

Valley of the Kings

Bike in chateau country

France's Better Homes & Gardens

Sept. 18 to 25, 1998 — \$1,495.00; Single
supp.: \$250 (for lesbians and gay men -
see page 30.)

Sept. 24 to Oct. 1, 1999 — \$1,595.00;
Single supp.: \$300 (for single gay men -
see page 30.)

What's included:

Please see page 17.

Is this the right trip for you?

This is the ideal introduction to bicycling
in France, with days of 25 to 35 miles over
roads that are largely flat. You can keep a
leisurely pace, peppered with stops at
chateaux and other attractions; for those
who want longer cycling routes, we have
lots of suggestions.



The week went very smoothly with every
detail well handled. Pedalling by splashes
of orange poppies against the backdrop of
the Loire river, with a medieval castle
beckoning in the distance – I'd call it
'overstimuli' in a good way!

Debbie Seaman, Auburndale, N.Y.

For two centuries, French kings outdid
one another as they built palaces
amidst the meadows and forests
along the Loire Valley.

Our week begins in Blois, at a castle
constructed over four distinct and romantic
periods of French history. Every day you'll
discover the distinct personality of a new
chateau, from the grandeur of Amboise to
the elegance of Chenonceau and the en-
chantment of Azay-le-Rideau.

Between stops, pedal along shady
roads, through forests full of deer, and
villages where time seems to have stopped.

- ☛ Picnic with the black swans of
Chenonceau chateau, perched on stone
pillars over the river Cher.
- ☛ Stroll the celebrated courtyard of love at
Villandry.
- ☛ Pause and dream on the edge of Chinon
Forest at Usse, the storybook castle that
inspired the legend of Sleeping Beauty.
- ☛ Bike past sunflowers, vineyards, and a
solitary windmill, to the pastoral abbey at
Fontevraud, Eleanor of Aquitaine's final
resting place.
- ☛ Roam the historic ruins of Chinon, the
chateau-fort where Joan of Arc changed the
course of French history.
- ☛ On a hot day, get away from it all as we
show you our secret swimming spots.

For an illustrated, day-by-day itinerary of a trip that
interests you, please visit:

www.alysonadventures.com