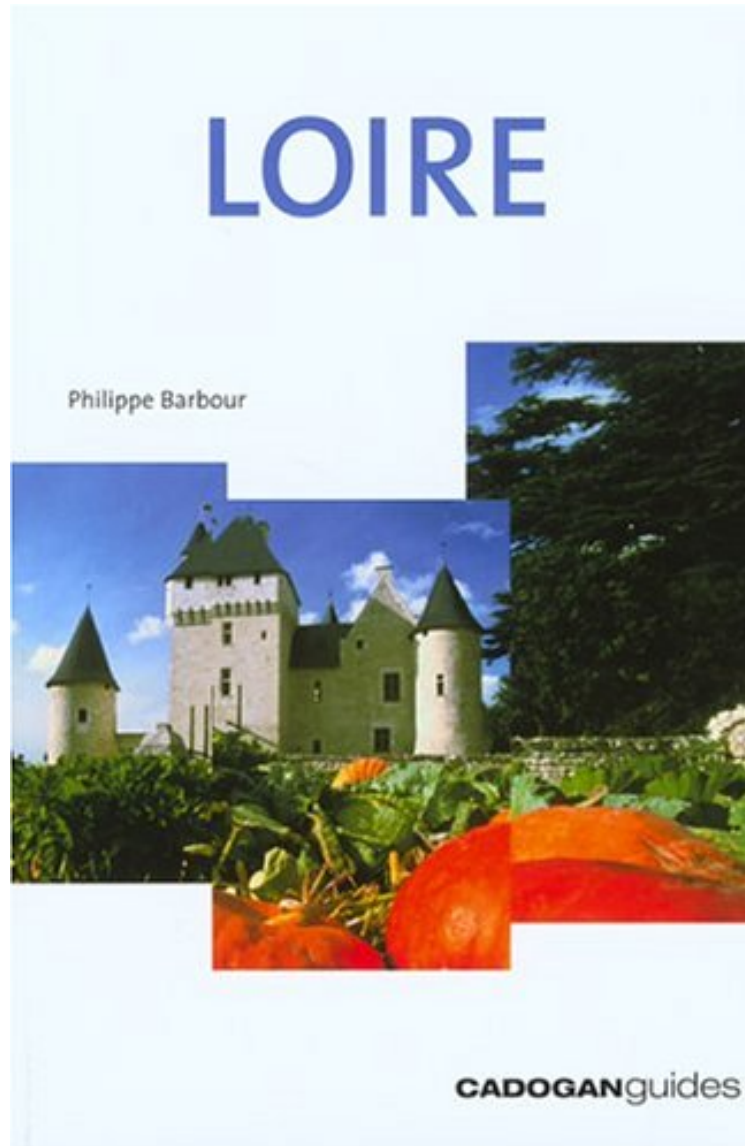


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Philippe Barbour1

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Philippe Barbour1 : Loire, 3rd (Country Regional Guides - Cadogan) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Loire, 3rd (Country Regional Guides - Cadogan):

9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. The definitive Loire Valley. By Linda Pagliuco My husband and I are fortunate enough to have the opportunity to travel once or twice a year. I always plan for our trips by buying and studying 3 guidebooks, one with lots of pictures, the Blue Guide to the site in question, and if available, the Cadogan guide. Most guide books contain practical information and cover the major tourist attractions almost like a top-ten list.

The Cadogan guides, written by individuals who have lived in the region, delve much deeper, providing coverage of smaller, little known places that are fun to find and explore. I know of no better way to discover and experience local life and color. We are independent travellers, almost always booking flights, cars, and reservations on our own on the web. We also enjoy delving into places off the beaten track. The detail in Cadogan is much more encompassing than that in any other guide we have used. The driving directions are usually right on the money. Its literary, architectural, and historical information is particularly helpful. We have discovered many little known gems because of these guides. If you prefer group tours that stop for short periods at several locations, Loire and other Cadogan books are too detailed. But if you have the time to wander a bit, these are the guides for you. Regarding Loire specifically, we visited the valley in March, when many of the major chateaux were not yet open for the season. Using this guide, we found more than enough wonderful places to explore. Chateaux, troglodytes, restaurants, art, history, Joan of Arc, Eleanor of Aquitaine, scenic vistas.... An added bonus is the enjoyment of rereading the guide to stimulate memories of where we've been. Can't recommend Loire highly enough. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A must buy! By Baguettes Books I stumbled on a copy of this at a local used book store and picked it up for some background reading on the cheap. When my husband and I left on a bike trip through the Loire, with only two panniers a piece on our bikes, this was the only book I took (besides a bike book with our route). It was invaluable! It covered all the little sights we passed on the way and gave us fascinating background of every place we went. We learned so much from it that it really added to our adventure. I never wished I had another book. Now I look for a Cadogan Guide for every trip we take. This author though is particularly good. We are going on another bike trip soon and I was delighted to see that he is also the author of their Brittany Guide.

Take a trip along France's most famous and fascinating river, the Loire. With Cadogan's indispensable guidance, readers will discover the best chateaux, churches, underground caverns, towns and cities, and find the best places to stop off and sample the local wine.

"One of our favorite travel series, Cadogan Guides are British imports with a distinct personality. Authors have lived and traveled for years in the regions they cover and bring an in-depth knowledge of local history and culture to their guides."--www.travellersbookstore.com "Easy on the eyes and in the hands, these guides boast a wealth of information in well-ordered pages; the texts are written with humor and display a definite, enticing personal touch."--Booklist "The most informative is the Loire Cadogan Guide."--Daily Telegraph (United Kingdom)