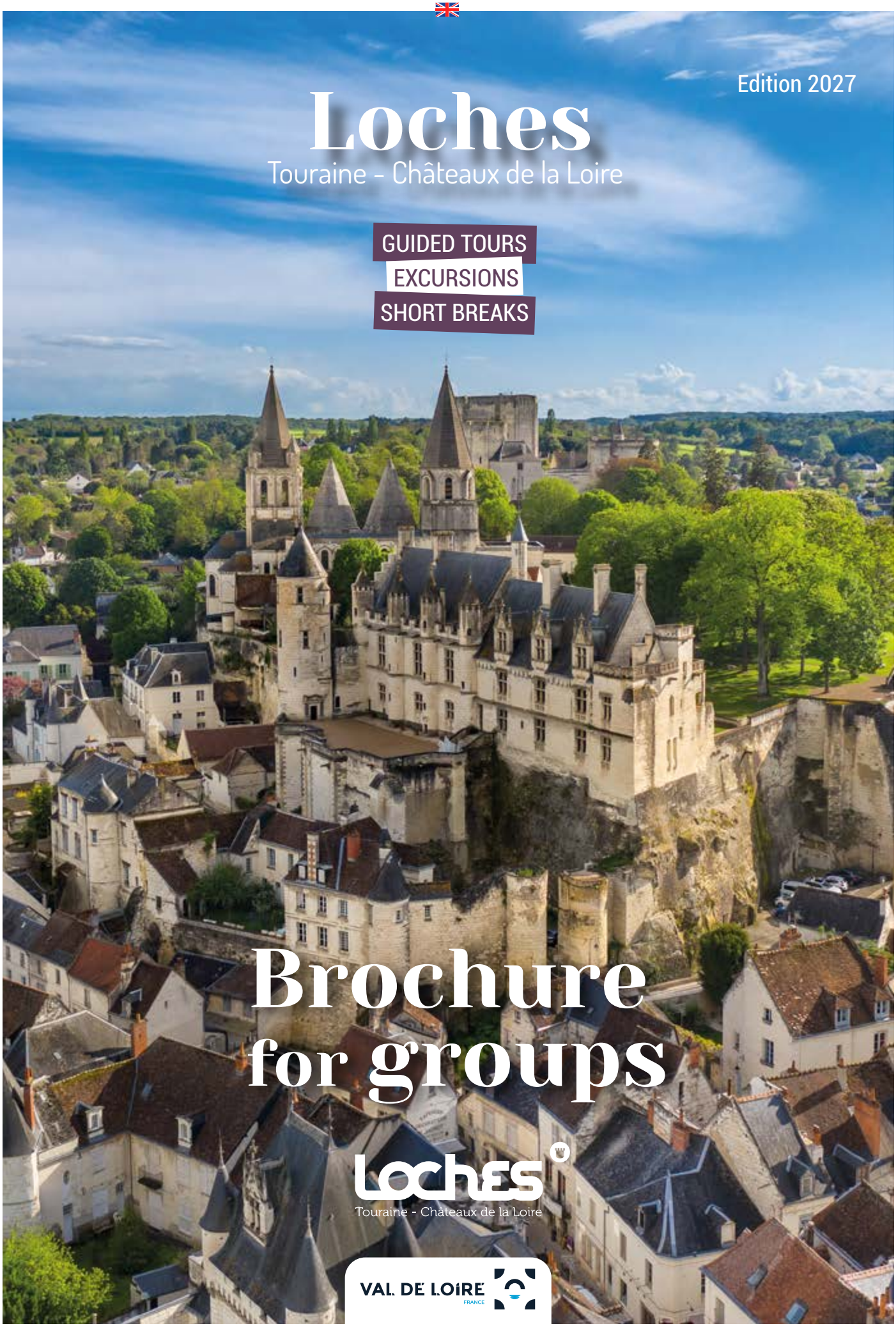
Edition 2027

Loches

Touraine - Châteaux de la Loire

GUIDED TOURS
EXCURSIONS
SHORT BREAKS



Brochure for groups

Loches
Touraine - Châteaux de la Loire

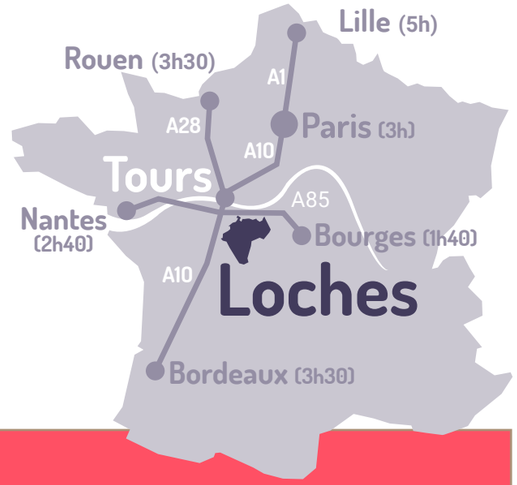
VAL DE LOIRE FRANCE

Welcome to Loches Touraine Chateaux de la Loire !

In the Loire Valley, close to Amboise & Chenonceau, an unspoilt **Touraine** awaits you. **Loches, city of 'Art & History'** immerses the visitor in a journey to the heart of 1000 years of history.

The villages of **Montrésor** - labelled «Most Beautiful Villages in France» - and **Chédigny** - the first village in France to be awarded the «Remarkable Garden» label by the Ministry of Culture – as well as **Le Grand-Pressigny**, a major centre of prehistory, will share their secrets with you….

Add some variety to your holiday by exploring a region rich in **history and craftsmanship**. A real invitation to take a leisurely stroll…



This brochure contains our suggestions for excursions and short breaks specially designed for groups, which can be tailored according to your wishes. We have preselected quality partners for you in order to facilitate the organisation of your clients' stays and stopovers on our territory.

YOUR GROUP CONTACT :



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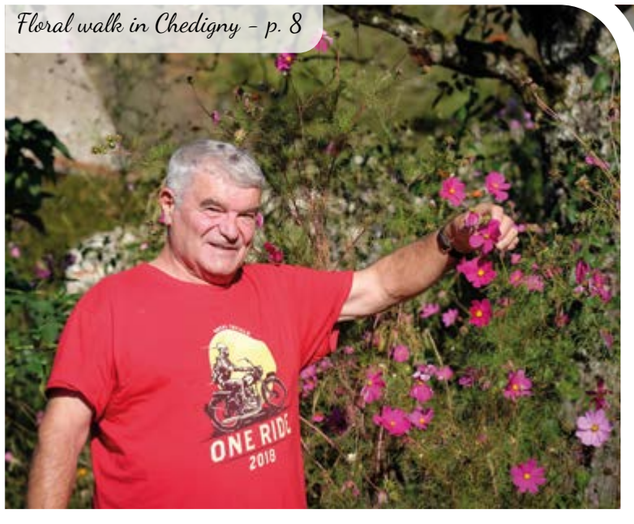
Top visits for groups













GROUP VISITS NOT TO BE MISSED

Visits around Loches



2H 45 max

GUIDED TOUR OF THE TOWN OF LOCHES: «A THOUSAND YEARS OF HISTORY».

Loches, **an exceptional historical town**, offers you a life-size panorama through the eras from the Middle Ages to the Renaissance. Commented by your personal tour guide, the visit takes you beneath the historic gateways of this Renaissance town, and through narrow cobbled streets up to the ridge of the medieval fortress.



2H 25 max

«THE MEDIEVAL FORTRESS» GUIDED THEMATIC TOUR

Overlooking the town, **the medieval fortress of Loches** is one of the best preserved in Europe. With the tour guide, you will visit the fortified ramparts and discover the monuments that have been part of the fortress for over a thousand years. You will also enjoy privileged access to **the terrace of the Royal Gate**.



2H 20 max

«LOCHES IN ALL SENSES»

Discover a monument blindfolded, play with the facades, walk with **your head in the clouds**...
Come and touch, smell, look at and enjoy heritage in a playful and quirky way! Whether with family, friends or colleagues, **awaken your senses** during a sensory visit. More than just a simple visit, it is an unforgettable experience and a completely different way to discover Loches.



Visits to our monuments



2H15

ROYAL CITY OF LOCHES - SELF GUIDED (visit with a histopad [1] -p.12) or GUIDED TOUR

Travel back in time and discover one of the most beautiful fortified cities in France and Europe! **The Keep**, which is approximately 36 metres high, is one of the most imposing of its time, and one of the best preserved. Discover this unique medieval monument, which was a residential and defensive fortress and then, at the end of the Middle Ages, a state prison. You will be astonished by the underground passages and the discovery of King Louis XI's prisoners' cage.
The Royal Lodge, a renowned landmark in the history of France, was a favourite residence of the Valois dynasty. It was also home to Joan of Arc, Agnès Sorel and Anne of Brittany.



1H 25 max

LANSYER HOUSE MUSEUM : STEP INTO THE HOME OF THE LANDSCAPE PAINTER

A pupil of Eugène Viollet-le-Duc, Gustave Courbet and then Henri Harpignies, Lansyer is regarded by his contemporaries as **one of the best landscape painters**. He is a true testament to his time. His modern approach, **similar to those of the Impressionists**, led him to paint natural or architectural landscapes with great finesse.



NOËL AU PAYS DES CHÂTEAUX IN THE ROYAL TOWN OF LOCHES

Every year, the **spirit of Christmas, magical and joyful**, transforms the **royal residence** and the **keep**. It is through a staging dedicated to a **traditional fairy tale** that the «magic» of December is brought alive. An enchanted atmosphere guaranteed for young and old!



SAINT-ANTOINE CHURCH AND GALLERY

An authentic church-museum, **Saint-Antoine's church** has been completely restored including the works of art it houses. The adjoining gallery, which bears the same name, beautifully completes this ensemble thanks to its two paintings known as **«Les Caravaggio de Philippe de Béthune»** (bought from Caravaggio, a 17th century Italian artist, by Philippe de Béthune), as well as the remarkable 15th century triptych by Jean Poyer and variety of ecclesiastical objects.

GROUP VISITS NOT TO BE MISSED

Visits around Beaulieu-lès-Loches



2H 20 max

BEAULIEU-LÈS-LOCHES : SMALL CITY, LOTS OF CHARACTER

Be transported back in time as you discover **Beaulieu, the capital of Southern Touraine** some 10 centuries ago. Explore the architectural heritage of the town, including the Abbey, which is a real eye-catcher and clearly visible from Loches, as well as beautiful properties, **the Templars' house, Agnès Sorel's house, the leprosarium and Saint-Laurent's Church** – exterior visit.



2H 20 max

VISIT TO THE MECHANICS' MILL

The Mechanics' Mill is a hidden treasure, which will delight and surprise you at the same time. Take a walk through the atypical Viantaises garden before changing universe, as you open the metal door, to discover **Beaulieu's canal**. It is in this charming setting that the Mechanics' Mill was established in the early 20th century. Today this magical site is run by passionate volunteers who through the tapping sounds of the machines and the wheel, help you relive the experience of life gone by.



GROUP VISITS NOT TO BE MISSED

Visits around Montrésor



1H

MONTRESOR CASTLE – SELF-GUIDED VISIT OR GUIDED TOUR

An essential landmark of this characterful village is **the castle of Montrésor**, with its double facets: the imposing remains of the 11th century fortress founded by Fulk III Nerra and the Renaissance castle itself.
This privately owned and inhabited castle, surrounded by a romantic park, houses **an exceptional collection of early Italian paintings**. It has been owned by a Polish family since 1849 and its interior is an authentic testimony to the French Second Empire enhanced by a **Slavic influence**.



1H30 35 max

VISIT THE VILLAGE OF MONTRÉSOR LABELLED «ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL VILLAGES IN FRANCE»

Discover **the legend of Montrésor**, the history of the village and the prominent figures who have influenced the area. Your experience will be enhanced by visiting the Halle des Cardeux Hall (former wool market) and its Gemmail Museum (2 - p.12), the Chancellor's residence, Branicki Street with its old houses and the Saint-Jean-Baptiste collegiate church. Finish your visit with a stroll along **the Balcons de l'Indrois** where you will enjoy a panoramic view of the castle..



GROUP VISITS NOT TO BE MISSED

GROUP VISITS NOT TO BE MISSED

Visit to Chédigny



2H

FLORAL WALK IN CHÉDIGNY (GUIDED TOUR - p.12)

Accompanied by Alain Biard, a passionate botanist, you will discover the first village in France to have been awarded the **«Jardin Remarquable»** ("Remarkable Garden")» label by the Ministry of Culture. During a picturesque stroll, you will learn about the history of the village and appreciate the precious advice shared by the gardener. **An absolute highlight for garden lovers**: 1000 rose bushes and more than 4000 perennials are planted throughout the village. For visits in a foreign language an interpreter will be needed.

Creuse and Claise Valley



1H30

GRAND-PRESSIGNY PREHISTORY MUSEUM - SELF-GUIDED VISIT OR GUIDED TOUR

Visit this exceptional **Prehistory museum** which houses rich archaeological collections from the Palaeolithic period to the Bronze Age: the real jewels are the «livres de beurre», which translates as 'pound of butter' because of the similarity to a slab of butter, and the exceptional long flint blades from the 3rd millennium BC.

Gourmet themed visits



1H30 50 max

CHOCOLATE SHOP IN LOCHES

From the origins of chocolate to his work in the laboratory, **a master chocolatier**, shares his knowledge about this essential product, accompanied by tastings and live demonstrations.



1H 45 max

VISIT - HALLARD CONFECTIONERY

Jérémy Couton, an artisan confectioner, welcomes you and **reveals his secrets**.
A demonstration of how to make lollipops and berlingots followed by a tasting session awaits you.



1H30 30 max

VISIT A GOAT FARM IN BEAULIEU LÈS LOCHES

Discover a farm specializing in **goat breeding**. **A tasting of goat's cheese**, including the famous Sainte-Maure-de-Touraine, will follow the guided tour.



1H30 45 max

CHEESE AND WINE PAIRING EXPERIENCE IN LOCHES

Cheese and wine tasting in an exceptional setting with the specialist **Geoffrey Nivard**. Discover four carefully **selected wines from independent local producers**, complemented perfectly by **four exceptional cheeses chosen by a 'Master of Cheese' Rodolphe Le Meunier**. To round off the experience, enjoy **a blind taste quiz** designed to test your taste buds and your knowledge!

GROUP VISITS NOT TO BE MISSED


Loches castle and old city

NOT TO BE MISSED
between castles and gardens

from*
555€

DAY 1

MORNING

CHOCOLATE SHOP IN LOCHES
1H — Discover a traditional chocolate maker and indulge in a delicious tasting.

LUNCH in Loches.



AFTERNOON

GUIDED TOUR OF THE TOWN OF LOCHES : «A THOUSAND YEARS OF HISTORY»
2H

CHECK-IN late afternoon to a **3*** or 4**** hotel in Loches** for 3 nights - dinner (starter/main course/dessert) and overnight stay.



DAY 2

MORNING

GUIDED TOUR OF THE CHÂTEAU DE CHENONCEAU
2H — 5 prominent **female figures** have influenced the estate, including **Diane de Poitiers** and **Catherine de Médicis**. Discover the most elegant and feminine of all the **Loire châteaux**.

LUNCH at L'Orangerie, Château de Chenonceau.



AFTERNOON

GUIDED TOUR OF CHÉDIGNY, AN ABSOLUTE HIGHLIGHT FOR GARDEN LOVERS
2H

SOAK UP THE STUNNING VIEW OF THE PRIEST'S GARDEN WHILE ENJOYING A SNACK
1H



DAY 3

MORNING

GUIDED TOUR OF MONTRÉSOR « ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL VILLAGE IN FRANCE »
1H30

LUNCH near Montrésor in a traditional restaurant.



AFTERNOON

GUIDED TOUR OF MONTRESOR CASTLE
1H

WINE TASTING AT CHATEAU DE MONTRESOR NEW !
1H — Continue the day with a rare experience: **exclusive access to the underground cellars**, transformed into wine caves. Usually closed to the public, these unique spaces will host **a private wine tasting led by a local winemaker**, offering a warm and convivial atmosphere.



DAY 4

MORNING

GUIDED TOUR OF CLOS LUCÉ IN AMBOISE
1H30 — Discover **Leonardo da Vinci's final home** and experience the private life of **one of the world's greatest geniuses**. Visit his private quarters and wander through the extensive gardens, a unique open-air museum.

LUNCH at Clos Lucé in the Renaissance restaurant, « Auberge du Prieuré ».



AFTERNOON

GUIDED TOUR OF THE CHÂTEAU D'AMBOISE
1H30 — This palace was **home to the kings of France during the Renaissance** and is the **final resting place of Leonardo da Vinci**. The Royal Château of Amboise is an **architectural masterpiece** suspended between heaven and the Loire.



* *Price : 400 € based on a double room in low season*



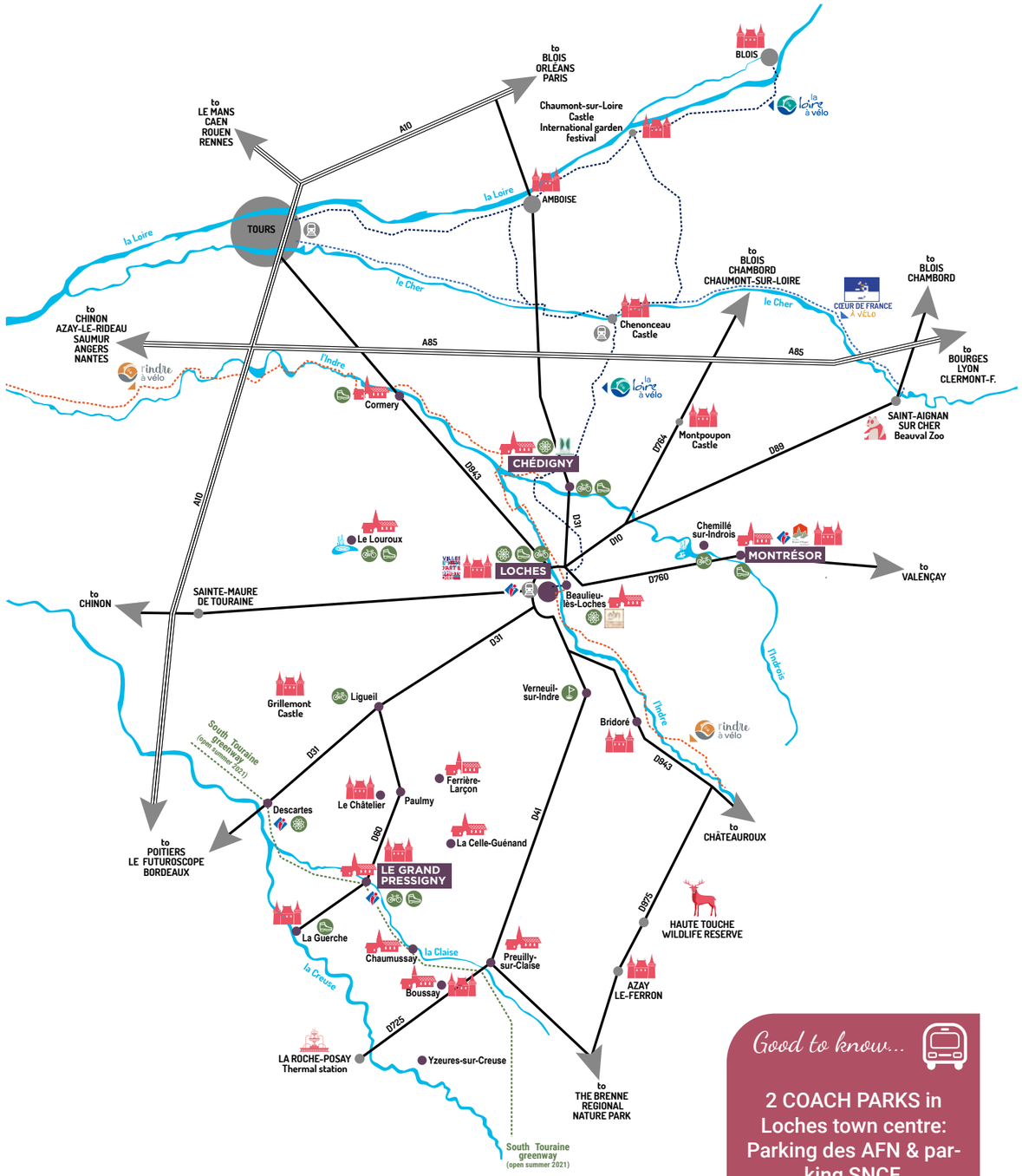
1- (page 5) Histopad: this concept, allows the visitor to be immersed in the heart of history. The visitor scans a terminal equipped with a visual recognition system and then simply turns the tablet in different directions to discover the location reconstructed in 360°. An icon, resembling a magnifying glass, may appear on the screen to highlight various points of interest, accompanied by an explanatory text. Available in FR + EN + DE + NL + ES + IT + RU

2- (page 7) Gemmail: it is an art form that was conceived in the 20th century, close to stained glass, using the superimposition of glass fragments where the shape is determined by the artist's hand, and where, thanks to the transparency, the light penetrates the colour.

3- (page 8) You may visit the village free of charge at any time, the flowering period is from the end of April to the beginning of October.

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Jean-Christophe Coutand / ADT Touraine - Léonard De Serres - Massimo Ripani - Marine Desfontaine & Olivier Châble - OT Loches TCL - Paul Prim

Secret treasures of the Loire Valley



Good to know...

2 COACH PARKS in Loches town centre: Parking des AFN & parking SNCF.

For coach hire in our area, please ask our advisers for information.

Paris	Tours	Châteauroux	Poitiers	Le Mans	Orléans	Nantes	Paris	Bordeaux
1H45	50min	1H	1H30	2H	2H	2H30	3H	3H30



Loches
Touraine - Châteaux de la Loire
VAL DE LOIRE FRANCE

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