

Flavors of DORDOGNE





For details or to reserve:

ncsu.orbridge.com

(919) 515-0508

OCTOBER 06, 2023 – OCTOBER 14, 2023

POST-TOUR: OCTOBER 14, 2023 — OCTOBER 17, 2023

FLAVORS OF DORDOGNE

Few regions sum up the quintessential appeal of France better than the Dordogne. With its astonishing array of medieval towns and ancient castles, prehistoric caves, hanging gardens, spectacular views, and luxuriant countryside, the Dordogne has long been a favorite getaway for Europeans. Savor epicurean delights, a laid-back pace of life, and some of the oldest artwork ever created in this beautiful region writer Henry Miller said “gives me hope for the future of the race, for the future of the earth itself.”

Dear Friends,

Join fellow NC State alumni and friends on a venture to the château studded countryside and picturesque villages of the Dordogne region of France. With its fabulous food, wonderful wine, bucolic vineyards, and landscapes interspersed with forests, beaches and rivers, it offers so many things that travelers come to this country for.

While enjoying a 13th-century château as your home base, this comprehensive program will provide an intimate, immersive approach to an authentic cultural and culinary experience, including Michelin-starred restaurant meals, a market visit with gourmet food sampling, and excursions for cheese and truffles.

Admire an array of medieval towns, ancient castles, and some of France’s finest prehistoric cave art. Take in the spectacular views of the countryside and the Dordogne River, which proudly holds the title of a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve.

The magnificently preserved natural beauty and slower pace of living in this region make it a favorite *les grandes vacances* for French families, and visitors that return often yearning for more. Disconnect from the urban hustle and relax with like-minded travelers on this journey.

Space is limited. With significant savings of more than \$1,000 per couple, we anticipate this tour will fill quickly. Be certain to reserve your spot today.

Reserve today online at ncsu.orbridge.com, by calling (919) 515-0508, or by emailing hart@ncsu.edu.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathy Hart". The signature is written in black ink and has a fluid, connected style.

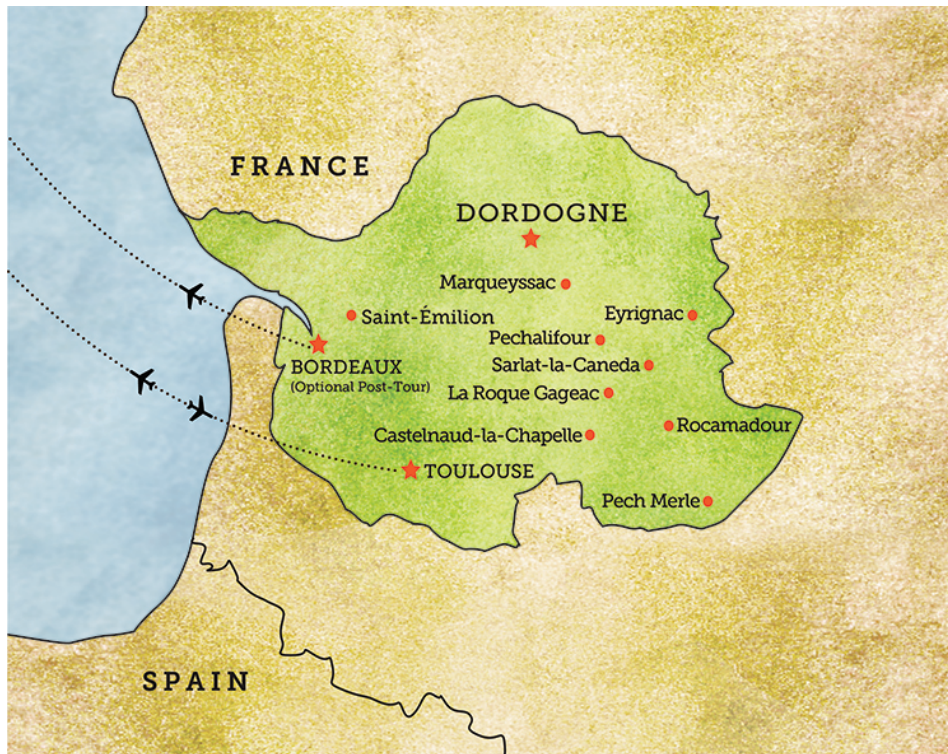
Kathy Hart
WolfTreks Travel Director
NC State Alumni Association

PS: Orbridge and NC State 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 12/2/2022

Program Highlights:

- With your small group, enjoy 7 nights' deluxe accommodations in an authentic castle with scenic views at Château de Mercuès
 - Discover new flavors with a vineyard tour, wine tasting, and lunch at the Château de Haute-Serre
 - Indulge in local delicacies on a gourmet tasting tour in the charming medieval town of Sarlat-la-Canéda
 - Join an intimate cooking class with a chef sharing inspiration, secrets, and favorite recipes
 - Take in the area's layered history with tours of the lush Jardins d'Eyrignac, La Madeleine troglodyte village, and the fascinating Pech Merle cave
 - Survey the small cliff-top village of Rocamadour and visit a local cheese farm to taste homemade creations
 - Delight in a guided tour of a truffle farm to learn their significance
 - Explore one of France's most beautiful villages, La Roque-Gageac, with a walking tour and cruise on the Dordogne River in a traditional gabarre
 - **What's included:** 7 nights accommodations; 7 breakfasts, 5 lunches, and 3 dinners served with wine; all lessons, private tours and tastings, and special small-group excursions as noted in the 9-day itinerary; full guiding services of an Orbridge Travel Director and expert local guides; private motor coach transportation; luggage portage; gratuities to Orbridge Travel Director, local guides, and drivers; and airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times.
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Itinerary:

Day 1: En route from U.S.

Friday, October 6, 2023

Day 2: Arrive in Toulouse / Transfer to Mercuès

Saturday, October 7, 2023

Bienvenue en France! (Welcome to France!)

After arriving in Toulouse, travel north towards the *departements* of Lot and Dordogne. These regions are framed by two rivers of the same names and are known for their bucolic landscapes, medieval villages, imposing châteaux, and of course—food and wine.

Your home for the next week, the beautiful 13th-century *Château de Mercuès*, is perched on a rocky promontory overlooking the surrounding countryside and the Lot River. The château's elevated location offers exceptional views from every vantage point. As the summer residence of the Counts and Bishops of Cahors for seven centuries, guests enjoy an authentic immersion in the history of the region.

This evening, enjoy a festive welcome reception with fellow guests in the hotel's impressive wine cellar and tasting room, constructed in the style of a Romano-Byzantine cathedral. Savor locally grown wines and an array of gourmet appetizers.

Overnight: Château de Mercuès (WD)

Day 3: Cahors / Haute Serre

Sunday, October 8, 2023

At Le Domaine de Haute Serre, gastronomy, wine, and art combine to offer a hedonistic rendezvous for all the senses. Enjoy an unforgettable wine tourism experience here, complete with wine tasting, lunch, and a tour of the property and vineyard. Caretakers of the family business strive for excellence with high-density replanting, use of eco-friendly vine growing and tending techniques, and aging in oak barrels.

Malbec is the original grape variety in this region, and its marvelous characteristics are used in 70% blends. But while France is the place of origin of Malbec, Argentina is currently home to nearly 70% of the Malbec vineyards of the world. Fans of Malbec who have tasted what is produced in Mendoza, Argentina will discern a dramatic difference in the taste of Malbec here. This difference clearly demonstrates how *terroir* affects wine. Terroir includes all the regional factors that define the taste of a wine grape before a winemaker begins, such as sun,

soil, proximity to water, altitude, and more. As distinguished by Wine Folly, "a Malbec from Argentina tends to be plummy and fruit-forward, with a velvety soft texture" while French Malbec is savory, tart, and "tends to have more structure, firmer tannins, and an inky dark, brooding quality."

Visit a wine store room, known as a *chai*, to see tradition and modernity both at work in producing award-winning wine such as Château de Haute-Serre - Geron Dadine. This "vin noir," or black wine, of Cahors is described with a nose that "reveals perfumes of stewed black and red fruits enhanced by spicy hints. The mouth is coated by very long, tight, and elegant tannins that seem to never end."

In Cahors, discover Pont Valentre and the Cathedral of St. Etienne during a brief panoramic tour. Dinner is on own this evening. Your Travel Director will provide recommendations for where to dine in Cahors.

Overnight: Château de Mercuès (B,L)

Day 4: Rocamadour

Monday, October 9, 2023

Head today to one of the most beautiful places on your Flavors of Dordogne itinerary: Rocamadour. This tiny medieval village built into a cliffside is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and has been an important pilgrimage destination on the Way of St. James for hundreds of years. Its one main street is filled with quaint shops and restaurants and leads to the Grand Escalier, comprised of 216 steps. At the top is a small square surrounded by the Chapelle Notre Dame and the Romanesque Basilica of St. Sauveur.

While visiting the area, a must-try is Rocamadour cheese at a cheese farm. This belongs to a family of goat cheeses and has been designated with AOC certification since 1996. Because of its nutty flavor, it tastes great when consumed on hot toast or in salads, and it also pairs well with red wine.

To further stimulate the appetite, how does another award-winning, excellent restaurant in an alluring location sound? Lunch is at the Michelin-starred Château de La Treyne today— a quintessentially French property standing spectacularly on limestone cliffs above the Dordogne River. To quote the Michelin Guide, "What a splendid place! The Dordogne snakes by the foot of this superb château surrounded by greenery. The view from the terrace is inspiring, and even enhances your appreciation of the food, which is classic, elegant and finely crafted."

Continue to savor your time in France this afternoon and evening at leisure.

Overnight: Château de Mercuès (B,L)

Day 5: Pech Merle / Saint-Cirq-Lapopie / Château de Cayx

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

Today get a peek into the prehistoric past through well-preserved mural paintings at the neolithic caves of Pech Merle. This art is a heritage to behold and safeguard, as it is over 20,000 years old. Indeed, is one of the few original caves still open to guests. Learn the charming story of how these caves were discovered.

While traveling through southwestern France, it's easy to overuse the word "beautiful." But thanks to its clifftop location and unrivaled view of the river, Saint-Cirq is just that. André Breton, leader of the Surrealist movement, commented after being in Saint-Cirq-Lapopie that he "stopped wanting to go anywhere else." Many artisans live and work in the village and display their goods in small boutiques or medieval houses.

After lunch, continue to Château de Cayx, a majestic property owned by the Danish royal family since 1974. Learn how grapes are harvested and made into wine from separate plots under strict temperature controls. The wines of the Château of Cayx include The Royale, The Cuvée Majesté, The Cigaralle, and The Prince's Malbec. A local wine from Cayx, The Cigaralle comes from Chardonnay planted mostly on the limestone terraces around the château. Did you know? "Cigaralle" is an old word probably from Catalan and used in Aquitaine and Occitanie to describe a pavilion built in a park or a pleasure garden where you can hear the song of cicadas. This vintage reveals a complex and expressive nose, with notes of exotic fruits and white flesh fruits.

Attentive visitors will note that the neighboring hamlet's name is spelled "Caix." The name Caix very probably comes from the Gallic "cajo," which means *quay*, indicating that boat traffic on the river Lot was vital to the region's economy for centuries.

Enjoy a three-course dinner with wine at our accommodations this evening.

Overnight: Château de Mercuès (B,L,D)

Day 6: Sarlat-la-Canéda / Les Eyzies-de-Tayac / Eyrignac

Wednesday, October 11, 2023

Today's adventure welcomes us to Sarlat-la-Canéda, one of the most fascinating small towns of France. Amongst the romantic châteaux, medieval villages, and the Dordogne River, Sarlat

is a culinary hotspot recognized for its truffles, walnuts, and wine.

Delight in a tour of the town's famous weekly market and learn about the renowned ingredients from the region with a gourmet tasting. As you stroll the sunbaked streets, admire the fresh produce, loaves of rustic breads, oddly shaped sausages, heaps of olives, wheels of cheese, cans of artisanal foie gras and other duck and goose products, vivid flowers, and so much more. There are some fantastic nougat shops in Sarlat, too. It tastes nothing like the chewy, plastic-wrapped stuff to which most are accustomed.

Lunch today will be at Les Glycines, in Les Eyzies-de-Tayac, where high-quality, original, vibrant dishes await. This Michelin-starred restaurant is committed to sustainable gastronomy and offers delicious food, attractive ambiance, and good service.

Later, explore the prehistoric treasures of La Madeleine troglodyte village. See some 17,000 years of our common history at this truly unique site of well-maintained ruins. The setting along the river is beautiful and is as enjoyable as learning about the village and its evolution.

Round out today by visiting Les Jardins d'Eyrignac. This large-scale topiary garden was begun in the 18th century, inspired by the Italian gardens of the day. Spheres, pyramids, cones, straight hedges, green rooms, patterns of boxwood, animals, and other motifs are pleasing to the eye and imagination. There are five main parts to this verdant oasis; the Plant Sculptures Kingdom; the Box Labyrinth; the Manor and French garden; Capucine's gardens; the White Garden and the Flower Meadow. There is also a vegetable garden and a flower garden. Discover more than 300 sculptures, 80 different plant species, and seven natural springs.

Overnight: Château de Mercuès (B,L)

Day 7: Beynac / La Roque-Gageac

Thursday, October 12, 2023

Discover the cultural and geographic factors that surround what's on your plate with a cooking class and lunch at Lo Gorissado, a farm-to-table paradise. In the rush and excitement that typically accompanies travel, slow down to focus on all the sights, smells, and tastes of your destination.

Your class is led by an expert chef who will share his culinary secrets and guide you through recipes using local ingredients.

In the afternoon, explore the Château de Beynac, the most authentic and best-preserved fortress of the Périgord, with a guided tour. This magnificent medieval structure sits high

above the Dordogne River. Despite its fortifications, Richard the Lionheart conquered the castle by scaling the cliff from below—though his occupation of the castle was admittedly short-lived.

Enter the grounds and admire breathtaking views provided over the river. Continue into the courtyard and a church and stables come into view. Inside the castle, find interesting dungeons, kitchens, and living quarters. Feel history in every corner of this impressive château with rare 15th-century frescoes that are in incredibly good condition and a Renaissance staircase dating back to the 17th-century.

A delight to stroll around, the photogenic village La Roque-Gageac offers visitors a labyrinth of cobbled streets, a troglodyte fort, and a Romanesque church. But the crème de la crème of a stop here is taking a ride on a gabarre. This is a traditional flat-bottomed boat that used to transport goods along the Dordogne, including wine from the vineyards.

Embark for a relaxing way to see the sights of Dordogne from the perspective of the river. See the feudal castle of Malartrie, Marqueyssac and its gardens, and the famous castles of Castelnaud-la-Chapelle and Milandes. This excursion is a journey back in time highlighted by landscapes and an exceptional river. Did you know that the Dordogne River proudly holds the title of a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve? UNESCO has recognized the area as being remarkable for its well-preserved natural setting and the noteworthy cultural heritage linked to it.

Dinner tonight is at leisure.

Overnight: Château de Mercuès (B,L)

Day 8: Cieurac

Friday, October 13, 2023

Get closer to one of the most region's prized treasures with a visit to a truffle farm. Truffles are a form of mushroom, an edible fungus that many claim enhances the taste of food. Growing in damp conditions at the base of trees, truffles emit a scent that can be detected by trained goats, female pigs, and dogs.

France is the largest producer of truffles, and each year the town of Sarlat holds a special festival for them. There's even a museum dedicated to truffles in the town of Sorges! At the truffle farm, learn more about these "black diamonds" and the patience and care required to cultivate them. Engage in a truffle hunting activity to bring the experience to life.

Later, "sniff" out additional opportunities to enjoy France on your own before our group

meets for the farewell dinner. Our final meal together will be at the Michelin-starred Le Duèze for three delightful courses and wine.

Overnight: Château de Mercuès (B,FD)

Day 9: Transfer to Toulouse/ Depart for U.S.

Saturday, October 14, 2023

Today after breakfast, guests departing during the suggested times will take a complimentary transfer to the airport for flights home. (B)

B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner, WD = Welcome dinner, FD = Farewell dinner

(Itinerary subject to change.)

Activity Level:

Moderate

Activities are generally not very strenuous, however, we expect that guests can enjoy two hours or more of walking each day, are sure-footed on cobbled and unpaved surfaces, and can walk up and down stairs without assistance.

The Château de Mercuès was constructed in the 13th century. While it has been updated to modern standards, its original structure means guests will find stone floors and steps that may not have railings. There is an elevator, but it does not access every floor.

Historic city centers are usually more accessible by foot than by vehicle, and sometimes it is not possible for your motor coach to drop you off at site entrances. Due to the structure of some buildings, facilities for the disabled may be limited. Also, dexterity to use kitchen tools and participate in lessons is not necessary, but adds to the enjoyment of this program.

**ORBRIDGE
WINE
GIFT**



Early Reservation Bonus†

Reserve your space early and receive six bottles of wine featuring labels by vintners in the regions you will visit during this program! This Orbridge exclusive gift is our thanks to you for joining us early.

Where prohibited by state law or by retailer licensing obligations, guests will receive alternative specialty items of comparable value. Please see the reservation form for more details.

What's Included:

- 7 nights accommodations
 - 7 breakfasts, 5 lunches, and 3 dinners
 - All lessons, private tours and tastings, and unique small-group excursions noted in the 9-day itinerary
 - Full guiding services of an Orbridge Travel Director and expert local guides
 - Private motor coach transportation
 - Luggage handling
 - Gratuities to Orbridge Travel Director, local guides, drivers, and wait staff for included meals
 - Airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times
-

Accommodations:

Château de Mercuès



October 7 - October 13

High on a forested hill, Château de Mercuès is an authentic medieval castle with manicured gardens and winery. In addition to style and character, this property treats guests to fine wine, gastronomic dining, comfy rooms, and sweeping views of Lot Valley. Originally erected in the 13th century, Château de Mercuès' original purpose was to protect the town of Cahors and the Lot Valley. It was later rebuilt for pleasure. Escape the daily regime of life and embrace the elegance, warmth, and pleasures of this Relais & Châteaux property with a Michelin-star restaurant.

Note that rooms differ both in size and in color. All have one king or two twin beds and feature ensuite bathroom with combined bathtub/shower. Classic, Deluxe, Prestige, and Signature Suite options are available for consideration. Singles may choose from Deluxe, Prestige and Signature Suite categories.

Classic Double: 279-301 sq ft

Deluxe Double: 301-441 sq ft

Prestige Double: 344-592 sq ft

Signature Suite: 538-850 sq ft

The Château de Mercuès was constructed in the 13th century. While it has been updated to modern standards, its original structure means guests will find stone floors and steps that may not have railings. There is an elevator, but it does not access every floor.

Room Amenities: Flat-screen TV, writing desk, phone, minibar, safe, and en suite bathroom with sundries and hair dryer.

(Accommodations subject to change.)

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Optional Post-Tour:

BORDEAUX



Extend your time enjoying the "Flavors" of food, wine, and culture in France with a visit to Bordeaux in the heart of grape-growing country. This elegant city—France's sixth largest—has a UNESCO recognized historic center as well as upscale shopping and dining. Amazing architecture, food and wine experiences, dozens of museums and art galleries, and year-round pleasant weather help make Bordeaux a sought-after destination. Even the world's largest reflecting pool is here, as is Europe's largest sand dune!

Itinerary:

Day 9: Depart Mercués / Saint-Émilion / Bordeaux

Saturday, October 14, 2023

En route to Bordeaux, stop for lunch at a gourmet restaurant and winery in Saint-Émilion. Complementing the panoramic views of vineyards, the menu of La Terrasse Rouge brings "foodies" together with traditional dishes featuring the best seasonal produce. The wine cellar at La Terrasse Rouge likewise seduces wine amateurs and aficionados alike with its 250 references pulling from Bordeaux and other French and foreign vineyards.

Admire the display of dark-red glass pebbles resembling grapes. It is one of several contemporary art installations on the wine-producing estate.

Later, continue to Bordeaux and check in to the hotel.

Overnight: Villas Foch (L)

Day 10: Bordeaux

Sunday, October 15, 2023

After breakfast, set out on a locally guided walking tour. Did you know Bordeaux beat out 20 other destinations, including Rome and Lisbon, to win the "European Best Destination" competition? Or that *Lonely Planet* also once selected Bordeaux as the "world's best city to visit?"

Indeed, Bordeaux is a city adorned with graceful 18th century architecture and a lovely riverfront. Discover first-hand why this city should be on the radar of guests to France by exploring today with a city tour and unique museum.

The Place de la Bourse has symbolized Bordeaux around the world for centuries and played a major role in the city's development, trade, and reputation. Both the Bordelais and visitors alike adore this square. Take a closer look at the sculpted faces beneath the arches of the buildings and cross the road to the Water Mirror. This is the world's largest reflecting pool, and was inspired by the flooded sight of Piazza San Marco in Venice. The water of Place de la Bourse goes through a programmed sequence of three minutes of fog, three minutes of mirror, and ten minutes of pool. It's a contemporary UNESCO World Heritage Site and likely the most photographed place in Bordeaux.

La Cité du Vin, the world's first wine museum of its kind, is an interactive experience with a mission to "protect, celebrate, and transmit the heritage of wine." This ultra-modern facility is therefore a celebration of wine—a high-tech museum teaching visitors about the history of wine, and where and how it is made around the world. It's even designed to look like a wine decanter.

With some twenty digital spaces, the permanent exhibition of the Cité du Vin invites you on a journey. Immersed in interactive universes, be seated virtually with the great figures of history and test your senses. The tour concludes with a visit to the top floor, where you may pair a glass of wine with views of Bordeaux and Garonne.

The evening is free for you to enjoy at leisure.

Overnight: Villas Foch (B)

Day 11: Bordeaux / Arcachon / Dune du Pilat

Monday, October 16, 2023

This morning is at leisure. In the afternoon, travel to Arcachon, the main town on the Bassin d'Arcachon, a bay of the Atlantic Ocean that attracts many visitors from Bordeaux. This is one of the main osticulture (oyster farming) centers of France. Take in the views from a "pinasse," a local boat dedicated to sailing on the Bassin, and enjoy a champagne and oyster tasting onboard.

This region is also home to an amazing sand dune called *Dune du Pilat*. Towering more than 360 feet high, it is taller than the Statue of Liberty and Big Ben. The gigantic sand dune is one of the wonders of the area, with its 60 million metric cubes of sand. It is simply astonishing to see in person. Those who climb to the top are rewarded with a stunning panoramic view. The Cap Ferret peninsula is on one side, a huge pine forest on the other, and the magnificent Banc d'Arguin nature reserve is straight ahead.

Overnight: Villas Foch (B,L)

Day 12: Depart for U.S.

Tuesday, October 17, 2023

In the morning, guests departing during the suggested times take the complimentary group transfer to the airport for flights home. (B)

B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner

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

Activities are generally not very strenuous, however, we expect that guests can enjoy two hours or more of walking, are sure-footed on cobbled surfaces, and can walk up and down hillsides and stairs without assistance. Historic city centers are usually more accessible by foot than by vehicle. Due to the structure of some buildings, facilities for the disabled may

be limited.

Accommodations:

Villas Foch



October 14 - October 16

Touted as a five-star hotel combining neoclassicism and modernity, the Villas Foch welcomes travelers in the city center of Bordeaux. Marble, leather, and velvet materials impart a pride of place, while 20 cozy rooms, sauna, swimming pool, and well-stocked bar recharge guests' batteries after days spent making discoveries.

Room Amenities: Individual climate control, writing desk, flat-screen TV, available Wi-Fi, phone, coffee and tea maker, minibar, safe, bathrobes and slippers, and en suite bathroom with premium sundries and hair dryer.

(Accommodations subject to change.)

What's Included:

- Group transfer to Bordeaux
- 3 nights accommodations at Villas Foch (or similar)
- 3 breakfasts and 2 lunches
- Guided sightseeing of Bordeaux and Arcachon, including entrance fees
- Luggage portage
- Gratuities to local guide, driver, and porters
- Airport transfers for guests departing during the suggested times



Flavors of Dordogne

OCTOBER 06, 2023 — OCTOBER 14, 2023

POST-TOUR: OCTOBER 14, 2023 — OCTOBER 17, 2023

EARLY RESERVATION BONUS†

RESERVE BY **JANUARY 13, 2023** TO RECEIVE A
FREE ORBRIDGE WINE GIFT

Reserve by Credit Card:

Online: ncsu.orbridge.com

Phone: (919) 515-0508

Email: hart@ncsu.edu

Reserve by Check:

Made payable to **Orbridge, LLC**

Mail to: NC State Alumni Association

Box 7503, NC State University

Raleigh, NC 27695-7503

GUEST INFORMATION:

Guest #1 Name (Title/Salutation): _____

Email: _____ Class Year: _____

Home Phone: _____ Alt. Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Guest #2 Name (Title/Salutation): _____

Email: _____ Class Year: _____

Home Phone: _____ Alt. Phone: _____

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 the COVID-19 Acknowledgement at orbridge.com/wellness; and I/we agree that Orbridge, LLC is authorized to charge my credit card above and/or take my/our deposit for this program.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

PROGRAM RATES*

Classic: \$5,995

Deluxe: \$6,695

Prestige: \$7,695

Signature Suite: \$8,995

Single (Deluxe): \$9,195

POST-TOUR RATE***

Standard: \$2,995

Single: \$4,695

**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.*

†Place your deposit on or before the specified date, and one Orbridge Wine Gift per room reserved will ship after receipt of final payment. Where prohibited by state law (including, but not limited to AK, AR, DE, KY, MS, MT, OK, RI, UT) or by retailer licensing obligations (IL, MA, MD, NH, NJ, NY, PA, SD, TX, VA, VT), guests will receive alternative specialty items of comparable value. All Wine Gifts are handled by an independent third party.

Terms and Conditions

THE FOLLOWING TERMS AND CONDITIONS ARE EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2022.

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

ORBRIDGE® 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, this 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, illness, 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 \$500 per person per pre-tour and/or post-tour except for programs noted in (2) and (3); (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 \$750 per person is due for Tanzania Wildlife Safari's Rwanda pre-tour. Orbridge accepts payment 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 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 195 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.

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 120 days prior to all programs' scheduled departure date, except Antarctica and Trans-Siberian Railway, and no sooner than 225 days prior to Antarctica's and Trans-Siberian Railway's departure date may be cancelled within 30 days following the reservation date ("Grace Period") for a full refund.

All payments made for Tanzania Wildlife Safari's Rwanda pre-tour are non-transferrable and non-refundable.

Notice of termination must be received by Orbridge during the Grace Period and provided in writing either via email or mailed letter. The date of receipt will be used for the effective date.

Reservation Changes. Reservation changes (including, but not limited to, name changes) are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. Reservation changes will not incur an administration fee except in the following cases: 1) Reservation changes completed 90 or fewer days from the program's scheduled departure date for all programs except Antarctica and Trans-Siberian Railway will incur a \$150 administrative fee plus any third-party penalties and/or charges. 2) Reservation changes completed 195 or fewer days from the program's scheduled departure date for Antarctica Discovery and Trans-Siberian Railway will incur a \$150 administrative fee plus any third-party penalties and/or charges. In addition, any reservation changed from double occupancy to single occupancy will be charged the single occupancy rate, which will be due at the time of final payment or upon receipt of an updated invoice if received after the tour's final payment due date.

Reservation Cancellation and Refunds. Notice of cancellation must be submitted to Orbridge in writing either via email or mailed letter. The date of receipt will be used for the

effective date and the cancellation 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 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 less an administrative fee of \$350 per person for the main program and \$200 per person for a pre-tour and/or post-tour. If the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 90 and 76 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, optional excursion(s) fees and optional electives, and the balance will be refunded. If the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 75 and 61 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, optional excursion(s) fees and optional electives, and the balance will be refunded. If the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 60 and 46 days prior to the scheduled departure date, a 75% cancellation fee will be applied to the full cost of the program, including any pre-tour and/or post-tour, optional excursion(s) fees and optional electives, and the balance will be refunded. If the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge within 45 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, optional excursion(s) fees and optional electives.

(b) For Antarctica Discovery and Trans-Siberian Railway, if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge more than 195 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 less an administrative fee of \$950 per person for the main program and \$200 per person for a pre-tour and/or post-tour. If the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 195 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, optional excursion(s) fees and optional electives, 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, optional excursion(s) fees and optional electives, 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, optional excursion(s) fees and optional electives.

(c) All payments made for Tanzania Wildlife Safari's Rwanda pre-tour are non-refundable.

A 100% cancellation fee applies to all non-refundable airfare. Refunds, if any, will be processed within 30 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 is lower than your original 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 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 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 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 unsuitable 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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