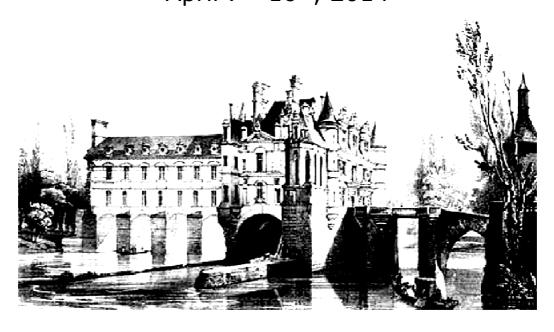


# **WELCOME**

**In Tours - Loire Valley, France** 

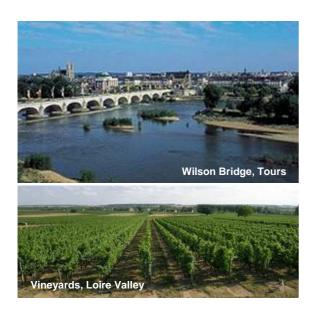
## **Document Analysis Systems 2014**

Vinci-International Convention Centre April 7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>, 2014



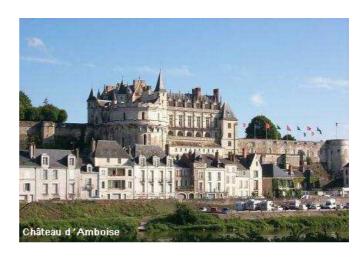
## **General Information**

## The Loire Valley



The region of the Loire Valley, also known as "the garden of France", is studded with "Les Chateaux de la Loire" and famous residences such as:
Chenonceau, Azay-Le-Rideau, Chambord, Loches, Chinon and Amboise, to name but a few.
Tours, its capital, is ideally located in the heart of this Valley of Kings with many architectural treasures to be found within an 80 km radius. Not only is it a region of well-being, art of living, gastronomy, culture and history, it is also the region known for the quality of its spoken French! Every year the "Institut de Touraine" language school takes in students from around the world who come to learn or practice French.

This region has just registered the trademark "Loire Valley": "Here Living is an Art" and it cultivates the art of welcoming and entertaining well. In this land, known as the "cradle of the History of France", you can walk in the footsteps of great historical figures: Kings and Queens of France, Rabelais, Ronsard, Balzac, Descartes, Courteline, Anatole France, Calder and many others. One of them is the world-renowned genius, Leonardo da Vinci.





The many sovereigns of France, who have left their mark, have also, in many cases, written its history: the meeting between Joan of Arc and Charles VII in Chinon, Louis XI in Loches and Tours, François I in Amboise, Henri III in Blois, Catherine de Médicis in Chenonceau, etc. If the chateaux are renowned, the vineyards are none the less so and their names tickle the taste buds: MONTLOUIS, VOUVRAY, CHINON and BOURGUEIL.

## **Tours City**

Located on the banks of the river Loire – a UNESCO World Heritage site, Tours has the advantages of the historical wealth and diverse activities. Activities include: relaxation and shopping in the city centre, visiting museums (Musée du Compagnonnage or the trade guilds museum, Musée du Gemmail, etc.), visiting monuments (the Hôtel Gouin, the Cathedral, the medieval quarter of the Place Plumereau, etc.) and, of course, doing all kinds of sports (golf, water sports, riding, etc.)





Home of Descartes and philosophy, the University and learning are still true to their traditions. With 24,000 students in more than 50 different disciplines the University of Tours conjugates educational wealth with conviviality. Here, the different colleges have been decentralized in a harmonious fashion across the city rather than concentrating the students in a campus on the city outskirts. Higher education, closely associated with 50 public and private research groups, favors and fosters the development of 650 researchers. The proximity to Paris means many researchers don't have to be stuck in the capital.

For this reason, major international companies, attracted also by the availability of high quality workforce, have chosen to install and develop here.

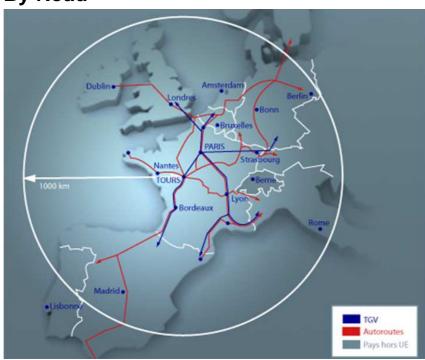
There are also numerous cultural events that take place in the city and the surrounding area: Les Fêtes Musicales en Touraine (music festival), the Festival de Chant Choral (choral music festival), the Festival de Théâtre Amateur (amateur theatre festival), to name a few. Apart from charming streets lined with shops and antiquities, twice a week, the main boulevard turns into a multicolored garden. At the heart of the city centre, more than 800 meters of flowers on display in a flood of vegetation for the delight of professionals and visitors alike.



# **Accessibility and Travel**

Not far from PARIS, Tours is easily accessible by all means of transport. :

## By Road



Situated at the crossroads of many important axes Tours is the point of convergence of ten national highways.

The major ones are as follows:

- Motorway A11: from Nantes
- Motorway A85: from Lyon
- Motorway A10: Paris –
   Tours Bordeaux (from
   Northeast Europe to Spain
   and Portugal)

## **By Train**

The railway station of Tours / St. Pierre des Corps is well connected by **high speed trains** to almost all the cities in France and some in Europe.

Paris Montparnasse –Tours		
Charles de Gaulle Airport – Tours	1:35	
TGV Lille (connections to London and Brussels):	2:30	
TGV Bordeaux – Tours	2:16	
TGV Lyon – Tours	3:00	
TGV Nantes – Tours	1:40	

#### Paris -Tours train timings

<u>-</u>				
From	То	Duration	Timings	Days
Airport Roissy CDG	Tours / St. Pierre des Corps	01:35	7:39, 8:56, 13:45, 15:42*, 16:38*, 18:24*, 19:34*	Daily
Paris Montparnasse	Tours / St. Pierre des Corps	00:55	6:50, 7:50*, 9:10, 10:30, 12:25, 13:55, 15:15, 16:10*, 17:15, 18:10* 18:50, 19:30	Daily
Tours / St. Pierre des Corps	Roissy CDG	01:35	9:02, 10:24, 13:25*, 16:55, 19:37*	Daily
Tours / St. Pierre des Corps	Paris Montpar- nasse	00:55	7:27*, 9:38, 10:31*, 12:09, 16:26,	Daily



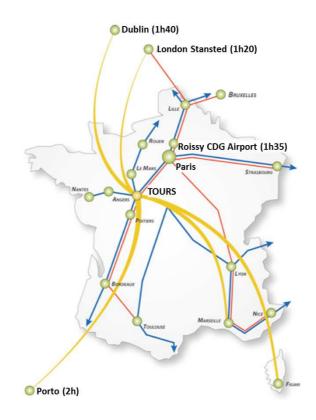
## By Air

Tours has a a direct TGV connection to Charles de Gaulle Airport, Paris (1:30 – See previous page)

Completely renovated, the Aéroport International de Tours has the possibility of tailor-made receptions and charter flights. It is just 10 minutes from the city center and the railway station of Tours.



Let us notice that Tours Airport has daily direct flights to the Stansted Airport (London): a European hub which is connected to more than 100 cities in the continent. For more information on Tours - Stansted and further connections, please visit www.stanstedairport.com or www.tours.aeroport.fr



## **Accommodation & Venue**

### **Number of rooms**

The city of Tours offers around 1300 hotel rooms of all categories within 5 to 15 minutes of walking distance. You have a detailed list of hotels and their prices in the following page.

#### 1309 hotel rooms in the city centre

5 minutes on foot	10 minutes on foot	15 minutes on foot
85 rooms****	50 rooms***	120 rooms***
405 rooms***	64 rooms**	
486 rooms**		
99 rooms*		



#### 1159 hotel rooms in the vicinity

5-10 minutes by car	15-20 minutes by car	20-25 minutes by car
65 rooms****	253 rooms***	103 rooms****
100 rooms***	371 rooms**	93 rooms***
48 rooms**		126 rooms**



#### **University Rooms and Youth Hostel**

We also have around 100 university rooms and a youth hostel with 60 rooms. The youth hostel costs around 30 € onwards and the university rooms costs around 40 € onwards



## List of hotels in Tours

HOTEL	DISTANCE	ROOM	BREAK FAST	No. OF ROOMS
4 star hotels				
CLARION HOTEL DOMAINE		200€ - 400 €	19,0 €	65
BELMONT****				
UNIVERS ****	walking distance	198€ - 270€	15,0 €	85
ALLIANCE ****	walking distance	140€ - 220 €	17,0 €	105
MERCURE NORD ****		95€ - 165€	14,0 €	93
Total				348
3 star hotels				
LE GRAND HOTEL ***	walking distance	65€ - 160€	12,0 €	104
Quality Hôtel HARMONIE ***	walking distance	84€ - 190€	14,0 €	53
KYRIAD CENTRE ***	walking distance	90€ - 110€	9,5 €	50
MERCURE CENTRE ***	walking distance	105€ - 145€	13,0 €	92
PARK & SUITES ***	waiking distance	100€ - 135 €	13,0 €	110
IBIS STYLES***	walking distance	125€ - 145€	13,0 €	102
ADDAGIO ACCESS ***	walking distance	55€ - 80€	8,0 €	99
Total	waiking distance	330 - 000	0,0 C	610
Total				010
2 star hotels				
L'ADRESSE **	walking distance	55€ - 100€	8,5 €	17
ASTERIES **	walking distance	66€ - 78€	7,0 €	16
BERTHELOT **	walking distance	62€ - 67€	7,0 €	10
CASTEL FLEURI **		59€ - 72€	9,0 €	15
CHATEAUX DE LA LOIRE **	walking distance	49€ - 75€	8,0 €	30
COLBERT **	walking distance	53€ - 61€	7,0 €	18
COMFORT NORD **		69€ - 95€	9,0 €	50
Citôtel CRIDEN **	walking distance	59€ - 75€	7,0 €	33
CYGNE **	walking distance	47€ - 87€	7,0 €	17
EUROPE **	walking distance	66€ - 69€	8,0 €	46
TOURS GIRAUDEAU **		50€ - 100€	7,5 €	48
FOCH **	walking distance	36€ - 52€	6,0 €	15
IBIS CENTRE **	walking distance	44€ - 100€	9,0 €	139
IBIS NORD**		65€ - 85€	9,0 €	59
ITALIA **		60€ - 63€	10,0 €	20
MIRABEAU **	walking distance	49€ - 65€	10,0€	25
MODERNE **	walking distance	52€ - 72€	8,5€	23
MONDIAL **	walking distance	66€ - 80€	8,0 €	17
MANOIR **	walking distance	60€ - 72€	9,0 €	18
RABELAIS **	walking distance	60€ - 64€	7,0 €	19
ROSNY **	walking distance	52€ - 82€	10,0 €	15
RELAIS ST ELOI **	walking distance	60€ - 69 €	6,0 €	56
SAINT-JEAN **	walking distance	55€ - 65€	7,0 €	15

## **List of hotels in Tours**

HOTEL	DISTANCE ROOM		BREAK FAST	No. OF ROOMS
1 star hotels				
ARTS *	walking distance	47€ - 50€	6,5€	11
BALLADINS *		40€ - 45€	6,3 €	38
RONSARD *	walking distance	60€ - 74€	9,0€	20
VENDOME *	walking distance	37€ - 50€	6,0 €	11
VAL DE LOIRE *	walking distance	45€ - 65€	8,5€	14
Total				94
Other hotels				
B&B NORD 2		41€	6,0€	70
ETAP HOTEL CENTRE	walking distance	43€ - 50€	5,0€	99
QUICK PALACE		36 €	5,0€	59
B&B NORD 1		41,50€ - 43€	6,0€	60
ETAP HOTEL NORD		39€ - 46€	4,7€	84
SAINT ELOI	walking distance	29€ - 41€	6,0 €	10
FASTHOTEL NORD		35€ - 37€	5,0€	48
Total				430

Total number of hotel rooms from 5 to 15 minutes of walking distance: 2228 rooms



## Vinci – The international convention centre of Tours



Overlooking the High Speed Railway Station, Vinci –The International Convention Centre of Tours, stands in the heart of Tours.

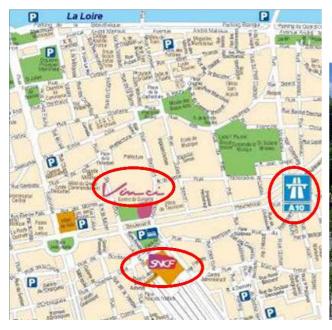
An architectural feat designed by renowned Jean NOUVEL, Vinci is equipped with meeting spaces which can cater to any kind of demand.

1000 m<sup>2</sup> area for the workshop in the Agnes Sorel Hall Free wireless connexion (wifi) – High quality audio and video projection 22 meeting rooms which can be configured from 30 to 320 people.

The main meeting areas are:

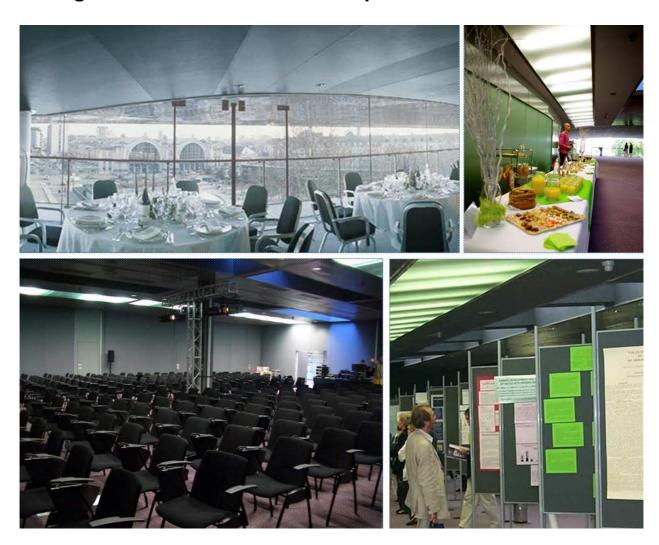
François 1er : 2 000 seats
Pierre de Ronsard : 700 seats
Descartes : 350 seats
4,000 m² of exhibition and dining space

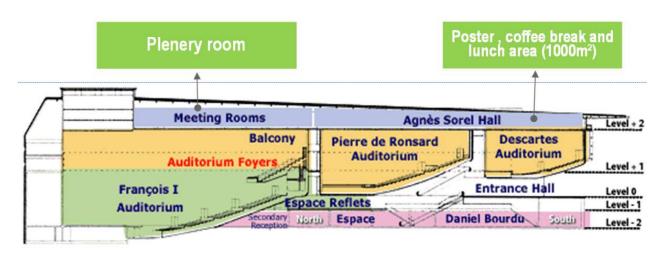
Today, Vinci has rightly earned an excellent reputation with 18 years of experience and 3,000 events.





## **Meeting Areas for the DAS Workshop**





# **Social Program**

## **Welcome Reception and Banquet**

Both welcome reception and banquet are included in registration fees.

The welcome reception will be at the TOURS city House built in 1896 et 1904 by Victor Laloux (well-known architect born in Tours). At this venue, it will be possible to experience typical local food (cheeses) and wine degustation.



For the banquet, an historical dinner can be organized in one of the prestigious places such as Loire Valley castles (probably Amboise Castle) or a large cave dwellings. At this venue, it will be possible to experience traditional French entertainment (including a show) and a typical gastronomic food and local wines. It will also be possible to visit the Clos Lucé (residence of Leonardo da Vinci).



# Non-workshop activities accessible from Tours France & Programs for accompanying people

There are numerous attractions in and around Tours city and Loire Valley for accompanying people. Customized half-day or full-day trips in Touraine / Loire Valley can be organized by many local incoming agencies. But it is also possible to organize the visits by yourself by using buses, train or by renting a car.

#### Not to be missed:

- The impressive medieval and Renaissance heritage (castles, rivers, vineyards, ...)
- Local wines and gastronomy: A richness in gastronomy with several traditional restaurants cooking local high-quality products such as goat cheese, pork specialties, vegetables and fruits,
- The Loire valley posseses some well-known wines and vineyards like Chinon, Bourgueil... for red wines and Vouvray, Montlouis for white and sparkling wines....
- Residences of famous artists: Leonardo da Vinci, Rabelais, Balzac, Ronsard, Calder

Furthermore, original activities for incentives and team building: cooking courses in chateaux, treetop adventure trails, oenological games, dune buggy tours in the vineyards, balloon flights for small groups, quad bikes, canoe, golf, cycling "on the Loire by Bike" itineraries...



# **Some restaurants in the City Centre**

Restaurant	Address	City	Telephone	Website
Restaurant "Les Vignes"	11 rue de l'Aviation	TOURS	02 47 49 55 00	http://www.mercuretours.com
Relais Saint Eloi	8-20 rue Giraudeau	TOURS	02 47 38 18 19	http://www.au-relais-st-eloi.com
Restaurant la Touraine	5 boulevard Heurteloup	TOURS	02 47 05 37 12	http://www.oceaniahotels.com
Charles Barrier	101 avenue de la Tranchée	TOURS	02 47 54 20 39	http://www.charles-barrier.fr
L'Odéon	10 place du Général Leclerc	TOURS	02 47 20 12 65	http://www.restaurant-lodeon.com
La Roche le Roy	55 route de Saint-Avertin	TOURS	02 47 27 22 00	http://www.rocheleroy.com
L'Atelier Gourmand	37 rue Étienne Marcel	TOURS	02 47 38 59 87	http://www.lateliergourmand.fr
Zafferano	7-9 rue de la Grosse Tour	TOURS	02 47 38 90 77	www.touraine-gourmande.com/resto25.
Le Rif	12 avenue Maginot	TOURS	02 47 51 12 44	http://www.le-rif.fr
La Chope	25 bis avenue Grammont	TOURS	02 47 20 15 15	http://www.lachope.info
Bistrot de la Tranchée	103 avenue de la Tranchée	TOURS	02 47 41 09 08	http://www.charles-barrier.fr
Comme Autrefouée	11 rue de la Monnaie	TOURS	02 47 05 94 78	http://www.commeautrefouee.com
Restaurant Le petit O'	33 rue Colbert	TOURS	02 47 66 33 08	http://www.restaurantolivierarlot.fr
Le Bistrot des Turons	4 place de la Liberté	TOURS	02 47 05 50 05	http://www.hotelturone.com
Le Barju	15 rue du Change	TOURS	02 47 64 91 12	http://www.barju.fr
Les Linottes	22 rue Georges Courteline	TOURS	02 47 38 34 82	http://leslinottesgourmandes.com
Le Marché gourmand	27 rue du Grand Marché	TOURS	02 47 64 50 38	http://www.lemarchegourmand.fr
La cuisine de Georges	20 rue Georges Courteline	TOURS	02 47 36 92 04	http://www.lacuisinedegeorges.com
La Gazette des Halles	29 place Gaston Paillhou	TOURS	02 47 61 50 48	http://www.lagazettedeshalles.fr
D'ici et d'ailleurs	54 rue colbert	TOURS	02 47 64 56 54	http://www.restaurant-dicietdailleurs.fr
Casse Cailloux	26 rue Jehan Fouquet	TOURS	02 47 61 60 64	http://www.casse-cailloux.fr
Le Bistrot d'Autrefois	60 bis avenue Maginot	TOURS	02 47 54 57 54	http://bistrot-tours.com/
La Maison des Halles	19 place des Halles	TOURS	02 47 39 96 90	http://www.maisondeshalles.com
Bar à vins Le Rive Gauche	23 rue du commerce	TOURS	02 47 05 71 21	http://www.tours-rivegauche.com
Bar à vins "Le Pressoir"	11 rue de l'Aviation	TOURS	02 47 49 55 00	http://www.mercuretours.com
Bars à vins - La Gazette des Halles	29 place Gaston Paillhou	TOURS	02 47 61 50 48	http://www.lagazettedeshalles.fr
Le Bistrot d'Autrefois	60 bis avenue Maginot	TOURS	02 47 54 57 54	http://bistrot-tours.com/
Bar à vins - O lieu dit vin	92 rue James Cane	TOURS	02 47 36 95 52	http://www.olieuditvin.com
Les Comptoirs de l'Affiné	73 rue Colbert	TOURS	02 46 10 22 96	http://laffine.com/
La Cave de l'Hédoniste	18 rue Lavoisier	TOURS	02 47 05 20 40	http://www.lhedoniste-caviste.com
Rest'O Vert	6 rue Rouget de l'Isle	TOURS	02 47 27 56 30	http://www.restovert.fr



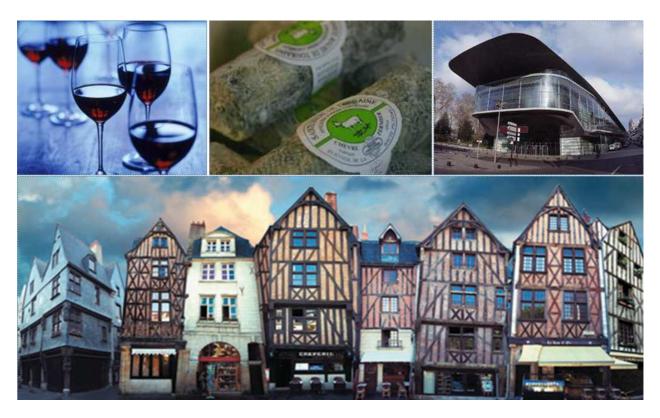
# Why Choosing Tours, France?

#### **ADVANTAGES OF TOURS**

- Centrally located for all French and international participants
- International Meeting Facilities
- Various excursion possibilities for accompanying guests
- Attractiveness of the region
- Accessibility
- Accommodation facilities
- Affordability

#### REFERENCES FOR VINCI—THE LOIRE VALLEY CONVENTION CENTRE

- 25th World Population Congress (2 400 participants)
- European Congress for the Cranio Maxillo-Facial Surgery (1 000 participants)
- Congress of the International Society for Behavioural Ecology (1 200 participants)
- 33rd Global Conference on Social Welfare (800 participants)
- Medicine du travail (3 000 participants)
- 13th European Poultry Conference (1 200 participants)



## **ANNEXE**

#### **Tours city**

Known for its quiet atmosphere, Tours is a city that really has to be experienced, with its first rate cultural heritage and the added energy of some 40,000 resident students! Attractions in Tours include the well-preserved historic center (ah, the delightful atmosphere of the famous place Plumereau...), the fine arts museum with its splendid collection, a magnificent cathedral and the basilica that houses the tomb of Saint Martin, the trade guild heritage, superb city parks and gardens, shopping areas, the flavours of the daily markets, covered markets and the flea market, the vivacious gastronomy, a lively guinguette café during the warm season... in short, great experiences are awaiting you in Tours! Tours is ideally located at the heart of an area that is exceptionally rich in heritage. Indeed, the prestigious Loire Valley chateaux are never very far: Amboise (35 km), Azay-le-Rideau (25 km), Chenonceau chateau (40 km), Chinon chateau (40 km), Langeais or Villandry (19 km), all of these castles, and others, are within a reasonable distance.



#### Loire Valley (Chateaux)

In a class of its own, Touraine is dotted with elegant stone giants: the Loire Valley chateaux. The landscape here is dominated by their majestic silhouettes: concentrated over an area of less than 100km, Touraine is home to some of the grandest Loire Valley castles. Amboise, Azay-le-Rideau, Chenonceau castle, Villandry castle and its gardens, Clos Lucé, Chinon, Langeais, Loches, Ussé... these places are inseparable from the history of France and its kings; these names evoke the stories of Joan of Arc, Leonardo da Vinci, the troubled Middle Ages and the lavish Renaissance period. Along with these famous monuments, there are nearly fifty Loire castles that are currently open to the public. While they all share a common trait, the "tuffeau" (tufa stone), a soft limestone from the banks of the Loire, each castle has its own individual character. No two attractions are alike, each castle is a unique experience due to the variety of architectural styles and the personality of their former.

Chambord, which measures 156 meters by 117 meters and has 440 rooms, is the largest of all the Loire castles. The largest of the Loire castles, the turreted Chambord Castle was built for King Francois 1st as a hunting lodge. The intricate stone "double helix" staircase leading up to the spires and turrets of the rooftop terrace is thought to have been designed by Leonardo da Vinci.



Chenonceau Chateau was built over the River Cher in traditional Renaissance style, and is known as the Chateau des Dames (the Ladies' Castle) because of the influence of the famous women who lived there. The chateau was built in 1513 by Catherine Briconnet, embellished by Diance de Poitiers and Catherine de Medicis, and saved from destruction during the Revolution by Madame Dupin.

The world-famous gardens of Villandry have always produced virtuoso talent from generation to generation. The magic operates in every season – in the ornamental garden the joys and sorrows of love are told, the medicinal plant garden is ennobled by the box-tree topiaries, and the Renaissance vegetable garden is what made the renown of Villandry. From the belvedere, visitors enjoy an unforgettable view of the gardens. You can relax in the shade of the lime-trees and the pergolas, by the vast lawns of the water garden or the new Italian-style waterfalls. For children there is a special garden close to the secret maze. From spring through to autumn, events and special occasions are virtually continuous at the Château and in the gardens, constantly renewing the pleasure of the visit.

#### Paris (55mn from Tours by TGV)

Paris the Capital City of France is an international capital well known for its history, art, culture, fashion and style. With the romance that Paris perceives, it is the number one destination for tourists coming to France along with 30 million other worldwide travellers per year, it is no wonder that this city has so much to offer.

Of course, anyone visiting Paris for the first time will want to visit the famous monuments and attractions such as the most well known of all, the Eiffel Tower, then there is the Arc de Triomphe with the eternal flame, the incredible architecture of Notre Dame Cathedral with the Tower Visit if you are up to a climb of over 400 steps! Perhaps you would prefer taking a stroll along the Avenue de Champs-Elysees with all its glitz and glamour, or visiting the Place de la Concorde, the largest square in Paris and home to the oldest monument in Paris, the Luxor Obelisk.

Paris entertainment has always been at the forefront of the world in terms of quality and variety and from film to dance, opera to jazz, concerts to ballet and rock festivals to cabaret, there is always going to be some form of entertainment on offer to suit all tastes, no matter what the time of year you decide to visit this vibrant and cultural city in France.



### Atlantic coasts (La Rochelle 2h30 - Nantes 2h)

La Rochelle is certainly among the most attractive port towns of France, and is a very pleasant place to visit and to pass a few days. Because there is a great deal to see and do in La Rochelle we have several sections about the highlights of the town

The focus of the town is the old harbour, a lovely part of the town - very picturesque with its two monumental towers (St Nicolas Tower and the Tower of the Chain) either side of the port entrance, through which you can watch the boats enter.

#### **Futuroscope (Poitiers - 1h from Tours)**

The Futuroscope entertainment park is a cybernetic world with new media technology located near Poitiers. The amusement park that gives you more than 25 experiences and a whole new level of fun!

