

Nantes, Loire-Atlantique, France

Birthplace of Jules Verne and home to a 40-foot walking mechanical elephant, Nantes is France's most eccentric city — a post-industrial port reinvented as a steampunk wonderland of giant machines, medieval castles, and Art Nouveau brasseries.

 Docked (Saint-Nazaire pier)  Typical call: 8-10 hrs  Currency: Euro (€)  Language: French

🚢 MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____	Arrive: _____	All aboard: _____
Excursion: _____	Notes: _____	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Large ships dock at Saint-Nazaire, 60 km from Nantes city center; river cruise ships dock directly on the Loire quay

Best For: Art lovers, history buffs, foodies, Jules Verne fans

City Transfer: 45-60 min by shuttle or taxi; or taxi to Gare de Saint-Nazaire then 35-min TER train

Don't Miss: The Grand Elephant at Les Machines de l'Île — a 40-ft mechanical beast you can ride

 Getting around:  **Taxi**  €20–€35 ·  **Rideshare**  Uber, Bolt

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Les Machines de l'Île** — The former shipyards of the Île de Nantes are now home to a steampunk fantasy world inspired by Jules Verne and da Vinci.
- **Château des Ducs de Bretagne** — A beautifully preserved 15th-century ducal fortress in the heart of Nantes.
- **Follow the Green Line** — A literal green stripe painted on Nantes's sidewalks connects every major artistic, historic, and cultural site in the...
- **Passage Pommeraye & Le Bouffay** — Nantes's 19th-century covered arcade is one of France's most beautiful — a triple-story glass-roofed gallery with grand...
- **Trentemoult Village & Navibus** — Hop the Navibus river ferry across the Loire to Trentemoult, a former fishermen's village with narrow lanes of brightly...

BEST WALKS

- **The Green Line: Castle to Machines** 2-3 km · 45-60 min · Easy — Start at the Château des Ducs de Bretagne, walk through the historic center via Passage Pommeraye and Place Graslin, continue through...
- **Feydeau District & Quays** 1 km · 20-30 min · Easy — Stroll through the historic Feydeau neighborhood — once an island, its 18th-century buildings lean slightly outward on their wet-sand...

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)				 DAYLIGHT &  MONEY	
Mon	High	Low	Rain	Apr 7:18AM–8:55PM · Jun 6:09AM–10:03PM · Aug 7:03AM–9:17PM · Sep 7:44AM–8:17PM · Oct 8:24AM–7:18PM	
Apr	61°	45°	8d	Currency: Euro (€)	
Jun	73°	58°	10d		
Aug	76°	60°	9d		
Sep	73°	57°	8d		
Oct	64°	52°	12d		

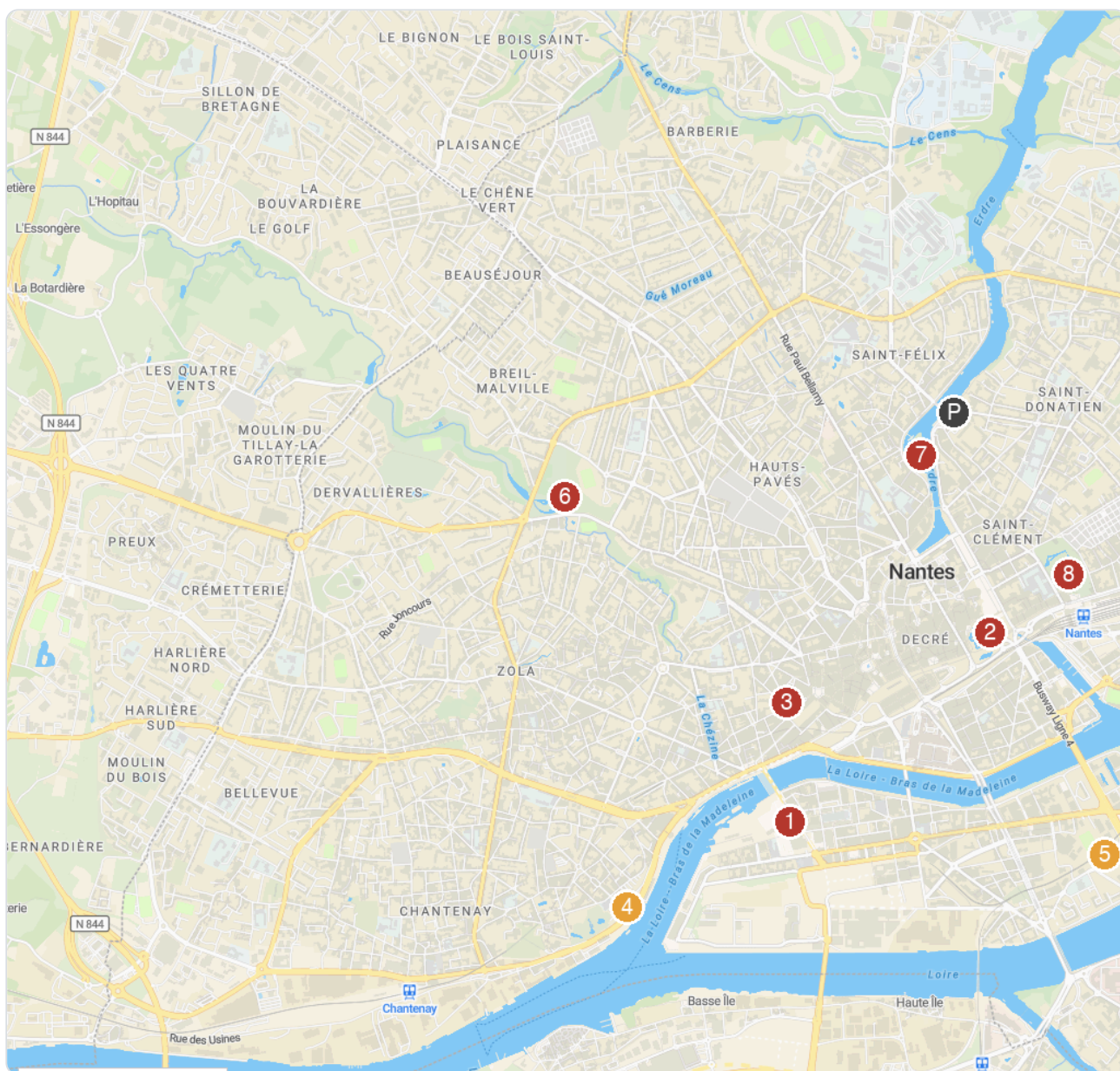
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Train beats taxi: From Saint-Nazaire, the TER train to Nantes takes just 35 minutes and costs a few euros — far cheaper than the €60-80 taxi. Get a taxi to the Gare de...
- Weekends = free transit: Public transport in Nantes (tram, bus, Navibus ferry) is completely free on weekends. Otherwise buy a 1-...

Nantes, Loire-Atlantique, France — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



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|----------|-------------------------------|---|----------|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1 | Les Machines de l'Île | See giant mechanical animals and unique machines come to life. | 2 | Château des ducs de Bretagne | Explore a historic castle, now Nantes' city history museum. |
| 3 | Natural History Museum | Discover diverse natural science collections, from dinosaurs to minerals. | 4 | Jules Verne Museum | Explore the life and works of science fiction author Jules Verne. |
| 5 | Château de Goulaine | Visit a historic Loire Valley castle, still family-owned. | 6 | Parc de Procé | Relax in a large public park with beautiful gardens. |
| 7 | Île de Versailles | Enjoy a tranquil Japanese-themed garden on an island. | 8 | Botanical Garden | Wander through diverse plant collections, greenhouses, and exotic flora. |
| P | Cruise port / terminal | | | | |