Flavors of Chianti
FLAVORS OF CHIANTI

Embrace the bewitching enchantment, bucolic ambiance, and charismatic culture of Chianti. Meander through Tuscany’s colorful cities, cypress-studded hilltop towns, classic cucinas, and idyllic vineyards during this small-group journey. Explore the Italian countryside that provides endless inspiration for artists, chefs, and vintners alike.

Dear Alumni and Friends,

Join our small group for an intimate journey exploring Chianti’s countryside—a region brimming with living history, extraordinary family traditions, and an endearing farm-to-table way of life. Meander through Tuscany’s colorful cities, cypress-studded hilltop towns, classic cucinas, and idyllic vineyards, exploring the Italian countryside that provides overwhelming inspiration for artists, chefs, and vintners alike.

Settle in for seven nights at the luxurious hillside Castello La Leccia in Castellina, featuring deluxe accommodations and exceptional views of the lush, rolling Tuscan landscape.
Each invigorating day is enriched by historical site visits, cultural activities and interactions, memorable cuisine, and festive wine tastings. Admire the Etruscan ruins and Roman center at Volterra before visiting charming San Gimignano—the Town of Fine Towers—which is completely encircled by medieval walls. Enjoy a stroll through spectacular Siena—a UNESCO World Heritage Site—with its well-preserved cityscape, celebrated Duomo, and bustling Piazza del Campo. And learn the secrets of preparing traditional Tuscan food side-by-side chefs from Castello La Leccia.

Space is limited. With significant savings of more than $800 per couple, we anticipate this tour will fill quickly, so be certain to reserve your spot today and share this brochure with family and friends who may be interested in traveling with you.

Please reserve online at usctrojantravel.orbridge.com, by calling (866) 639-0079 or by returning the enclosed reservation form.

Sincerely,

Linda J. Ball, ’83
Associate Director, Trojan Travel
USC Alumni Association

PS: Orbridge and USC Trojan Travel take your health and wellness seriously. Visit orbridge.com/wellness to learn about our enhanced COVID-19 protocols.

Please note: The information contained in this document is current as of 11/30/2021
Program Highlights:

- With your small group (maximum 22 guests), enjoy seven nights deluxe accommodations at the luxurious and exclusive Castello La Leccia in Castellina, featuring exceptional views of the lush, rolling Tuscan landscape.

- Admire the Etruscan ruins and Roman center in Volterra before visiting charming San Gimignano—the Town of Fine Towers—which is completely encircled by medieval walls.

- Stop at the Renaissance town of Pienza, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, which sits atop a hill overlooking the Tuscan countryside.

- Discover Podere Il Casale, an organic farm. Tour the grounds while learning about the owners’ passion for the slow food movement, followed by a leisurely lunch.

- Visit La Fattoria di Vignamaggio to explore the grounds and ageing room before a wine tasting and food pairing.

- Take a guided tour of Cortona with free time to explore afterward.

- Wander within the walled medieval village of Monteriggioni—a city along the ancient pilgrim road of Via Francigena—before strolling down the road to visit the Abbadia a Isola abbey.

- Savor a cooking class and dinner at Badia a Coltibuono, a remarkable winery featured on the Netflix TV show, Salt Fat Acid Heat.

- Stroll Siena—another UNESCO World Heritage Site—with its well-preserved cityscape, celebrated Duomo, and bustling Piazza del Campo.

- **What's included:** 7 nights accommodations; 7 breakfasts, 3 lunches, and 7 dinners served with wine; all lessons and tastings as described in the 9-day itinerary; private motor coach transportation; luggage handling; gratuities to Orbridge Travel Director, local guides, drivers, porters, and wait staff for included meals; and group airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times.
Itinerary:

Day 1: En Route from U.S.
Thursday, May 12, 2022

Day 2: Arrive in Florence, Italy / Castellina
Friday, May 13, 2022
Welcome to lovely Italy! After arriving at the property, unpack and relax before joining fellow travel companions for a welcome dinner. If time allows, meander Castello La Leccia’s tranquil garden and courtyard with panoramic views of Tuscany’s seemingly endless countryside.
Overnight: Castello La Leccia (D)

Day 3: Volterra / San Gimignano
Saturday, May 14, 2022
Enjoy a traditional Italian breakfast before setting out for Volterra—an Etruscan and Roman center high atop a hill in a volcanic region—surrounded by fortification walls. Famous for its alabaster quarries, the town’s artisans produce unique handmade alabaster crafts and souvenirs. Leisurably stroll through the narrow streets before reaching an overlook to view the ancient Roman theatre. Off in the distance, glimpse clouds of geyser steam as it escapes over the rolling hillside.

Continue to the “New York of the Middle Ages” and UNESCO World Heritage Site, San Gimignano—whose skyline from a distance resembles a modern city. During an inside visit of San Gimignano’s Romanesque Duomo, behold colorful frescoes, including The Creation of Adam and Eve and Last Judgement. Also, learn the story of local Saint Fina while stepping through a dedicated chapel, added in 1468, where the Florentine master Domenico Ghirlandaio depicted her dramatic life.

After lunch on your own, rejoin fellow travel companions in the main square for a special treat—a visit with Sergio Dondoli, master gelato creator and owner of Gelateria Dondoli—winner of numerous awards and recognitions. Sergio’s boundless passion for his craft is contagious as he boisterously describes his most popular flavors, including Rosemary Baby, Cream of Santa Fina, and Zabaione di Vinsanto. Afterward, visit the gelateria for a sampling of his decadent creations.
Overnight: Castello La Leccia (B,D)

Day 4: Pienza
Sunday, May 15, 2022
The charming village of Pienza awaits. Known as "the ideal city of the Renaissance," this UNESCO World Heritage Site, perched on a hill in Southern Tuscany, was designed to exemplify the principles and philosophy of classical times and the great Italian Renaissance. Constructed within approximately four years, the village has remained unchanged over the centuries.

Continue to Podere Il Casale, a small organic farm, for a behind-the-scenes look at their scenic vineyard, olive groves, animal sanctuary, and cheesemaking workshop. Meet the owners—Ulisse and Sandra—a husband-and-wife duo who moved from Switzerland to Tuscany in 1991 to pursue their dreams of creating a sustainable farm-to-table lifestyle. Gain insight into the concept of the slow food movement, which emphasizes an integrated approach that unites the enjoyment of growing, preparing, and eating food in harmony with nature.

After touring the grounds, enjoy a delectable lunch created from ingredients grown on and harvested from the farm. 

*Overnight: Castello La Leccia (B,L,D)*

**Day 5: Castellina in Chianti**
Monday, May 16, 2022

At the working organic farm and wine estate of Castello La Leccia, guests are nourished mind, body, and soul. Take advantage of all this lush, quiet, and satisfying property has to offer today with informative and relaxing activities. Stroll with the Travel Director through the property’s trails and luxuriant, well-manicured gardens shaded by majestic holm oaks and pergolas. Enhance your appreciation of Chianti with a tour of the wine cellars and production areas. Learn secrets of the estate’s incomparable and irresistible food in a cooking class with the chef and savor seasonal dishes with traditional flavors and local provenance at dinner. 

*Overnight: Castello La Leccia (B,L,D)*

**Day 6: Cortona**
Tuesday, May 17, 2022

After breakfast, travel to the hilltop town of Cortona—the adopted home of Frances Mayes, author of *Under the Tuscan Sun*. Enjoy a guided tour to visit the church of Santa Margherita, the panorama, Bramasole villa, the city centre of Cortona, and the Etruscan museum.
The afternoon is at leisure in Cortona’s town center. Stop at one of the many charming eateries for lunch on your own, and explore the various small shops lining the bustling streets. *Overnight: Castello La Leccia (B,D)*

**Day 7: Monteriggioni / Via Francigena / Gaiole**

*Wednesday, May 18, 2022*

Today, visit the walled medieval village of Monteriggioni—a popular stop on the Via Francigena pilgrim trail, an ancient route that connected Canterbury to Rome in medieval times. Built between 1213 and 1219, the castle's fortified walls and 14 guard towers are well-preserved today. Enjoy extra time unwinding in a courtyard, visit the small shops, or venture along Via Francigena down to Abbadia a Isola, a medieval abbey.

This evening features an exclusive experience—a visit to Badia a Coltibuono winery for a cooking class with Benedetta Vitali, chef and co-founder of Cibreo and Zibibbo restaurants, as well as the author of several cookbooks. Benedetta exudes spirited fun in the kitchen while teaching the simple techniques and preparations of classic Tuscan dishes.

During the visit, learn of the winery’s history dating back to the 11th century when it was founded by monks of the Vallumbrosan Order, a Tuscan reform of the Benedictines. These monks planted the first vineyards in the northern Chianti area. Over centuries, they extended their vast land holdings to include many thousands of acres that developed a flourishing wine business. Since 1846, the winery continues under private ownership of the Stucchi Prinetti family.

The property itself exudes an enigmatic atmosphere—melding centuries-old history with family traditions passed through generations. Tour the Renaissance garden and noteworthy cellars followed by a special dinner. *Overnight: Castello La Leccia (B,L,D)*
Day 8: Siena  
Thursday, May 19, 2022

Today’s highlight features a visit to Siena—a UNESCO World Heritage Site—to admire its remarkably well-preserved medieval cityscape. Spared from major modern industrial development and large-scale urban extensions, Siena’s original 15th-century street plan and Gothic architecture remain unchanged. Explore the celebrated Duomo, with its striking striped columns and walls, and recently excavated 13th-century frescoes. Admire the Sanctuary of Santa Caterina—a place of pilgrimage—and learn about the city’s colorful history.

During free time, wander the shell-shaped Piazza del Campo—one of Europe’s finest squares—built on the site of a Roman marketplace.

This afternoon, meet Lorenzo Rossi, a third-generation artisan baker and owner of Il Magnifico. Lorenzo will share his special family traditions and the ingredients unique to his creations during a tasting of fresh-baked Sienese sweets.

Tonight, share your experiences from a captivating week spent in Tuscany and raise a glass with fellow travel companions one final time at Castello La Leccia during a convivial farewell dinner.  
*Overnight: Castello La Leccia (B,D)*

Day 9: Castellina / Florence / Depart for U.S.  
Friday, May 20, 2022

After breakfast, guests departing during the suggested times take a complimentary group transfer to Florence’s Peretola Airport for flights home. Guests continuing on the post-tour will transfer to Florence by private bus. *(B)*

*B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner*

* (Itinerary subject to change.)

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**Activity Level:**  
**Moderate**
Activities are generally not very strenuous, however, this program requires individuals have higher mobility due to many steep hills, streets, and stairs in each town visited. We expect that guests can enjoy two hours or more of walking, are sure-footed on cobbled surfaces, and can walk up and down stairs without assistance. Historic city centers are usually more accessible by foot than vehicle, and often it is not possible for your motor coach to drop you off at site entrances. Due to the structure of some buildings, facilities for persons with disabilities may be limited.

What's Included:

- 7 nights accommodations
- 7 breakfasts, 3 lunches, and 7 dinners served with wine
- All lessons and tastings as described in the 9-day itinerary
- Private motor coach transportation
- Luggage handling
- Gratuities to Orbridge Travel Director, local guides, drivers, porters, and wait staff for included meals
- Group airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times
Your Guide(s):

Stefania Meloni — Insider, Interpreter, Epicure, Host (Flavors of Northern Italy Main Program)

Stefania’s love for the food, wine, art, culture, and places of Italy can only be compared with her enthusiasm for sharing new and enriching experiences with others. When not traveling, Stefania enjoys cooking and sharing recipes with her friends.
May 13 - May 19

Become part of la famiglia as you settle into this authentic Tuscan wine estate. Sip a glass of Chianti on a sun-dappled terrace, stroll the grounds, and admire vineyards draped with Sangiovese, Merlot, and Petit Verdot grapes.

Historical sources cite that La Leccia castle’s ownership was divided among 16 owners for strategic purposes. Near the mid 1400s, the Ricasoli family dominated a large part of the Chianti Classico region, as well as the castle.

After being modified to serve more as a villa in the 18th century, the entire property was purchased in 1920 by Giuliano Daddi. Subsequently, it was the site of heavy bombardments during WWII that destroyed part of the tower and the last medieval evidence and devastated a wing of the villa.

Undergoing more than four years of careful and rigorous restoration, the castle and the surrounding gardens recently have returned to life.

With a focus on sustainability and the environment, the original spaces remain in tact but feature modern enhancements using eco-compatible materials and technologies. To warm the surroundings, wooden floors, beamed ceilings, and furniture were designed exclusively for the common spaces and made by Florentine craftsmen.

**Superior:** (approx. 270-302 sq.ft.) Enjoy elegant furnishings and a serene area to unwind after an enriching day of exploration.

**Deluxe:** (approx. 322-516 sq.ft.) Delight in absolute refinement with beautiful views of the surrounding countryside. Each room is different from the others, but all provide modern comforts and tasteful décor.

*Room Amenities: Individual climate control, writing desk, LCD TV, complimentary Wi-Fi, phone, minibar, safe, and en suite bathroom with a shower or tub and shower, sundries, and hair dryer.*

(Accommodations subject to change.)
What Guests Are Saying:

“We loved the location. The wait staff were very efficient and yet took time to interact with all of us. The cooking classes and wine tastings were part of the attraction of this tour. We loved it all. The agri-tourismo was most interesting and comprehensive, plus the food was delicious.

Lots of fun and learning in both kitchen and cooking experiences—different approaches to the organization and delivery of information made for a very creative and informative experience.

We have shared the Orbridge site with numerous friends after each trip!”

—Ann & Charles S., Winter Park, FL

“The property was beautiful, the region was beautiful, our guide was over the top in helping us with every need. The breakfasts, dinner, and wine were great; the weather was great; and our companions became fast friends.

The program was absolutely fabulous, and everything ran quite smoothly in my opinion. I would return there in a heartbeat, and I would enthusiastically recommend the property to anyone who would like to visit. My wife and I loved it!”

—Michael S., Ashland, OH

“The highlights of the trip were the people, the scenery, the wine, the food, and a beautiful location to wake up to each day. We felt a part of Toscana.”

—Lucy & Jim C., Grand Prairie, TX

“Working with Orbridge was easy, seamless, and pleasant.

The staff was completely professional while still being warm and welcoming. The accommodations were excellent. From the moment we arrived until we departed, we felt so well-cared for and comfortable.

Staying at the property and taking day trips to the nearby (and not so nearby cities) was a good way to travel. Unpack once!! Both hotels were 5-star luxury and very nice to return to at the end of a long day of sightseeing. The cooking classes and
wine tastings really lived up to what I imagined they would be. Both of our guides were so good at leading tours. They were able to assess what interested us most as a group and to tailor their commentary accordingly. Great program overall.”

–Melissa & Timothy S., Thousand Oaks, CA

“Absolutely stunning! The staff was amazing! Everything was perfect. Great pace with a few times where activities were optional to allow for rest, relaxation or shopping. Our guide definitely made the trip. The lodging was just magical with amazing staff, food, and everything.”

–Abby S., Moseley, VA

“Very friendly and courteous staff. They were always eager to meet our needs.

I thoroughly enjoyed both of the cooking classes. Everyone got to participate as much as they wanted. The menus were not that difficult to prepare and made very tasty meals.

I enjoy the Flavors of ... style - small group, stay in one very nice location with day trips for sightseeing, cooking classes and wine tastings. The location in Tuscany was lovely, and our tour guide was wonderful.”

–Dianna & Charles G., Fredericksburg, TX

“This program exceeded our expectations. The lodging was exceptional. The service was superb. The meals were of high quality.

The chef was inventive and the food was well-prepared. The service staff was excellent. We enjoyed them and the meals.

Each of the excursions was well-planned, and the tours were of excellent content. The local guide was delightful and did a great job of giving us interesting bits of information in each location.

We LOVED our Travel Director. Everything about her was just what one would desire in a tour leader in Italy. She truly knows the land, the history, and the people. Her many years of living in the area make her a true gem.”
Daniel & Trudie O., Fort Worth, TX
Florence is arguably the cultural capital of Europe and the showcase of Renaissance exuberance. Lovers of beauty, art, and history can extend their experience in Tuscany to embrace the treasures of this magnificent city.

Itinerary:

**Day 9: Depart Castellina / Arrive in Florence**  
Friday, May 20, 2022

Upon arriving in Florence, meet a local art historian guide and set out on a walking tour of the Florence historic center.

In Piazza della Repubblica, discover the city’s beginnings as a Roman settlement. Wander through narrow streets past the fortified houses and towers that marked the medieval town, and emerge onto the open Piazza della Signoria, the political center of the city since the Middle Ages. See the Duomo and Ponte Vecchio, then cap off the morning with lunch at the local market.

Walk through the market and meet in a local botteghe, where families have been serving up food treasures for generations. Stop and taste different local specialties, such as the not-to-be-missed finocchiona salami or the Tuscan crostino, paired with a glass of fine Chianti. Then, enjoy a delightful, sweet break with an Italian cappuccino in an ancient coffee or an
artisanal gelato.

In the afternoon, explore the hidden craft workshops that create artisanal jewels and leather products—flagships of Tuscan local production. And finally, set out on a private boat excursion on the river Arno. Sail underneath the Ponte Vecchio and delight in the views of the Uffizi Galleries and many palaces that are part of the history of Florence while sipping a glass of Prosecco.

Return to your hotel for the evening at leisure.

*Overnight: Hotel Executive (L)*

**Day 10: Florence**

**Saturday, May 21, 2022**

Today join your guide and walk to the historic center to visit the Baptistery of San Giovanni, one of the oldest churches in Florence, and a symbol of the city. With an octagonal plan, entirely covered with marble slabs and with a dome decorated by a precious Byzantine mosaic, it represents a masterpiece of Romanesque architecture.

Next, enjoy a tour of the Uffizi Gallery. Commissioned in 1560 by Cosimo I de’ Medici and designed by the great architect Giorgio Vasari, the Uffizi has drawn visitors to view masterpieces by important artists of the Renaissance, including Leonardo Da Vinci, Giotto, Botticelli, Tiziano, and Michelangelo.

At the end of the tour, savor lunch and an afternoon at leisure to explore the city at your own pace.

*Overnight: Hotel Executive (B)*

**Day 11: Florence / Depart for U.S.**

**Sunday, May 22, 2022**

After breakfast, transfer to Florence's Peretola Airport for flights home. *(B)*

B = Breakfast, L = Lunch

*This post-tour is not escorted by an Orbridge Travel Director. Included sightseeing is accompanied by a local guide. Space is limited, so it’s recommended to reserve early for best availability.*

(Itinerary subject to change.)
Activity Level:

Moderate

It is our expectation that guests on this program are able to walk a mile at a moderate pace, board a motor coach, and walk up a flight of stairs without assistance.
Accommodations:

**Hotel Executive**

May 20 - May 21

Stay in the heart of Florence with the Hotel Executive and relax in a noble residence dating back to the 18th century. Its romantic environment alongside helpful amenities are designed to enhance your experience.

*Room Amenities: Individual climate control, writing desk and chair, digital flatscreen TV, complimentary Wi-Fi, alarm clock, phone, minibar, safe, iron and ironing board, and en suite bathroom with sundries and hair dryer.*

(Accommodations subject to change.)

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**What's Included:**

- 2 nights accommodations at the Hotel Executive (or similar), with breakfast each morning
- Guided art history and cultural tour, plus a panoramic walking tour of Florence’s historical highlights
- Local market experience and tasting, featuring three courses and a glass of wine
- Visit to artisanal leather and jewelry workshops
- Private boat tour on the Arno River
- Admission to the Uffizi Gallery
- Luggage porterage
- Gratuities to local guide, drivers, and porters
- Airport transfers for guests departing during the suggested times
Flavors of Chianti
MAY 12, 2022 — MAY 20, 2022
POST-TOUR: MAY 20, 2022 — MAY 22, 2022

PROGRAM RATES*
Superior: $4,995
Deluxe: $6,495
Single (Superior): $7,495

POST-TOUR RATE***
Double: $1,295
Single: $1,795

*Special group rates; limited offer. Rates are per person based on double occupancy except where noted as Single, in US dollars. Single availability limited. Airfare not included.

**Post-tour rate is per person based on double occupancy except where noted as Single, in U.S. dollars. Single availability limited. Airfare not included.

Terms and Conditions
Note: Travel credits and transfers are subject to the Terms and Conditions agreed upon at the time of the original reservation.

OBRIDGE’S TERMS AND CONDITIONS, RELEASE AND BINDING ARBITRATION AGREEMENT

This Agreement includes contractual terms and conditions and releases Orbridge, LLC from liability. Any payment to Orbridge, including but not limited to deposits or full payments, constitutes your acknowledgement of, and agreement to, these Terms and Conditions, Release and Binding Arbitration Agreement Orbridge set forth below and in subsequent tour documents.

Limitation of Responsibility. Orbridge LLC, its shareholders, directors, officers, employees and affiliates (collectively, “Orbridge”), does not own or operate any entity that provides goods or services for your trip including, for example, ownership or control over hotels or other lodging facilities, airline, vessel, bus, van or other transportation companies, local ground operators, providers or organizers of optional excursions or equipment used thereon, food service or entertainment providers, etc., even if they use the “Orbridge LLC” or “Orbridge” name. All such persons and entities are independent contractors. As a result, Orbridge is not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any such person or entity, or of any other third party. Without limitation, Orbridge is not responsible for any injury, loss, or damage to person or property, death, delay or inconvenience (collectively, “Losses”) in connection with the provision of any goods or services occasioned by or resulting from, but not limited to, acts of God, acts of government, force majeure, acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection or revolt, strikes or other labor activities, criminal or terrorist activities of any kind, or the threat thereof, overbooking or downgrading of accommodations, structural or other defective conditions in hotels or other lodging or vessel facilities, mechanical or other failure of airplanes or other means of transportation or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely or safely, dangers associated with or bites from animals, pests or insects, marine life or vegetation of any sort, dangers incident to recreational activities such as scuba diving, snorkeling, paddle boarding, surfing, swimming, kayaking, sailing, canoeing, rafting, hiking, bicycling, rock climbing, etc., sanitation problems, food poisoning, lack of access to or quality of medical care, difficulty in evacuation in case of a medical or other emergency, illnesses, epidemics, pandemics or the threat thereof or for any other cause beyond the direct control of Orbridge. In addition, I release Orbridge from its own negligence and assume all risk thereof.

Rates. Program rates are based on minimum participation levels, current fares and costs (air, water, land, rail), tariffs and currency values. While Orbridge does everything possible to maintain the listed program rates, they are subject to change effective immediately upon posting unless otherwise specified by Orbridge. In the case of invoicing errors, we reserve the right to re-invoice with the correct pricing.

Reservations, Deposits and Final Payment. To secure your reservation, deposits are due upon placing a reservation as follows: (1) $850 per person per program and $550 per person per pre-tour and/or post-tour except for programs noted in 20 and 21; (2) $2,500 per person for Antarctica Discovery and Trans-Siberian Railway and $500 per person per pre-tour and/or post-tour; (3) a non-refundable $1,500 per person is due for Tanzania Wildlife Safaris’ Rwanda pre-tour. Deposits are payable by check, automated clearing house (“ACH”), wire transfer or major credit card.

Final payment, including any pre-tour and/or post-tour, optional excursion(s) fees and optional electives, is payable by check, ACH or wire transfer, and is due for: (1) all programs except Antarctica Discovery and Trans-Siberian Railway—no later than 90 days prior to the program’s scheduled departure date; (2) Antarctica Discovery and Trans-Siberian Railway—no later than 150 days prior to the program’s scheduled departure date.

If your reservation is made between the final payment due date and the program’s scheduled departure date, the full cost of the program, plus any pre-tour and/or post-tour, optional excursion(s) fees and optional electives, is due at the time of registration, payable by check, ACH or wire transfer.

If final payment is not received by Orbridge by the final payment due date, Orbridge may, at any time and with or without notice, cancel your reservation in its sole discretion with no right of refund.

Reservation Cancellations and Refunds. All cancellations must be submitted to Orbridge in writing and will be processed as follows:

(a) For all programs except those noted in (b) and (c), if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge more than 90 calendar days prior to the program’s scheduled departure date, all monies paid to Orbridge for the main program and for any pre-tour and/or post-tour will be refunded in full. If the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 90 and 60 days prior to the scheduled departure date, a 25% cancellation fee will be applied to the full cost of the program, including any pre-tour and/or post-tour, and the balance will be refunded. If the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 59 and 30 days prior to the scheduled departure date, a 50% cancellation fee will be applied to the full cost of the program, including any pre-tour and/or post-tour, and the balance will be refunded. If the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge within 29 days prior to the scheduled departure date, a 100% cancellation fee will be applied to the full cost of the program, including any pre-tour and/or post-tour.

(b) For Antarctica Discovery and Trans-Siberian Railway, if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge more than 180 calendar days prior to the scheduled departure date, all monies paid to Orbridge for the main program and for any pre-tour and/or post-tour will be refunded in full. If the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 180 and 150 days prior to the scheduled departure date, a 25% cancellation fee will be applied to the full cost of the program, including any pre-tour and/or post-tour, and the balance will be refunded. If the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 149 and 120 days prior to the scheduled departure date, a 50% cancellation fee will be applied to the full cost of the program, including any pre-tour and/or post-tour, and the balance will be refunded. If the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge within 119 days prior to the scheduled departure date, a 100% cancellation fee will be applied to the full cost of the program, including any pre-tour and/or post-tour.

(c) All payments made for Tanzania Wildlife Safaris’ Rwanda pre-tour are non-refundable at all times.

In addition to and not in lieu of the foregoing, a Cancellation Fee equal to 100% of the carrier charge applies to all non-refundable airfares due to your cancellation made at any time prior to the scheduled program departure date, as applicable. Refunds, if any, will be processed within 30 calendar days of our receipt of your written notice.

Travel Insurance. Orbridge strongly recommends that you purchase travel and cancellation insurance to protect your investment in the event of unexpected or unforeseen circumstances. In addition, we recommend that you consider obtaining a policy(ies) that will cover emergency medical evacuation insurance and cancel for any reason insurance. Travel and cancellation insurance policies and dates by which policies must be purchased vary by provider/insurer, maximum coverage (including cancel for any reason) is generally only available for purchase within 14 days of your reservation being confirmed. It is advised to determine your insurance needs and make necessary arrangements soon after reserving on tour. If you do not have, but are interested in purchasing, travel and cancellation insurance please contact us.

Program Cancellations or Postponements. All programs are subject to cancellation or postponement by Orbridge prior to the scheduled departure date for reasons such as, but not limited to, insufficient participation, or logistical problems that, in Orbridge’s sole judgment, may impede program operations or represent conditions or events that may expose program guests and/or Orbridge to undue risk of harm, injury, damage or inconvenience. In the event of program cancellation or postponement by Orbridge, Orbridge may offer you alternative arrangements such as the option to join the same tour on a different date or a different tour. If the price of your alternative booking price, Orbridge will refund the difference within 30 days of the alternative program’s departure date. If it is higher than your original booking price, Orbridge will invoice you the difference and you will be responsible therefor. Transferred guests are subject to the terms of the original tour. Except for force majeure, if a program is cancelled or postponed by Orbridge, Orbridge will refund all payments made within 30 calendar days of notice of program cancellation or postponement if an alternative arrangement is not offered.
Itineraries. Accommodations, the itinerary, travel directors or expedition leaders, lecturers, hosts, faculty or organization representative, and arranged excursions are subject to change or substitution at any time due to unforeseen circumstances or circumstances beyond Orbridge’s control. Reasonable efforts will be made to operate programs as planned, however adjustments, substitutions and changes may occur after the final itinerary has been issued. Orbridge may, in its sole discretion, withdraw a program or any part of it, make such alterations or substitutions to the itinerary or program inclusions as it deems necessary or desirable, and pass on to program participants any expenditures or additional costs caused by any such adjustments, or by delays or events beyond its reasonable control.

Not Included. Unless otherwise specifically noted in the itinerary, program prices do not include the following expenses, which, if applicable, are your sole responsibility to pay and satisfy: trip cancellation insurance and passenger travel protection plan; domestic, international, and internal airfares except as indicated in program inclusions; transfers and baggage handling fees except in connection with scheduled group flights; costs associated with obtaining passports or entry visas; airport departure taxes; airline ticketing fees; airport transfers when arriving/departing on other than scheduled group dates; excess baggage charges; any new value added taxes or other taxes added to program costs by applicable governmental authorities; gratuities to drivers, guides, or ship’s crew not specified; meals and beverages other than those specified as being included in the itinerary; sightseeing not included in the itinerary; personal expenses such as laundry, communication charges and optional activities (which are subject to availability); ship, air, or transportation fuel surcharges, if applicable; any items not on the “included” list of the tour documents.

Health and Fitness to Travel. Through your participation in your tour, you assume responsibility for your own health, safety, and welfare and acknowledge that Orbridge cannot absolutely guarantee your safety or health. Your physician can provide guidance on your personal health risk and precautions to take while traveling. Some programs include physically active elements. To enjoy these programs as intended, a minimum level of fitness is required and Orbridge will require all guests to follow local, state, national and/or World Health Organization health and safety mandates. Accordingly, you must be in good physical and mental condition to participate. You represent that you have no physical, mental or other condition, impairment or disability that may or will cause or create a risk of injury or other hazard to yourself or others in respect to any aspect of the program you have selected. Orbridge may, in its sole discretion, limit, restrict or prohibit from participation in any aspect of any program any individual that it considers in its sole discretion to be impaired or unstable due to fitness level. In addition, Orbridge may, in its sole discretion and at the participant’s sole expense, remove the guest from the program, or restrict the program-related activities of any individual whose physical or mental condition may or is likely to cause a hazard to himself/herself or others, or otherwise impair the enjoyment of other program participants. Any physical condition requiring special attention, diet, or treatment must be reported in writing to Orbridge at the time a program reservation is made. Should you have any questions or need any clarification about a specific program, please ask for details at the time of registration. Orbridge will try to accommodate your situation if possible.

Accessibility. Orbridge cannot guarantee that the transportation, lodging, and entertainment/sightseeing accommodations will be accessible to all persons regardless of their physical and mental condition. In addition, many of the activities involved in each program include walking or the like for some distance on uneven ground or pavement or moving water as well as the ability to walk up and down stairs without assistance. Should any individuals seeking to participate in a travel opportunity need special accommodations to ensure their enjoyment of the trip, kindly provide notice at the time the reservation is submitted, and we will see if your participation is feasible. Please understand that the Americans with Disabilities Act is inapplicable outside the United States.

At the time of reservation, Orbridge needs to be notified to determine if the special needs of an individual traveler can be met through special arrangements. It is possible that minor modifications to the services can be provided, but only if Orbridge is made specifically aware of anticipated needs. This notification should be made in writing no less than two weeks prior to the planned travel. Neither Orbridge nor any of the providers of transportation, lodging, or other services can provide special accommodations without this advance notice.

Where an individual with certain specific needs will be traveling with a group, it is necessary for other members of that person’s group to be available to assist as necessary. Neither employees of Orbridge nor any suppliers of services can allow any of their employees to provide physical assistance to any guests.

Travel Advisories. The State Department and the Centers for Disease Control periodically issue statements and advisories about risks to travelers. These statements are country specific and contain important information. The State Department information can be found at www.travel.state.gov, and the CDC statements can be found at http://www.cdc.gov. Orbridge highly recommends everyone to review these sites.

Children. Orbridge welcomes the participation of children in most of its programs. However, in the event you do include your children or other minors for whom you serve as legal guardian (“Dependents”) in your travel plans, you hereby agree that you are and shall be at all times solely responsible for their care, actions, safety and protection during the program and any pre-tour and/or post-tour. Should you have any questions whether a particular program or inclusion is possible or suitable for your Dependent(s), please contact us.

Baggage. Program rates include the price of one piece of policy-compliant baggage per person during the land, cruise or rail portion of the program only unless specified in the itinerary. Air carriers and motor coaches often impose significant other restrictions or limitations on the number of pieces, size and weight of luggage and may reject or impose additional fees on luggage exceeding such limitations or restrictions. All such fees are your sole cost and responsibility. In addition and regardless of location or transportation method, your baggage and personal effects are and shall at all times be at your sole risk throughout the entire program. Please check with your air carrier for other applicable baggage restrictions and limitations.

Travel Documents. All guests are responsible for possessing and maintaining necessary travel documents. These documents shall be valid under state and federal law and as required by foreign countries being visited. Orbridge is not responsible for invalid travel documents and repercussions thereof.

For U.S. citizens, valid passports are required for travel to foreign destinations and some countries require specific visas prior to entry. Please direct any questions in respect to visa requirements to Orbridge, which shall use commercially reasonable efforts to provide answers as a courtesy, provided that it shall remain your sole responsibility and obligation to obtain and verify that you have all required travel documents, including visas, necessary and appropriate for the program location(s) and sufficient blank pages in your passport for visas and immigration stamps. In addition, some countries require your passport to have an expiry date of not less than six months after your anticipated return to the United States. Orbridge disclaims all liability for any expenses or costs you may incur due to your prohibition or restriction from entering a country on the program itinerary or reentering the United States at the conclusion of the program. If travel documents fail to meet these requirements, boarding of aircraft or ship to any international destination may be denied and entry into such countries may be denied.

Photos and Videos. Orbridge may take photographs and/or video of its trips and participant grants Orbridge permission to do so and for it to use such for promotional or commercial use without payment of any compensation to participant. In addition, Orbridge may use, without compensation, any photographs or video taken by tour participants and submitted to Orbridge or to SmugMug without payment of any compensation. In submitting any such photographs or videos to Orbridge or SmugMug, participant warrants that he or she took the image and that the dissemination of same does not violate the copyright rights of any person.

Data Rights, Permissions. Data collected and/or derived by Orbridge resulting from your use of the Website is the sole and exclusive property of Orbridge and may be used in any manner consistent with its Privacy Policy located on Orbridge’s website. By submitting to Orbridge a digital or hard copy form that includes your personal contact information, including without limitation, your email address and telephone number(s), you give Orbridge and any other entity identified on the form permission to use that information to contact you and as otherwise may be described on the form and/or in the Privacy Policy.

Other. Dates, program details and costs are based on tariffs, exchange rates and other information current at the time of printing, but are subject to change at any time. While we do not anticipate material revisions of the itinerary or its included features, we do reserve the right to substitute accommodations or modes of transportation and to make any changes in the itinerary Orbridge, in its sole discretion, deems necessary and in that case any additional expense or cost will be paid by the individual guest. Your baggage and personal effects are your sole responsibility at all times. It is prohibited by federal law and Orbridge policy to bring illegal drugs, firearms, or other contraband (including marijuana
for medical or recreational purposes) on any program.

Orbridge may at any time and without notice modify these terms and conditions, and any modification so made will be effective for all reservations made from and after the posted Effective Date.

In the event any term in these terms and conditions is deemed unenforceable the unenforceable clause shall be interpreted to give effect to the parties’ intentions to the greatest enforceable extent, and all other provisions hereof shall remain fully enforceable according to their terms.

**Binding Arbitration.** I agree that any dispute concerning, relating, or referring to this contract, the brochure, or any other literature concerning my trip, or the trip itself shall be resolved exclusively by binding arbitration in Seattle, Washington, either according to the then existing commercial rules of the American Arbitration Association or pursuant to the Comprehensive Arbitration Rules & Procedures of the Judicial Arbitration and Mediation Services, Inc. (JAMS). Such proceedings will be governed by substantive (but not procedural) Washington law. The arbitrator and not any federal, state, or local court or agency shall have exclusive authority to resolve any dispute relating to the interpretation, applicability, enforceability, conscionability, or formation of this contract, including but not limited to any claim that all or any part of this contract is void or voidable. By agreeing to these terms and conditions, both parties are waiving their right to a trial by jury. Any arbitration commenced against Orbridge must be on behalf of only the individual(s) to this Agreement and his or her immediate family members travelling with them, such as a spouse or child. Under no circumstances can participant be part of a class or other joint action.

**Acceptance of Contract.** ANY PAYMENT TO ORBRIDGE, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO DEPOSITS OR FULL PAYMENTS, CONSTITUTES YOUR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF AND AGREEMENT TO THESE TERMS AND CONDITIONS SET FORTH ABOVE AND IN MORE SPECIFIC TOUR DOCUMENTS.

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