Flavors of Chianti
SEPTEMBER 24, 2020 – OCTOBER 02, 2020
POST-TOUR: OCTOBER 02, 2020 — OCTOBER 04, 2020

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 UW 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.

Settle in for seven luxurious nights amidst the deluxe accommodations of Castello La Leccia in Castellina, featuring 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.

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 today online at uw.orbridge.com, by phone at (866) 639-0079 or by returning the enclosed reservation form.

Sincerely,

Pauline Ranieri
Director, UW Alumni Tours

Please note: The information contained in this document is current as of 10/30/2019
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 at 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.

- At Podere Il Casale—an organic farm—learn about the owners' passion for the slow food movement, see a cheese-making demonstration, and enjoy a leisurely lunch.

- Learn the history of Bagno Vignoni, a small village surrounded by thermal waters.

- Visit Villa Vignamaggio—the childhood home of Lisa Gherardini, immortalized as the Mona Lisa by Leonardo da Vinci—and work side-by-side with Italian chefs during a cooking class and wine tasting.

- 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.

- 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, wait staff for included meals, drivers and porters; and group airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times.
Day-by-Day Itinerary:

Day 1: En Route from U.S.

Day 2: Arrive in Florence, Italy / Castellina
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
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. Leisurly 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 on 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 some of 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 / Bagno Vignoni
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 on 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, and sharing the concept of the slow food movement, which emphasizes an integrated approach uniting the enjoyment of growing, preparing, and eating food in harmony with nature, with others.

After touring the grounds, enjoy a delectable lunch created from ingredients grown on and harvested from the farm.
Before returning to Castello La Leccia, stop at Bagno Vignoni, a small medieval village from the Roman times situated around a scenic piazza of thermal waters. Learn the story of St. Catherine of Siena, one of Italy’s patron saints, and how this village was instrumental to achieve her calling.

_Overnight: Castello La Leccia (B,L,D)_

**Day 5: Greve**
Today, venture to Villa Vignamaggio, the childhood home of Lisa Gherardini—who was later immortalized as the Mona Lisa in the iconic artwork painted by Leonardo da Vinci. Vignamaggio’s impressive acreage, which sits serenely amidst lush gardens, stately cypress trees, and whispering streams, cultivates an extraordinary harvest including pomario plants, orchard fruit, olive trees, and endless grapevines. The breathtaking panoramic views from each terrace imprint memories into the soul that will last a lifetime.

Partake in a lively cooking class to learn the secrets of traditional Tuscan cuisine. Back on the garden terrace, a leisurely white linen al fresco lunch and wine tasting await.

Later this afternoon, enjoy a bit of free time to wander the area’s unique shops or perhaps sip a macchiato at an outdoor cafe.

_Overnight: Castello La Leccia (B,L,D)_

**Day 6: Cortona**
After breakfast, travel to the hilltop town of Cortona—the adopted home of Frances Mayes who wrote _Under the Tuscan Sun_. Set out on a guided tour including a visit to Le Celle, a 13th-century Franciscan convent that was briefly the home of St. Francis of Assisi (who also helped build the first rooms of the structure in 1211). Currently, the hermitage is inhabited by seven friars who continue to practice the preachings of St. Francis.

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**
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 remain incredibly preserved today. Enjoy extra time unwinding in a courtyard, visiting the small shops, or venturing 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 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 and 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 on through generations. Tour the Renaissance garden and noteworthy cellars followed by a special dinner.

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

**Day 8: Siena**

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 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: Florence / Depart for U.S.**

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 remain in Florence.

*(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 to 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 luxury accommodations
- 7 breakfasts, 3 lunches, and 7 dinners incorporating a variety of Tuscan preparations and ingredients, plus regional wines served with lunches and dinners
- A visit to Siena and Pienza—both UNESCO World Heritage Sites, and other important historic sites
- All lessons, presentations, and tastings, as well as excursion transportation and entry fees
- All gratuities to guides, drivers, and hotel staff
- Airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times
Your Guide(s):

Chiara Sanguineti – Insider, Interpreter, Epicure, Host

Chiara’s opinion is that wine and food are the best ways to understand and get to know a country. Chiara is Milano-born and lived in Northern Italy for many years. After studying art and literature, she relocated to Tuscany where she worked with the producer of the famous Chianti Classico in the hills between Siena and Florence. In charge of export, grape harvest, and olive oil production, she is expert in her knowledge of Italian foods and wine. Having owned an Agriturismo working farm in the Siena countryside, she understands what people appreciate most about the significance of Italy’s ‘slow food’ roots. Speaking five languages and a gifted sommelier, she is among the founders of the national association “Donne del Vino” (women of wine). Catch Chiara’s enthusiasm and explore the flavors of this wonderful region with added confidence, understanding, and appreciation.
Program Accommodations:

Castello La Leccia

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, great-grandfather of the current proprietors. 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.

Recently undergoing more than four years of careful and rigorous restoration, the castle and the surrounding gardens 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, pastel colors, and furniture were designed exclusively for the common spaces and made by Florentine craftsmen.

Each room offers climate control, desk, LCD TV, complimentary Wi-Fi, phone, safe, minibar, and en suite bathroom with a shower or tub and shower, sundries, and hair dryer.

**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.

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

“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 that would like to visit. My wife and I loved it!”

–Michael S., Ashland, OH

“We loved participating in the preparation and touring the the locations. We felt invested in our meals.

The highlight of the trip was 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

“What guests are saying:)

“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

–M{

--Melissa & Timothy S., Thousand Oaks, CA

“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
definitely made the trip. The lodging was just magical with amazing staff, food & 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**
Upon arriving in Florence, set out on an enlightening guided walking tour around the city to explore Florentine life, taste traditional dishes, and converse with the locals. Visit a variety of colorful markets and shops, and sample a delicious assortment of breads, cheeses, salumi, crostini, olive oils, sweets, and seasonal specialties paired with a glass of Chianti wine.

This evening, enjoy leisure time at the hotel or stroll the bustling cobble streets to discover lively shops and bistros.

*Overnight: Hotel Santa Maria Novella (L)*

**Day 10: Florence**
Today, embark upon a guided panoramic walking tour to admire the sculptures that surround Piazza della Signoria—the heart of Florence’s historic and political square. Stop by Palazzo Vecchio—the town hall—and Ponte Vecchio, the oldest and most famous bridge in Florence. Pass by Dante’s house, San Lorenzo Market, the famous Duomo, and Brunelleschi’s Cathedral and its baptistry renowned for its three bronze doors and relief sculptures.

Afterward, view Michelangelo’s David at Accademia Gallery.
Overnight: Hotel Santa Maria Novella (B)

Day 11: Florence / Depart for U.S.
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, get in and out of a motor coach, and walk up a flight of stairs without assistance.
**Accommodations:**

**Hotel Santa Maria Novella**

Spend two lovely evenings amidst one of the most beautiful squares of the Tuscan capital. Located in an ancient palace, Hotel Santa Maria Novella exudes charm and refinement. Each luxurious guest room features its own colorful décor with modern amenities.

During leisure time, visit the rooftop terrace overlooking the Santa Maria Novella Basilica, retreat to the sauna, or reenergize in the well-equipped fitness room.

*Room Amenities: Climate control, Egyptian cotton bedding, LCD satellite TV, phone, complimentary Wi-Fi, minibar, tea and coffee maker, bathrobes and slippers, safe, and marble en suite bathroom with premium sundries and hair dryer.*

(Accommodations subject to change.)

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**What's Included:**

- Two nights accommodations at Hotel Santa Maria Novella (or similar), with breakfast each morning
- Guided artisanal and cultural tour
- Guided panoramic walking tour of Florence’s historical highlights
- Admission to Accademia Gallery for a viewing of Michelangelo’s David
- Gratuities to local guide and drivers
- Airport transfers for guests departing during the suggested times
Flavors of Chianti
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POST-TOUR: OCTOBER 02, 2020 — OCTOBER 04, 2020

PROGRAM RATES*
Superior: $4,995
Deluxe: $5,995
Single (Superior): $6,995

POST-TOUR RATE***
Double: $1,195
Single: $1,695

*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.

Reserve by Credit Card:
Online: uw.orbridge.com
Phone: (866) 639-0079
Fax: (206) 452-5655

Reserve by Check:
Made payable to Orbridge, LLC
Mail to: Orbridge, P.O. Box 10339
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

See also the University of Washington Alumni Association’s (UWAA) Release of Liability, Assumption of All Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement form which you have to sign as a condition of your going on this trip. This form is sent to all participants upon placing a tour deposit and needs to be returned within 30 days after receipt or at least 60 days before the beginning of the trip, whichever is sooner.

This document can be found at www.UWAlum.com/tours or by emailing uwaatour@uw.edu or calling (206) 685-9276.

GUEST INFORMATION:
Guest #1 Name (Title/Salutation): ________________________________
Email: __________________________________________________________
Home Phone: __________________________ Alt. Phone: _______________________
Address: _________________________________________________________
City: __________________________ State: _______ Zip: ______________
Guest #2 Name (Title/Salutation): ________________________________
Email: __________________________________________________________
Home Phone: __________________________ Alt. Phone: _______________________
Address: _________________________________________________________
City: __________________________ State: _______ Zip: ______________

DEPOSIT PAYMENT:
☐ Check ☐ ACH (Automated Clearing House) ☐ MasterCard/Visa ☐ American Express ☐ Discover
Card #: ______________________ Exp. Date: ______ CVV: ______
Name (as printed on card): __________________________________________
Billing Address (if different from above): ______________________________
City: __________________________ State: _______ Zip: ______________

CATEGORY SELECTION & DEPOSIT:
Category Preference: 1st choice __________________________ 2nd choice __________________________
# ________ guests joining program ($850/person) +
# ________ guests joining post-tour ($500/person) = TOTAL DEPOSIT: $ __________

I/We have read, understand, and agree to the full Terms & Conditions at terms.orbridge.com and detailed in program documents; and that Orbridge, LLC is authorized to charge my credit card above and/or take my/our deposit for this program.
Signature: __________________________ Date: __________________________
Terms and Conditions

ORBRIDGE® TERMS AND CONDITIONS AND BINDING ARBITRATION AGREEMENT

This Agreement is important. It includes contractual terms and conditions and releases Orbridge, LLC from liability. It must be signed by all participants.

Responsibility. Orbridge LLC, its shareholders, directors, officers, employees and affiliates (collectively, “Orbridge”), does not own or operate any entity which is to or does provide 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 operators of optional excursions or equipment used thereon, food service or entertainment providers, etc., even if they use the “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 in connection with the provision of any goods or services occasioned by or resulting from, but not limited to, armed conflict, a revolutionary or civil war, terrorism, force majeure, and acts committed by, or threats of, terrorism, strikes or other labor force mix, criminal or terrorist activities of any kind, or the threat thereof, overcrowding 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, illness, epidemics or the threat thereof or for any other cause beyond the direct control of Orbridge. In addition, Orbridge reserves the right to discontinue or to assume all risk thereof.

Rates. Program rates are based on minimum participation levels, current fares (air, water, land), 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.

Registration, Deposits and Final Payment. To secure your reservation: (1) a deposit of $2,500 per person is due for Astounding Antarctica, Toronto to Vancouver by Rail, and Trans-Siberian Railway plus $500 per person per pre-tour and/or post-tour; (2) a non-refundable deposit of $1,500 per person is due for Tanzania Migration Safaris’ Rwanda post-tour; (3) a deposit of $850 per person and $500 per person per pre-tour and/or post-tour is due for all other programs at the time of registration and are payable by check, automated clearing house (ACH), money order, wire transfer of same day U.S. funds, or major credit card.

Final payment, including any pre-tour and/or post-tour and optional excursion(s) fee(s), is payable by check, ACH, money order, or wire transfer of same day U.S. funds, and is due for: (1) Astounding Antarctica, Toronto to Vancouver by Rail, and Trans-Siberian Railway—no later than 150 days prior to the program’s scheduled departure date; (2) all other programs—90 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 and optional excursion(s) fee(s), is due at the time of registration, payable by check, money order, ACH or wire transfer of same day U.S. funds.

Final payments made by credit card are subject to a 2% transaction fee.

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 Grace Period. Reservations made no sooner than 158 calendar days prior to Astounding Antarctica, Toronto to Vancouver by Rail, and Trans-Siberian Railway's scheduled departure date, and no sooner than 98 calendar days prior to all other programs’ departure dates may be canceled within seven (7) calendar days immediately following the reservation date (“Grace Period”) for a full refund of all Payments received by Orbridge to effectively terminate the reservation.

Notice of termination must be in writing, must be received by Orbridge during the Grace Period, and is effective only on timely receipt of such written notice by Orbridge.

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.

Cancellations and Refunds. All cancellations must be submitted to Orbridge in writing and will be subject to a Cancellation Fee as follows:

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

(b) For Astounding Antarctica, Toronto to Vancouver by Rail, and Trans-Siberian Railway, if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge 305 or more calendar days prior to the scheduled departure date, all deposits will be fully refunded. Between 274 and 245 days prior to the scheduled departure date, and after the day before the final payment due date, the Cancellation Fee will be the full deposit per person per program including any pre-tour and/or post-tour. If the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 244 days prior to the scheduled departure date, the Cancellation Fee will be $500 per person per program and $300 per person per pre-tour and/or post-tour.

(c) For all other programs, if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge 275 or more calendar days prior to the program’s scheduled departure date, all deposits will be fully refunded. If the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 274 and 151 days prior to the scheduled departure date, the Cancellation Fee will be $500 per person per program and $300 per person per pre-tour and/or post-tour. If the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 150 days prior to the scheduled departure date and the day before the final payment due date, the Cancellation Fee will be the full pre-tour and/or post-tour per person per program including any pre-tour and/or post-tour.

(d) 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.

In all cases, we will pass on to program participants any expenditures or additional costs caused by any such adjustments, or by delays or events beyond its reasonable control.

Itineraries. Accommodations, the itinerary, travel directors or expedition leaders, and all 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, but 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; transfers and luggage 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 GST taxes added to program costs by applicable governmental authority; 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); and ship, air, or transportation fuel surcharges, if applicable.

Health and Fitness to Travel. Some programs include physically active elements. To enjoy these programs as intended, a minimum level of fitness is required. 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 unattainable due to fitness level. In addition, Orbridge may, in its sole discretion and at the participant’s sole expense, remove 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 interests if possible.

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. We urge 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 extension(s). Should you have any questions whether a particular program or inclusion is suitable for your Dependent(s), please contact us.

Baggage. Program rates include the price of two (2) pieces of policy-compliant baggage per person during the land or cruise 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. 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 for the program location(s) and sufficient blank pages in your passport for visas and immigration stamps. In addition, some countries require your passport have an expiry date of not less than six month after your anticipated return to the United States. Orbridge disclaims all liability for any expenses or costs you may incur due to your failure or restriction from entering a country on the program itinerary or reentering the United States at the conclusion of the program.

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, 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 and 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.

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.

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

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WAST# 602828994; CAST# 2098750-40

(v. 100319)

Please sign, date and print guest name(s).

Guest #1 Signature          Date

Print Name

Guest #2 Signature          Date

Print Name

For a Minor

I, as an authorized parent or guardian of the below named minor, hereby give my permission for my child or ward to participate in the trip and further agree, individually and on behalf of my child or ward, to the terms of the above. In the event the minor is not accompanied by all legal guardians on this trip, I agree to carry with me a notarized document from each legal guardian, not on the trip, granting his or her approval for the minor to travel on this trip and to present said document(s) to any authority requesting such. In the event I am the sole guardian of the minor, I agree to carry documentation evidencing such and present to any authority when requested.