

Rigny-Ussé / Candes-St-Martin

La Loire à Vélo - Loire Valley by bike

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Départ
Rigny-Ussé

Arrivée
Candes-St-Martin

Durée
1 h 35 min

Distance
24,73 Km

Niveau
I begin / Family

Thématique
Canals & intimate rivers

This Loire à Vélo stage is marked by atmospheric islands in the Loire colonized by birds. At the Indre River's confluence with the Loire, the setting is unspoilt. Further west, enjoy one of the most magnificent panoramas on the Loire à Vélo and Eurovelo 6 routes from gorgeous Candes-St-Martin, looking onto the confluence of Vienne and Loire rivers. This stage is easy, alternating between greenways and quiet country roads.

Route

The portion on the D 16 road takes you along a stretch of raised Loire levée. Be careful on the rough surface between L'Île St-Martin and Néman. Take care crossing the bridge to Candes-St-Martin, and going down to that village's Loire quays.

Alternative route

To reach the historic courtly town of Chinon, there's a well-signposted but hilly route suitable for experienced cyclists. You cross through beautiful vineyards arriving near Chinon.

Railway station - SNCF

Port-Boulet train station: 4 trains per day allow bikes, either going west to Angers and Nantes, or east to Tours and Orléans. Reach Port-Boulet station via a signposted way going from Savigny. Take care crossing the Loire on the D 749 road.

Don't miss

Rigny-Ussé : an historic village with a magical château said to have inspired the famed French fairytale, Sleeping Beauty

Savigny-en-Véron: for its Ecomusée du Véron in a converted farm, with exhibitions and events based around the local heritage and environment

Candes-St-Martin: a stunning village (a member of the association, Les Plus Beaux Villages de France) with an exceptional pilgrimage church and magnificent panoramas onto the confluence of the Vienne and Loire rivers

Fontevraud Royal Abbey: 6 km from Candes-St-Martin, an exceptionally extensive and well-preserved religious ensemble, its main church the resting place of several Anglo-French Plantagenet royals, including King Henry II, Eleanor of Aquitaine and Richard the Lionheart; major exhibitions and events held year-round; a must-see sight on the Loire à Vélo route.

Markets

- **Avoine :** Friday morning
- **Montsoreau :** Sunday morning
- **Fontevraud-l'Abbaye :** Wednesday morning

Tourist Information centre

- **Montsoreau :** +33(0)2 41 51 70 22
- **Chinon :** +33(0)2 47 93 17 85
- **Fontevraud-l'Abbaye :** +33(0)2 41 51 79 45

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A detailed map of the Loire Valley region. The Loire river flows from the top right towards the bottom left. Several towns are labeled: LES RAVELONNES, LES TROIS VOILETS, LES SABLES, and LA PETITE PRÉE. A road network is shown with labels like D 952, R 9, R 10, R 12, R 11, and D 7. The Parc naturel régional Loire-Anjou-Touraine is indicated in two locations. A specific area is highlighted with a red circle and labeled 'Natura 2000 de la Loire de Cardes Saint Martin à Mosnes'. The map also shows the 'Le Lône' and 'L'Indre' rivers.

The map shows a section of the Loire Valley. The Loire River flows from the top left towards the right. The Vienne River joins it from the south. Towns labeled include Ragouget, La Bonnardière, La Pelouze, and Sous le Moulin. A red dot with a 'C' is located near Ragouget. An orange line highlights a route starting from the Loire, passing through the red dot, and heading south towards the Vienne. Various road labels like D 751, CR 2, R 6, CR 24, R 28, R 25, C 301, CR 8, and CR 9 are visible. Elevation contours are marked at 30m, 50m, and 90m. The map also shows the 'Quai de la Loire' and 'Quai Alexandre Dumas'.