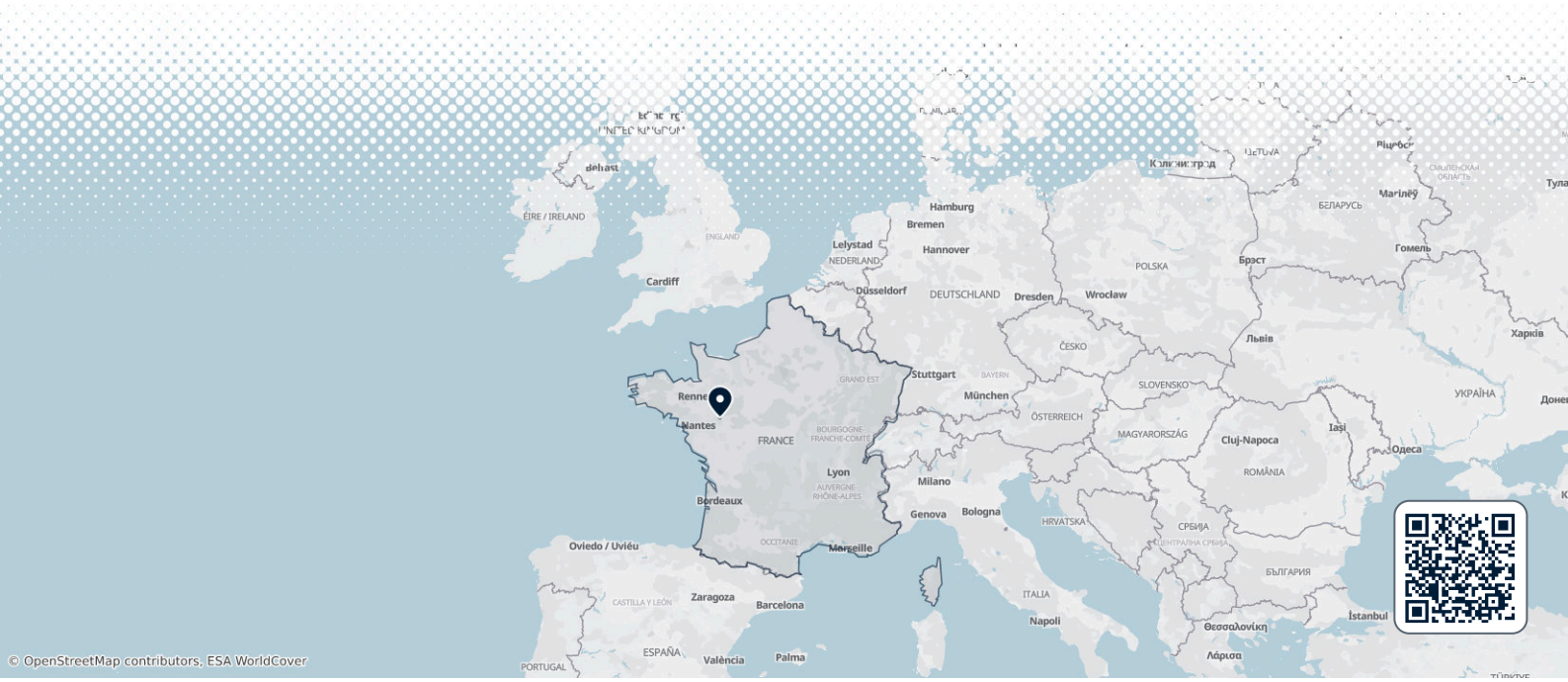


Angers

Loire Valley · France

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Angers is the historic capital of Anjou, on the Maine river in western France. It is a calm, student-friendly city of about 160,000 people with a dark-stone fortress at its centre. The old town is compact, green and easy to explore on foot.

The city suits a short stay of one or two nights, or a base for the western Loire Valley. It combines a big medieval castle, one of Europe's famous medieval tapestries, good museums and Anjou wines. It is quieter and less crowded than the better-known châteaux towns upriver.

When to visit

Late spring and early autumn are the most pleasant times, with mild weather and long days. July and August are warm and fairly dry. Winter is cool, damp and grey, and some seasonal attractions are closed.

The biggest event is the Accroche-Cœurs street-arts festival, held over a weekend in mid-September. Theatre, music and street performances fill the squares and the Maine riverbanks.

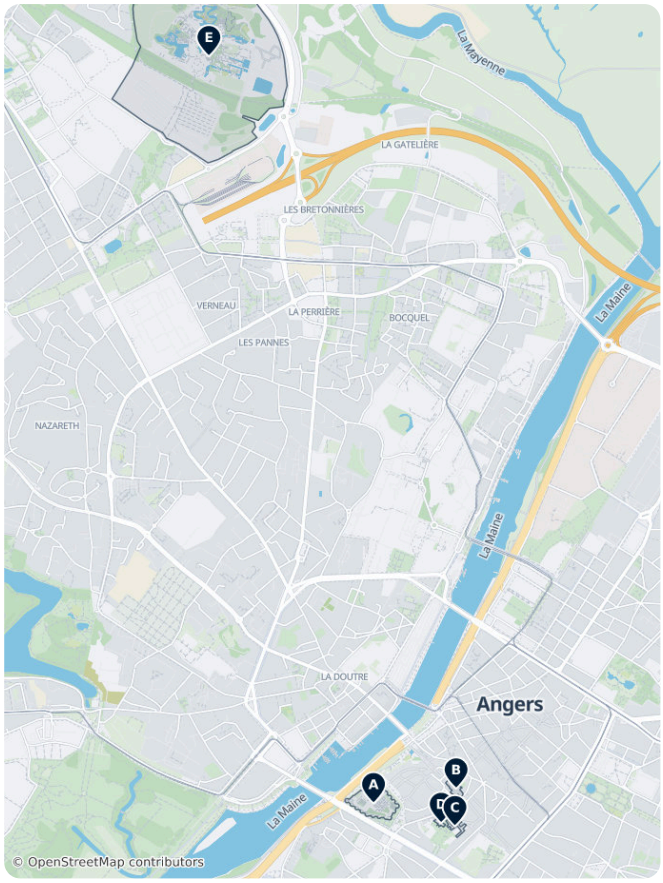
MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for cycling	8° / 14° Feels like 4°	2° / -5°	13 rainy days · Dry air
February	Fair Fair for cycling	10° / 15° Feels like 5°	2° / -4°	Dry air
March	Good Good for cycling	13° / 19° Feels like 9°	4° / -2°	Dry air
April	Great Great for cycling	16° / 23° Feels like 13°	6° / 0°	Dry air
May	Great Great for sightseeing	20° / 26°	9° / 4°	12 rainy days · Dry air
June	Great Great for sightseeing	24° / 30°	12° / 8°	
July	Great Great for sightseeing	25° / 32°	14° / 10°	
August	Great Great for sightseeing	26° / 32°	14° / 10°	
September	Great Great for sightseeing	23° / 29°	12° / 7°	Dry air
October	Good Good for cycling	18° / 24°	9° / 3°	13 rainy days · Dry air
November	Fair Fair for cycling	13° / 18° Feels like 9°	5° / -1°	13 rainy days · Dry air
December	Poor Poor for cycling	9° / 14° Feels like 4°	3° / -4°	13 rainy days · Dry air

Best months: May, June, July, August, September

Climate data: NASA POWER (MERRA-2) · 1996–2025

Top sights

- A Château d'Angers is a huge fortress above the Maine with 17 towers, built in the 13th century. Inside is the Apocalypse Tapestry, a very large medieval work made in the 1370s.
- B Cathédrale Saint-Maurice has stood in the old town since the 12th century. It is known for its twin spires and its old stained glass.
- C Musée des Beaux-Arts covers local and European art in a historic mansion. It is a good rainy-day stop close to the cathedral.
- D Galerie David d'Angers shows the large plaster works of *David d'Angers*, a sculptor born in the city. It is set in a former abbey church.
- The Jean-Lurçat Museum of contemporary tapestry shows modern tapestry in an old hospital. It is a good follow-up to the castle's medieval tapestry.
- E Terra Botanica is a plant-themed park just outside the centre. It is a good choice for families. It is open seasonally, so check dates before you go.



Angers – Plan Your Trip
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What to experience

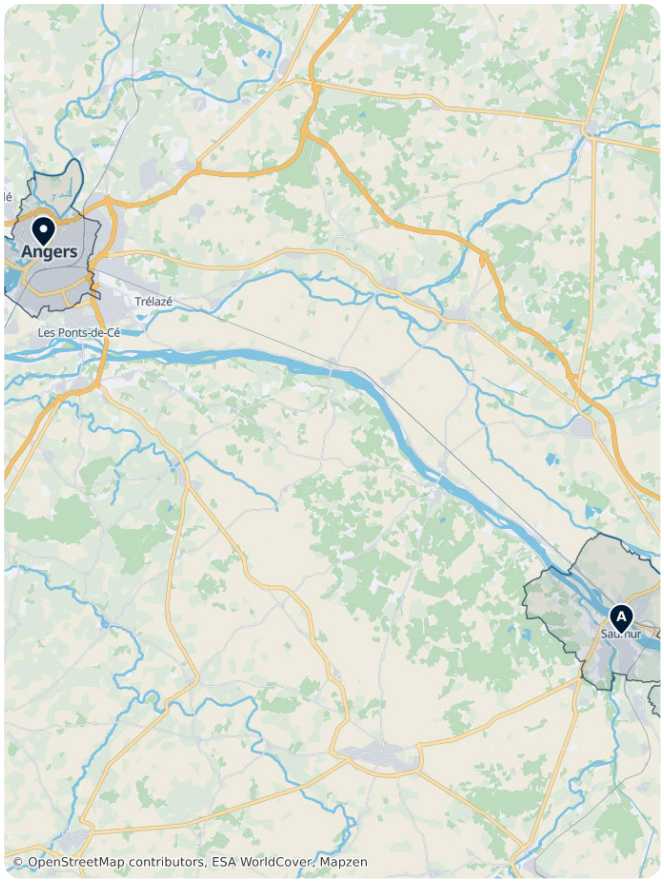
Angers has a lively calendar and a strong riverside culture.

- **Festival d'Anjou**: A summer theatre festival held in June in castles and historic courtyards in and around Angers.
- **Accroche-Cœurs**: A street-arts weekend in September, with free shows across the city centre.
- **Cycling along the Maine**: Quiet riverside paths run out of the city, and the terrain is flat.
- **Lac de Maine**: In summer, locals swim, sail and paddle at this lake and leisure park on the western edge of the city.
- **Christmas market**: In December, the city centre has a Christmas market with lights and stalls.

Day trips

Angers is a good base for the western Loire. Times are one way from Angers.

- Château de Serrant: about 20 minutes by car. A moated château with a large park and richly decorated interiors.
- Savennières: about 20 minutes by car. This village is known for dry white wines from Chenin Blanc grapes. Many estates offer tastings.
- Château de Brissac: about 25 minutes by car, with no direct train. This very tall château stands in a wine area and has a large park.
- Saumur: about 30 minutes by train. A castle overlooks the town, and the area is known for sparkling wine cellars cut into the rock.
- Nantes: about 40 minutes by train. The city has the castle of the Dukes of Brittany and the giant mechanical animals of the Machines of the Isle.



Where to explore

Angers lies at the western end of the Loire Valley. The towns below follow the river east.

- For the nearest historic town, go to Saumur.
- For a large base with many châteaux nearby, go to Tours.
- For royal châteaux, go to Blois and Chambord.
- For a bigger city on the river, go to Orléans.
- For the whole region, see Loire Valley.

Getting there

- **By air**: Angers-Loire airport is about 20 km from the city but has no scheduled passenger flights. Most travelers fly to Paris (CDG) or Nantes and continue by train. Nantes airport is the closest large one.
- **By train**: Angers Saint-Laud station has fast TGV trains from Paris. The trip takes about 1 hour 30 minutes. Some TGV trains also run direct to Paris Charles de Gaulle airport. Regional TER trains link Angers with Nantes, Saumur and Tours. Book at SNCF Connect.
- **From the station**: The old town and castle are about 15 to 20 minutes away on foot. The tram also runs to the centre.

Getting around

- **Public transit**: The Irigo network runs trams and buses. You can buy tickets in the irigo app, on the online shop, at sales points and at the customer agency in Place de Lorraine. Anyone over 6 needs a valid ticket. See Irigo for lines and fares.
- **On foot / cycling**: The old town is small and mostly flat, so walking is the best way to see it. Cycling works well along the Maine riverbanks.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

High

The old town is compact and mostly flat, so most sights are a short walk apart.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

High

The city is flat and has riverside paths along the Maine, so cycling is easy.

Driving

- **Is a car worth it?** Not for the city itself. A car is useful for the châteaux and wine estates around Angers, which have little public transport.
- **Parking**: Use paid car parks near the centre or the riverbank rather than street parking. Parts of the old centre are pedestrian only.

Food & drink

Anjou is a wine region. Look for white wines from Chenin Blanc grapes, including dry Savennières and sweet wines from the Layon hills, and also rosé and sparkling Crémant de Loire. Local dishes include *rillauds* (cooked pork belly) and goat cheese. Quernons d'ardoise are a local sweet made of nougat covered in blue chocolate.

The orange liqueur Cointreau has been made near Angers since the 19th century. Its visitor centre, Carré Cointreau, is on the east side of the city and offers tours.

For eating, try the streets around Place du Ralliement and the Doutre quarter across the river. The covered market, Halles Cœur de Maine, is good for local produce.

What to eat & drink

BREAKFAST

Croissant
Buttery, flaky laminated pastry and a classic French breakfast staple.

LUNCH

Ratatouille
A Provençal stewed vegetable dish of eggplant, zucchini, peppers, and tomatoes.

DINNER

Coq au Vin
Chicken braised slowly in red wine with mushrooms, onions, and lardons.

Beef Bourguignon · Bœuf Bourguignon
Beef stewed in red Burgundy wine with carrots, onions, and mushrooms.

Escargot · Escargots de Bourgogne
Snails cooked in garlic and parsley butter, a classic starter.

SNACKS & STREET FOOD

Baguette
Long, crusty white bread loaf bought fresh daily from the local boulangerie.

Cheese · Fromage
France produces hundreds of cheese varieties, often served as a course before dessert.

SWEETS & DESSERTS

Crepes · Crêpes
Thin pancakes served sweet with sugar or jam, or savory as galettes.

Macarons
Delicate almond meringue sandwich cookies in a range of flavors and colors.

DRINKS

Wine · Vin
France's wine regions, including Bordeaux, Burgundy, and Champagne, are among the world's most renowned.

Angers – Plan Your Trip
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Safety & health

Angers is a safe city for visitors. Petty theft is rare but can happen in crowded areas and around the station, so keep bags closed. Tap water is safe to drink, as in the rest of France.

History

Angers was the capital of the counts of Anjou. The counts became kings of England as the Plantagenet dynasty in the 12th century, and the city is called the cradle of that family. Anjou was taken by the French king Philip II in 1204.

Château d'Angers was rebuilt in the 1230s under King Louis IX. In 1373, Louis I of Anjou ordered the Apocalypse Tapestry for it. *René of Anjou*, a later count and duke, was buried in Cathédrale Saint-Maurice in 1480.

The sculptor *David d'Angers*, born here in 1788, left many works to his home city. They are now shown in Galerie David d'Angers. Bombing hit the city in 1944 before its liberation in August of that year.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for France at a glance:

CURRENCY
EUR €

EMERGENCY
112

ELECTRICITY

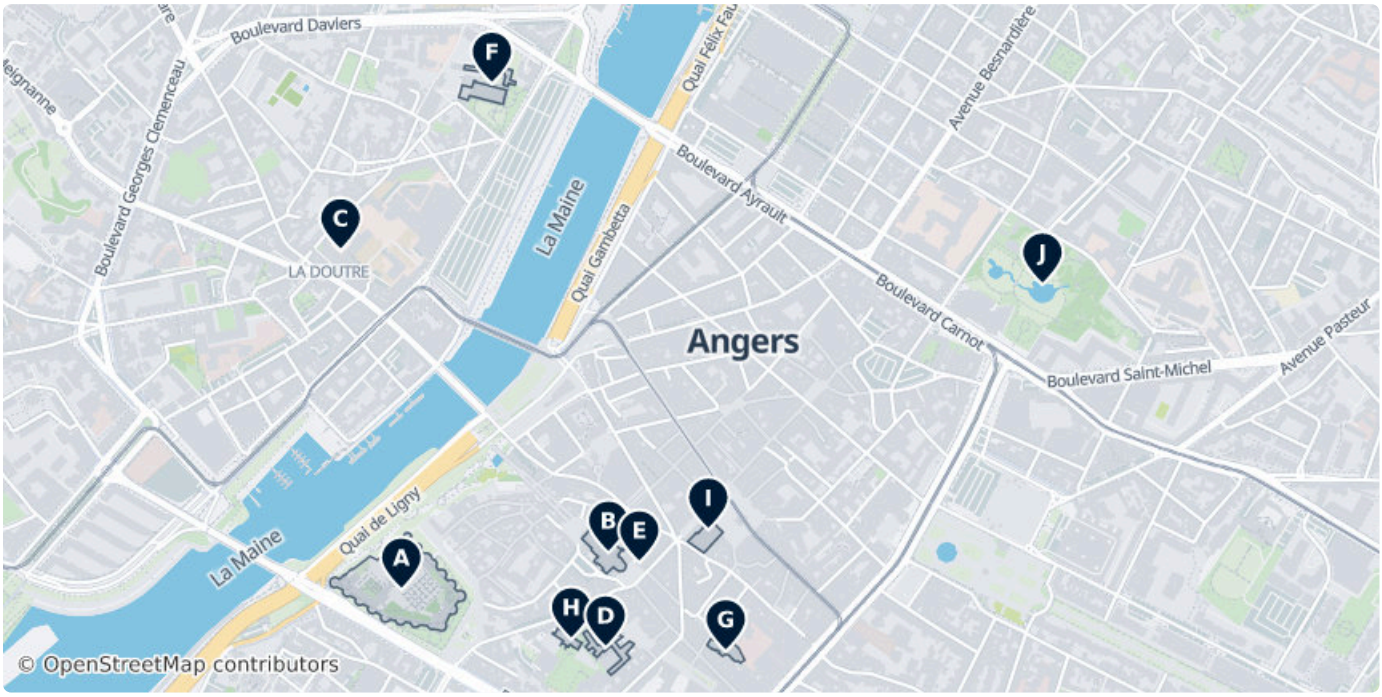
Type C / Type E
230 V · 50 Hz

LANGUAGES
French

TAP WATER
Safe to drink

Angers Essentials

Angers, the capital of Anjou, offers a dense concentration of medieval and Renaissance heritage. The 13th-century Château d'Angers houses the massive Apocalypse Tapestry, while the Saint-Maurice Cathedral showcases unique Plantagenet Gothic architecture. Visitors can explore the 15th-century timber-framed Maison d'Adam and the Jean-Lurçat Museum, which displays contemporary textile art within a 12th-century hospital. The city's artistic legacy continues at the Galerie David d'Angers, set in a restored abbey church, and the Musée des Beaux-Arts, located in the historic Logis Barrault.





A Château d'Angers

The Château d'Angers is a castle in the city of Angers in the Loire Valley, in the département of Maine-et-Loire, in France.

2 promenade du Bout-du-Monde, 49100 Angers, France
(47.46994, -0.55985)

May 02-Sep 04 Mo–Su	10:00–18:30
Sep 05-Apr 30 Mo–Su	10:00–17:30

chateau-angers.fr, +33 02 41 86 48 77



B Angers Cathedral

Angers Cathedral is a Catholic church dedicated to Saint Maurice in Angers, France. It is the seat of the Bishops of Angers.

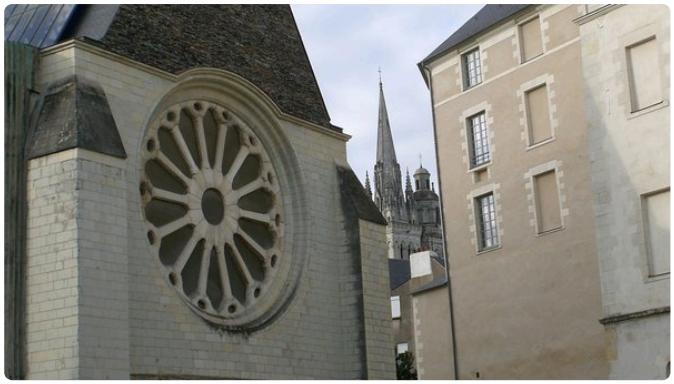
4 Rue Saint-Christophe, 49100 Angers, France
(47.47054, -0.55482)



C Abbaye du Ronceray

A former 11th-century Benedictine nunnery located in the Doutre district. The abbey church is a significant example of Romanesque architecture in the Anjou region.

1 Passage de la Censerie, Angers 49100, France (47.47550, -0.56133)



D Musée des Beaux-Arts d'Angers

The Musée des beaux-arts d'Angers is a museum of art located in a mansion, the "logis Barrault", place Saint-Éloi near the historic city of...

Rue du Musée 14, 49100 Angers (47.46899, -0.55489)

Tu–Su 10:00–18:00

musees.angers.fr/lieux/musee-des-be... , +33 2 41 05 38 72



E La Maison d'Adam

A remarkably preserved late 15th-century timber-framed house. The exterior features intricate wood carvings, including the Tree of Life and various allegorical figures.

14 Rue Montault, Angers 49100, France (47.47038, -0.55407)



F Jean-Lurçat Museum

Located in the 12th-century Hôpital Saint-Jean, this museum houses Le Chant du Monde, a series of ten monumental contemporary tapestries by artist Jean Lurçat.

Boulevard Arago 4, 49100 Angers (47.47823, -0.55765)

Tu–Su 10:00–18:00

musees.angers.fr/lieux/musee-jean-lur..., +33 2 41 24 18 48



G Collégiale Saint-Martin

One of France's best-preserved Carolingian monuments, featuring architectural remains spanning from the 5th to the 15th centuries, including a Romanesque choir and Gothic vaults.

Rue Saint-Martin 23, 49100 Angers (47.46893, -0.55197)

collegiale-saint-martin.fr, +33 2 41 81 16 00



H David d'Angers Gallery

The gallery displays sculptures of Pierre-Jean David d'Angers. It's set in the former Toussaint Abbey.

Rue Toussaint 33 bis, 49100 Angers (47.46912, -0.55573)

Tu–Su 10:00–18:00

musees.angers.fr/lieux/galerie-david-d..., +33 2 41 05 38 90



I Grand Théâtre

An Italian-style theater built in 1871 on the Place du Ralliement. The facade features ornate sculptures and serves as a central cultural venue for opera and drama.

5 Rue de la Chaussée Saint-Pierre, Angers 49100, France (47.47092, -0.55240)

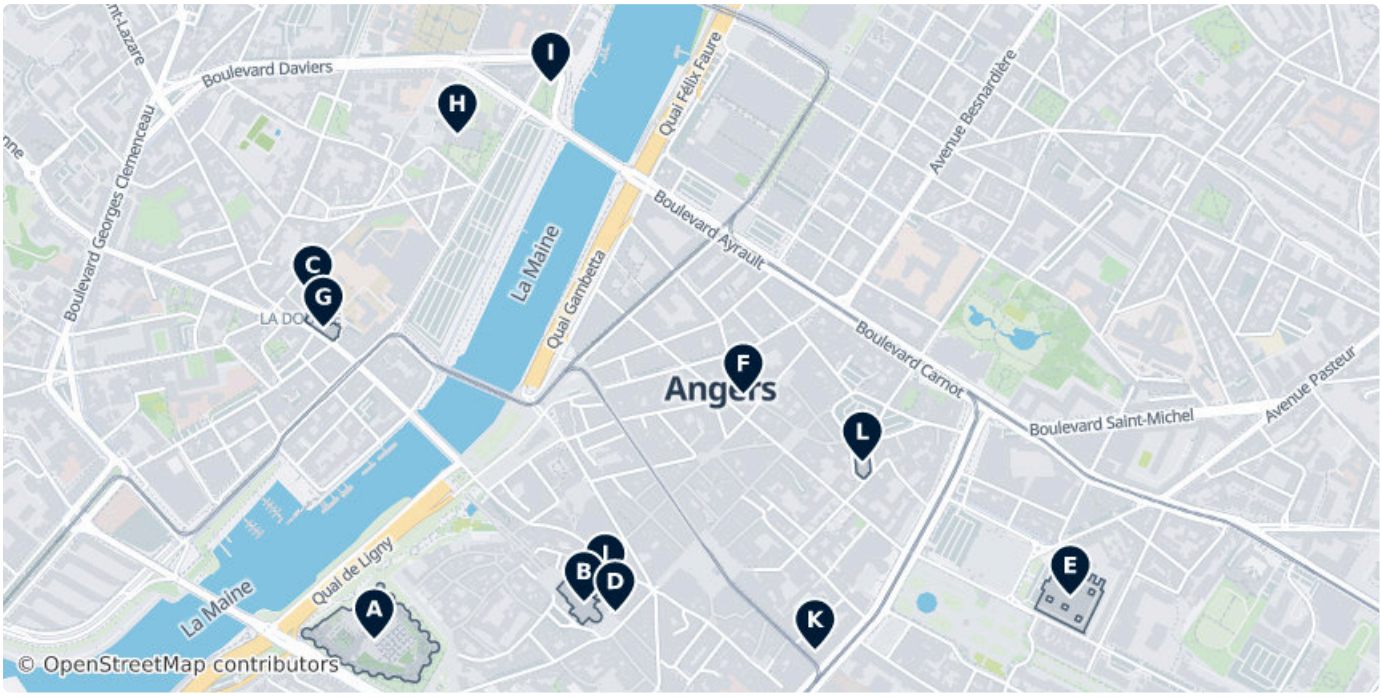
J Jardin des Plantes

A four-hectare botanical garden established in the early 18th century. It features English-style landscaping, winding paths, a small stream, and a collection of rare tree species.

(47.47494, -0.54428)

Heritage of Angers

Angers preserves a rich architectural timeline, from the 13th-century fortress of the Château d'Angers to the Art Deco mosaics of the Maison Bleue. This collection features the city's religious heart, including the Saint-Maurice Cathedral and the medieval Hôpital Saint-Jean, one of France's oldest hospital complexes. Visitors can explore narrow streets lined with timber-framed structures like the Maison d'Adam and discover the unique Plantagenet Gothic style, characterized by the highly curved vaults found in the city's historic churches and former abbeys.





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4 Rue Saint-Christophe, 49100 Angers, France
(47.47054, -0.55482)



C Abbaye du Ronceray

A former Benedictine abbey founded in 1028. The current Romanesque structure dates primarily from the late 11th century and features a massive bell tower and an ornate crypt.

1 Passage de la Censerie, Angers 49100, France (47.47550, -0.56133)



D La Maison d'Adam

A remarkably preserved 15th-century timber-framed house. It is renowned for its elaborate wood carvings, including a depiction of the Tree of Life and numerous mythical figures.

14 Rue Montault, Angers 49100, France (47.47038, -0.55407)



E Palais de Justice d'Angers

A 19th-century neoclassical courthouse designed by architect Étienne-François-Charles-Xavier Giraud. It stands on the former site of a Dominican convent.

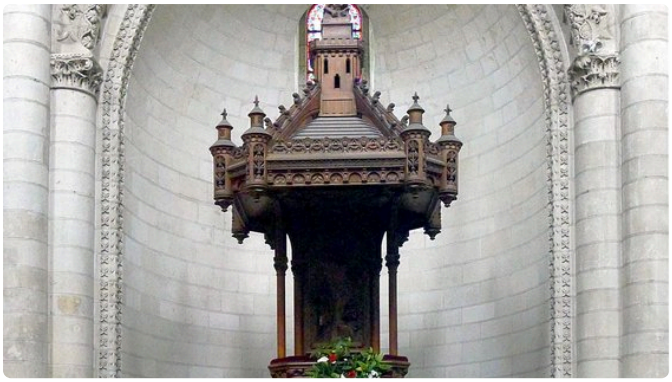
6 Rue Louis Gain, Angers 49100, France (47.47064, -0.54316)



F Hôtel de Maquillé

An 18th-century private mansion showcasing refined classical architecture. It was built for the Maquillé family and remains a significant example of local aristocratic residence.

Rue du Canal, 49100 Angers, France (47.47391, -0.55100)



G Église de la Trinité

A 12th-century Romanesque church noted for its wide nave and early Plantagenet Gothic vaulting. The building was designated as a historic monument in 1840.

57 Rue Beaurepaire, Angers 49100, France (47.47499, -0.56107)



H Hôpital Saint-Jean

One of the oldest preserved medieval hospitals in France, founded in 1175. Its Great Hall features elegant Angevin Gothic vaults and now houses contemporary tapestries.

4 Rue Gay-Lussac, Angers 49100, France (47.47812, -0.55786)

I Tour de la Haute-Chaîne

A 13th-century defensive tower that formed part of the city's third defensive wall. It historically served to anchor a chain across the river to control boat traffic.

20 Rue Larrey, Angers 49100, France (47.47895, -0.55562)

J Palais du Tau

The former bishop's palace, originally built in the 12th century. It features a grand synodal hall and historically served as a residence for the Dukes of Anjou.

Rue du Chanoine-Urseau 2, 49100 Angers (47.47083, -0.55431)

K Maison Bleue

An iconic Art Deco apartment building completed in 1929. Its facade is famous for the intricate blue and gold mosaics designed by artist Isidore Odorico.

25 Rue d'Alsace, Angers 49100, France (47.46976, -0.54928)

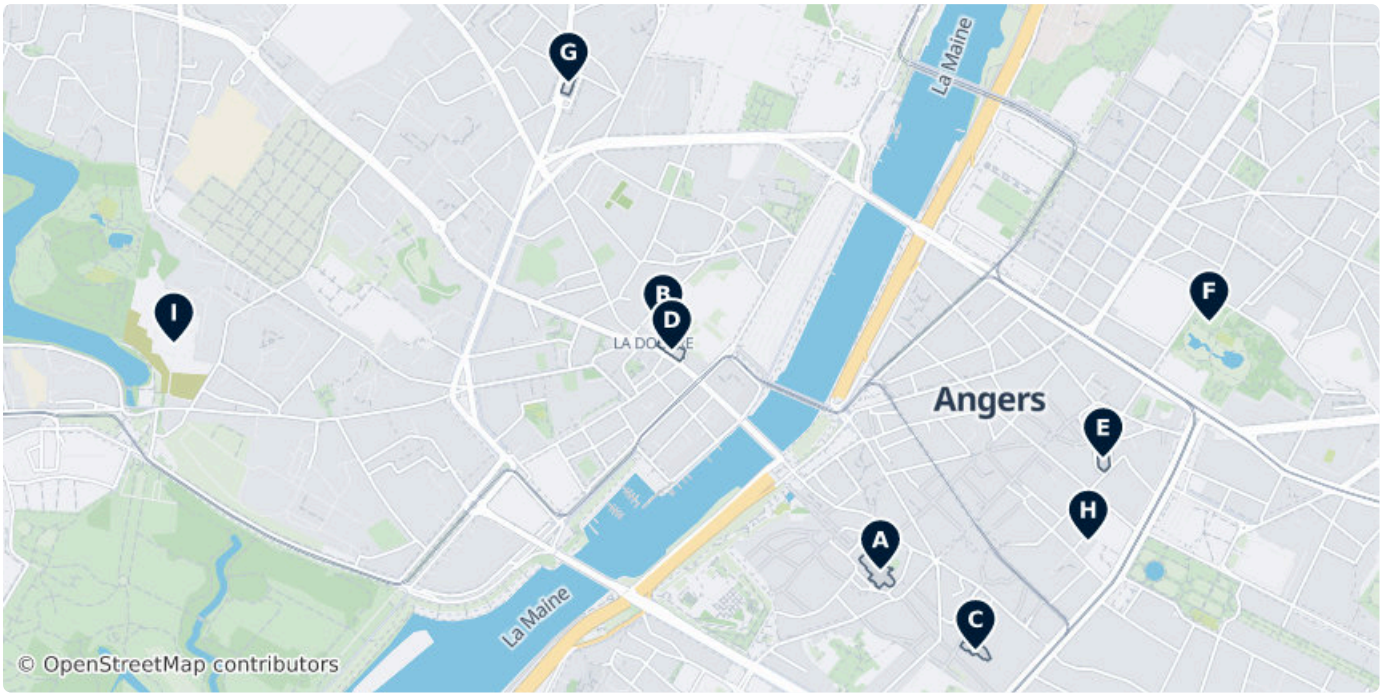
L Église Notre-Dame-des-Victoires

A 19th-century church designed in a distinctive Romanesque-Byzantine style. It features a prominent dome and serves as a landmark in the city’s eastern expansion.

49100 Angers (47.47281, -0.54815)

Historic Churches & Abbeys

Angers showcases a significant collection of religious architecture, ranging from the 12th-century Saint-Maurice Cathedral, known for its Angevin Gothic style and medieval stained glass, to the well-preserved Carolingian elements of Collégiale Saint-Martin. The city's spiritual history is further reflected in its former Benedictine abbeys, such as Saint-Nicolas and Ronceray, and smaller historic chapels. These sites offer insights into medieval monastic life and the evolution of ecclesiastical design in the Loire Valley.

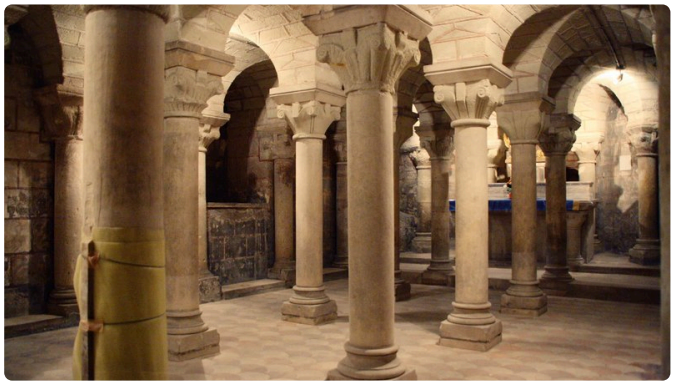




A Angers Cathedral

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4 Rue Saint-Christophe, 49100 Angers, France
(47.47054, -0.55482)



B Abbaye du Ronceray

Former Benedictine nunnery founded in 1028. This Romanesque abbey church served as a powerful religious institution for women until the French Revolution.

1 Passage de la Censerie, Angers 49100, France
(47.47550, -0.56133)



C Collégiale Saint-Martin

One of France's best-preserved Carolingian monuments, featuring architectural elements dating back to the 5th century. It now serves as a museum displaying archaeological finds and medieval sculpture.

Rue Saint-Martin 23, 49100 Angers (47.46893, -0.55197)

collegiale-saint-martin.fr, +33 2 41 81 16 00



D Église de la Trinité

A 12th-century parish church featuring Plantagenet Gothic vaulting and a distinctive 16th-century bell tower. It was designated as a historic monument in 1840.

57 Rue Beaurepaire, Angers 49100, France (47.47499, -0.56107)

E Église Notre-Dame-des-Victoires

A 19th-century religious building constructed in the Romanesque-Byzantine style. It is recognized for its regional heritage status within the Maine-et-Loire department.

49100 Angers (47.47281, -0.54815)

F Église Saint-Samson (ancienne)

A former religious building dating to the 11th and 12th centuries, now located within the Jardin des Plantes and used as an exhibition space.

39 Rue Boreau, Angers 49100, France (47.47557, -0.54498)

G Église Sainte-Thérèse

A 20th-century Catholic edifice built between 1932 and 1937, featuring a mix of modern and traditional architectural elements.

4Bis Place Sainte-Thérèse, Angers 49100, France (47.48040, -0.56416)

H Chapelle des Ursules

A 17th-century structure that formed part of an Ursuline convent. It is noted for its classical architecture and historical significance as a regional heritage site.

(47.47114, -0.54859)

I Abbaye Saint-Nicolas

Founded in 1020 by Fulk Nerra, this former Benedictine monastery was a major monastic center. The site includes a 12th-century church and expansive gardens.

(47.47513, -0.57598)

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