DAY 08 · NORMANDY TO THE LOIRE

Mont-Saint-Michel *to Tours*

Work backward from the time your rental car is due back. Leave the evening open.



Drive to the rental return, then take a train or taxi. Diagram shows the order of stops.

SET YOUR DEPARTURE TIME

Allow **4 to 4½ hours on the road with a break**, then give yourself time to refuel and hand back the car. For a **4 p.m. return**, a **10:45 a.m. departure from the parking lot** allows 4½ hours on the road and 45 minutes for fuel and return. Use the time on your contract and check traffic before leaving.

01 Get back to the car first

If you slept on the island, allow time to get your bags back to the mainland parking lot on the free **Le Passeur** shuttle or on foot. The public lots are about 1½ miles (2.5 km) from the island. If you left the car at your hotel, head there instead.

02 Save the return entrance

Example counter · Europcar, 2 place de la Gare, 37700 Saint-Pierre-des-Corps

That's the desk address. Ask the branch for the driveway and return bay, then save its instructions with your agreement. Check your fuel or charge requirement before your last stop. Keep the receipt and ask for a record of the return.

03 Finish in central Tours

Search for "Tours" from "Saint-Pierre-des-Corps"

These are two different stations. The direct local train takes about five minutes on board. Check the departure for your date and count the wait separately. If you have heavy bags or a long wait, ask your hotel to arrange a taxi from the station.

If the plan changes

The desk will be closed

The example branch lists a Saturday lunch closure and a closed counter on Sunday. It advertises out-of-hours returns on request. Before booking, get written confirmation for **your contract and return time**, including the parking entrance, key drop and when the branch records the return. If you're already on the road and running late, call before the deadline. If the branch can't accept the return, change the branch or date with the rental company.

Example branch phone · +33 2 47 63 28 67

You're traveling without a car

Start with the **Keolis Armor coach toward Rennes**. Check your date, reserve ahead and save the mainland boarding point by the tourist information center. Then search SNCF Connect from **Rennes to Tours**. Leave time to get off the coach with bags and find your platform. If the result ends at Saint-Pierre-des-Corps, add the last hop to your hotel. Check the coach and train together before locking in the hotel nights. If they don't line up, price a prebooked ride to Rennes or shift the transfer by a day.

Où dois-je laisser la voiture et les clés si l'agence est fermée ?
Where should I leave the car and the keys if the office is closed?

Write it down before you leave

Return deadline and branch phone _____

Return entrance and key drop _____

Train departure or taxi pickup _____

SOURCES AND CHECKS

Checked November 9, 2026. Check departure times, service changes and return instructions again for your date. The road budget is an editorial allowance, based on a roughly 3 hr 20 min OSRM drive estimate before stops. Traffic can add time.

Mont visitor parking and shuttle

Europcar return branch

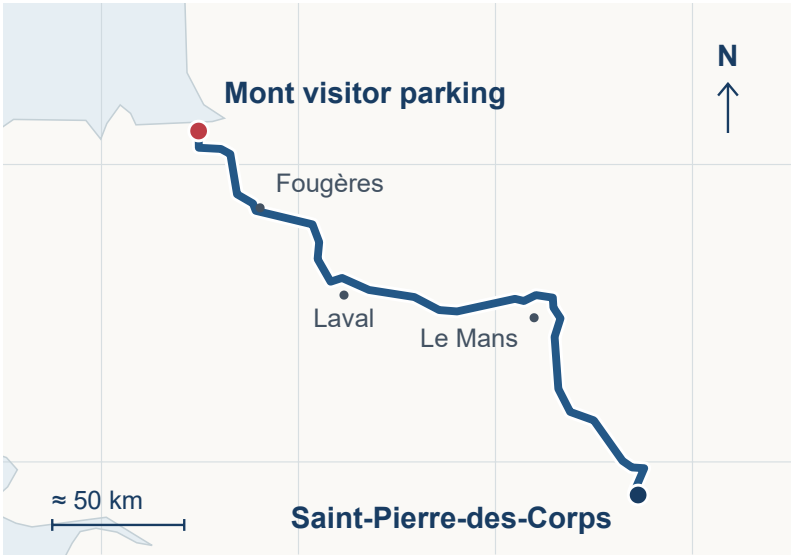
SNCF · local train to Tours

Keolis · coach to Rennes

SNCF · Rennes to Tours

OSRM · road estimate (OpenStreetMap)

From the bay to the Loire



About 174 miles (281 km) from the visitor parking lot to the Saint-Pierre-des-Corps station area on the route shown.

Solid blue follows a calculated road route. The dotted line in the lower map connects the two stations for orientation. Use current directions for driving or walking.

Road and station data © OpenStreetMap contributors (ODbL), www.openstreetmap.org/copyright. Road calculation by OSRM. Coastline from Natural Earth.



Mont-Saint-Michel. If you slept on the island, get your bags back to the mainland before your planned driving departure.

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Tomorrow at Chenonceau. On the railway timetable, look for *Chenonceaux* with an x. Château access.

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