ephemeral setting with a sandy area, beach-volleyball courts, deckchairs, and sometimes shows or concerts.

APÉRO GABARE

Enjoy a gabare ride at sunset, lulled by the lapping of the river, and sample some local specialities with a glass of wine.

AUCARD ISLAND

Escape the tumult on this peaceful island in the Loire. A natural setting where strolling rhymes with sporting activities, for a guaranteed break from the hustle and bustle.



SHOPPING ADDICT

Fashion trends in all 4 corners of the city



TOURS CITY CENTRE

A must-see shopping destination in the heart of the city, stroll along rue Nationale or rue de Bordeaux.



L'HEURE TRANQUILLE

Shopping centre in the 2 Lions district, easily accessible by bus or tram.



LES ATLANTES

Based in Saint-Pierre-des-Corps, this huge shopping centre offers a wide range of shops.



MA PETITE MADELAINE

Take the bus to Chambray-lès-Tours and wander around this open-air shopping centre.

LOCAL FLAVOURS

Authentic flavours and culinary traditions

THE MUST-HAVES



Rillettes from Tours



Sainte-Maure-de-Touraine goat cheese



Nougat from Tours

LOIRE VALLEY WINES



Vouvray



Vineyards in Chinon



Saint-Nicolas-de-Bourgueil

*Alcohol abuse is dangerous for your health. Drink moderately.

MAJOR EVENTS OF THE YEAR

A lively city 365 days a year, with...

1 JOURNALISM CONFERENCES

March



4 JAPAN FESTIVAL

June



7 GARLIC AND BASIL FAIR

July



2 TOURS FAIR

May



5 AUCARD FESTIVAL

June



8 10-20 KM AND MARATHON

September



3 VITILOIRE TRADE FAIR

May



6 LANDS OF SOUND

July



9 CHRISTMAS MARKET

December



AMBOISE

History at the heart of the Loire Valley



DID YOU KNOW?

In 1560, the royal castle was the scene of the bloody Amboise Conjuring, an attempt by Protestants, under the influence of the Guise family, to kidnap the young King François II. This event marked an important stage in the Wars of Religion in France.

CHÂTEAU ROYAL

Majestically overlooking the Loire, the castle became an important royal residence in the 15th century. Several kings stayed here, including Charles VIII, who was born here and died accidentally when he hit his head. Francis I spent his childhood there and invited Leonardo da Vinci in 1516, whose tomb is the castle chapel.

LE CLOS LUCÉ

Just a stone's throw from the royal castle stands the last home of Leonardo da Vinci. Today, Le Clos Lucé offers a fascinating glimpse into Leonardo's world, with its reconstructed workshops, its visionary inventions and a magnificent park where some of his machines have been reproduced at life size.



CHENONCEAU

A diversion through the unique history of the Château des Dames

This jewel of the Renaissance is the only castle to span a river. Its history is marked by strong and influential female figures, starting with Diane de Poitiers and Catherine de Médicis, whose rivalry shaped the castle's architecture and gardens.



DID YOU KNOW?

Take the opportunity to canoe on the Cher and pass under the arches of the château!

Built in the 16th century on the foundations of an old mill, Chenonceau is distinguished by its unique gallery that crosses the Cher, offering spectacular views of the water and surrounding countryside. Its elegance and refinement make it one of the most visited castles in the Loire Valley.

Visitors can explore its sumptuously furnished rooms, admire its collections of tapestries and paintings, and stroll through its magnificent formal gardens.

VILLANDRY

A not-so-royal residence...

The Château de Villandry is world-famous for its exceptional Renaissance gardens, a veritable masterpiece of topiary art. It was in the 16th century that Jean Le Breton, secretary to King François I, acquired the fortress and set about creating the gardens. So no king has ever lived in the castle!



These gardens, spread over several levels, offer a unique spectacle with their decorative kitchen garden, ornamental garden, water garden and labyrinth. The harmony between the sober architecture of the château and the exuberance of the gardens makes Villandry a must-see for lovers of nature, history and the art of gardens.



THE NIGHT OF 1,000 FIRES

Over the course of 2 exceptional evenings during the summer, the flames of more than 2,000 candles gradually light up the avenues. Villandry invites you to enjoy a stroll punctuated by entertainment, and brought to a close by fireworks, the promise of an evening full of poetry.

LANGEAIS

A secret royal wedding



In 1491, Anne reigned over the independent Duchy of Brittany. Charles VIII, King of France, laid siege to the region to extend his kingdom. Forced to capitulate, Anne finally agreed to marry him. She was 14 and he 21.

On the night of December 6th, the future spouses met in secret at the Château de Langeais and were married in the strictest privacy, Anne of Brittany having been promised to Maximilian, Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire. This major political event sealed Brittany's definitive union with France.





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