The Danube
by River Ship
10 Days from Prague to Budapest
MAY 25, 2016 – JUNE 03, 2016

THE DANUBE BY RIVER SHIP

Discover, as is only possible aboard a river ship, the treasures of the Danube—an ancient waterway distinguished with more UNESCO World Heritage Sites than any other in Europe.

Dear Alumni and Friends,

I’m pleased to invite you on a special 10-day journey through the heart of Central Europe, highlighted by an 8-day river ship cruise aboard the remarkable *Avalon Vista*. For this program, excursions and experiences on and off the ship have been arranged exclusively for the enjoyment of alumni guests and their family and friends. You will quickly discover that this is an outstanding land and cruise value.

Before embarkation, spend one night in spectacular Prague. Then embark in Nuremberg for a river ship voyage along the Danube River, from sleepy villages nestled beneath monumental fortresses through some of Europe’s most charming cities.

Our rates for Rutgers alumni guests on this departure represent a significant savings (up to $1,000 per couple) over that of non-affiliated guests. Stateroom availability is limited, so be certain to reserve your spot early while selection is at its best—and share this opportunity with friends who may be interested in traveling with you! Reserve online at [http://rutgers.orbridge.com](http://rutgers.orbridge.com), by phone at (866) 639-0079, or by returning the enclosed reservation form.

Warm regards,

Donna K. Thornton
Vice President of Alumni Relations
Rutgers University Alumni Association

*Please note: The information contained in this document is current as of 7/21/2015*
Program Highlights:

- Spend one night in Prague prior to your cruise before traveling to Nuremberg for embarkation. With your local guide, enjoy a special walking tour of Prague that takes you away from the bustling city center and into the quieter streets that are rich with history’s secrets.

- View Kaiserburg Imperial Castle in Nuremberg and visit its quaint town center or local WWII sites.

- In Regensburg visit Dom St. Peter, then head out on a special included excursion to explore Weltenburg Abbey, one of the oldest in Bavaria, which also houses the oldest monastery brewery in the world—where monks have been brewing beer since 1050.

- Explore the glorious Benedictine abbey in Melk.

- Discover Vienna with guided historic sightseeing and a cultural tour of Schönbrunn Palace—included exclusively for our guests.

- See the 13th-century Matthias Church in Budapest.

What’s Included: 8 nights accommodations, meals including 8 breakfasts, 6 lunches, and 7 dinners served with complimentary regional wine and beer, on-board activities, all gratuities, and airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times.

Day-by-Day Itinerary*:

Day 1-2: En Route from U.S. / Arrive in Prague, Czech Republic
Welcome to historic Prague, the largest city in the Czech Republic and listed in the UNESCO World Cultural and Natural Heritage Register. This evening meet your Orbridge Travel Director and Avalon Vista Cruise Director during a special welcome reception.
Overnight: Hilton Prague (or similar) (R)
Day 3: Prague / Nuremberg, Germany (Embarkation)
This morning, escape the familiar side of Prague as your local guide takes you to the city center’s hidden treasures for the included Prague’s Secrets Revealed excursion. Wander away from Old Town Square and find yourself following a twisting medieval cobblestone street rich with notable and interesting sights. Although the buildings and houses may seem typical, you will be surprised at the wealth of history that lies behind their facades. Your local expert will share with you these secrets and stories. The tour leads you to the Charles Bridge and Malá Strana, which according to the locals, is Prague’s most romantic and picturesque part of the protected city center.

After lunch on your own, drive to Nuremberg to board the *Avalon Vista*. Meet your crew and captain during a welcome reception, and enjoy your first night on board.
Overnight: *Avalon Vista* (B,D)

Day 4: Nuremberg
Known for its traditional gingerbread and handmade toys, Nuremberg was also an early center of humanism, science, printing, and mechanical invention. The site of Hitler’s Nuremberg Rallies during WWII, the city was a major target of Allied air raids, resulting in almost complete destruction. Since 1945, the churches and historic buildings have been rebuilt exactly as before. View Kaiserburg Imperial Castle and the town’s quaint town center, or visit the Nuremberg rally grounds and grandstands.
Overnight: *Avalon Vista* (B,L,D)

Day 5: Regensburg
Regensburg’s many Roman, Romanesque, and Gothic structures make it one of Germany’s best-preserved medieval cities. Architectural highlights include the Old Town Hall and Porta Praetoria, gates to an ancient Roman fort built in 179 AD.

On a special included excursion, set out to the upper end of the Danube Gorge to Weltenburg Abbey, which is located on a peninsula directly beneath the sheer cliffs of the Gorge. The abbey was founded by Hiberno-Scottish monks around 617 and is one of the first founded in Bavaria. It also houses the oldest monastery brewery in the world, where monks have been brewing beer since 1050.

Later this evening, sample some of Germany’s famous beers.
Overnight: *Avalon Vista* (B,L,D)

Day 6: Passau / Linz, Austria
Today, explore Passau, known as the “Three Rivers City,” as it is located at the confluence of the Danube, Inn, and Ilz rivers. With more than 17,000 pipes, the largest church organ in the world can be found in St. Stephen’s Cathedral.

You may also choose to join one of the following optional full-day excursions.

Venture to Salzburg to take in the popular sites from the setting of *The Sound of Music*. Located at the foothills of the Alps, this picturesque city is also known as the birthplace of Mozart. A wealthy city with history based on the salt trade from the nearby Alpine Mountains, Salzburg is full of beautiful baroque buildings and is perched between the mountains and green waters of the Salzach River. In your free time, you can stroll through its small but busy lanes with their wrought iron signs, or take a cable car to the castle on the hill for views, or relax on one of the many terraces that help make you feel a part of the scenery. Admire the beauty of the region while on the tour’s scenic motor coach ride; learn from dedicated, local experts; and relive scenes from *The Sound of Music*. After your free time you will also visit the church at Mondsee where the “von Trapps” were married.

You may also choose to take a scenic route across the rolling hills of Upper Austria and Bohemia to one of the most charming and romantic little towns found in Europe—Cesky Krumlov. For centuries, this small town has enjoyed the reputation of being the “Pearl of the Bohemian Forest”, an extraordinary fortified town built by princes and bishops on a strikingly beautiful bend of the Vltava River. This hidden gem of European history remains as it was centuries
ago—a colorful place with over 300 historic buildings, small lanes, art galleries, charming shops and medieval inns. After World War II when the Iron Curtain fell, Český Krumlov found itself even more off the beaten track, with hardly a visitor. Your local expert will guide you back in time. Pass by the Vltava (Moldau) River, which has been made immortal by Bedřich Smetana’s composition of the same name, before you return to the ship with happy memories from this UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Or perhaps visit the romantic side of Austria, with picturesque mountain lakes, luscious green hills and fields, striking mountain cliffs and charming villages—where countless writers, composers and creative artists over the centuries came to find inspiration. The magnificent landscape of the Salzkammergut region, shared between the provinces of Salzburg, Upper Austria and Styria, makes up the famous Austrian Lake District. The literal translation of the Salzkammergut is ‘salt chamber estate’ and refers to an area where salt was mined and which the Imperial Chamber in Vienna once controlled. Today, the term has become a brand name for one of the loveliest holiday regions of Central Europe. Its over 70 lakes are of drinking water quality and range in color from turquoise to emerald green. Your local expert will reveal the unspoiled beauty of the Gmunden and St. Wolfgang region, and some of the most panoramic routes in Austria.

After your exciting day, return to the ship in the contemporary and modern city of Linz, resting on the banks of the Danube.

Overnight: **Avalon Vista** (B,L,D)

**Day 7: Melk / Vienna**
The view from the Benedictine abbey’s terrace in Melk is breathtaking, rivaled only by the frescoes, tapestries, and gilded treasures inside. Melk Abbey is one of the world’s most famous monastic sites, its library holding countless medieval manuscripts. This evening arrive in Vienna—the “City of Music”—and, as a fitting welcome, step out for an optional musical performance.

Overnight: **Avalon Vista** (B,L,D)

**Day 8: Vienna / Schönbrunn Palace**
Spend a full day in Vienna to soak in all the awe-inspiring sites, including Hofburg Palace, the Vienna Opera House, Ring Boulevard, and St. Stephen’s Cathedral, among others. Enjoy a special Orbridge included excursion to Schönbrunn Imperial Palace, the former summer residence of the Habsburgs. Considered one of the most beautiful Baroque palaces in Europe, it is part of UNESCO’s cultural heritage due to its historic importance, unique grounds, and ornate furnishings.

Overnight: **Avalon Vista** (B,L,D)

**Day 9: Budapest, Hungary**
Make sure you are on the sky deck this morning as you approach Budapest, as many of the city’s main sites rest on the banks of the Danube. Watch for Heroes’ Square, the Fishermen’s Bastion, and the 13th-century Matthias Church—which you will see later today with a local guide, and the impressive Buda Castle. Eight bridges, including the famous Chain and Elisabeth Bridges, connect ancient Buda to Pest. After sightseeing, shop for Budapest’s renowned Herend porcelain, paprika, and folk embroidery.

Overnight: **Avalon Vista** (B,L,D)

**Day 10: Budapest (Disembarkation)**
After breakfast, guests departing during the suggested times will disembark and take a complimentary transfer to the airport for flights home. (B)

*Itinerary subject to change

**What’s Included:**
• One night accommodation at the Hilton Prague before embarkation

• Seven nights aboard the *Avalon Vista*

• 8 breakfasts, 6 lunches, and 7 dinners served with wine and beer—including a farewell dinner aboard the *Avalon Vista*

• The services of a dedicated Orbridge Travel Director throughout as well as expert local guides

• In addition to on-board lectures, activities, and nightly entertainment, quality educational and cultural experiences at every stop—including privately guided historic sightseeing in Nuremberg, Regensburg, Passau, Melk, Vienna, and Budapest

• For this sailing, enjoy the following included excursions: Prague’s Secrets Revealed—a jaunt to notable and interesting sights off the beaten path, a visit to Weltenburg Abbey—established in 617, and a cultural tour of Schönbrunn Palace—former summer residence of the Imperial family and a UNESCO World Heritage Site

• Site visits with expert guides to Kaiserburg Imperial Castle or local WWII historic sites, the Benedictine abbey in Melk, and Budapest’s Fishermen’s Bastion

• Airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times

• All gratuities, transportation, port charges, and entrance fees to included sites

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**Your Guide(s):**

**Orbridge Travel Director**

Every departure is accompanied by one of our premier Travel Directors, all of whom have extensive knowledge and experience as guides. Enriched by their accompaniment and enthusiasm, enjoy the cultures and locations you explore with added confidence, understanding, and appreciation.

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**Program Accommodations:**

**Hilton Prague**
For one night prior to embarkation, enjoy the first-class comforts of the Hilton Prague, located between Old Town Square and the business district. Enjoy stunning views over the city while sipping a signature cocktail at the rooftop Cloud 9 Sky Bar & Lounge, or sample the traditional Czech dishes at the CzecHouse Grill & Rotisserie.

*Room Amenities: Climate control, cable television, wireless internet (additional fee), alarm clock radio, telephone, safe, tea and coffee-making facilities, mini bar, and en suite bathroom with hand held shower, sundries and hair dryer.*

**Avalon Vista**

Settle in and enjoy the convenience of cruising: spend your days sampling fascinating places along the Danube River and relax aboard the outstanding, contemporary river ship selected for this sailing, *Avalon Vista*. The 166-passenger *Avalon Vista* features wall-to-wall panoramic windows available in select stateroom categories that transform the staterooms into open air balconies. With its impeccable amenities, service, on-board lectures, and entertainment, you will cruise the majestic Danube in style and experience the distinct advantages and appeal of river ship cruising.
Highlights

- Wall-to-wall panoramic windows available in select stateroom categories
- Sky deck with shade awnings and game area
- Fitness center
- Non-smoking interior
- Outside viewing deck
- Headsets for all guided shore excursions
- Sightseeing with a Certified Local Guide
- On-board lectures, activities and nightly entertainment
- Sky deck whirlpool
- Internet corner
- Hair salon (manicures available)
- Complimentary Wi-Fi access
- Alternate dining experience with regional specialties and lighter fare in the Panorama Bistro
- Behind-the-scenes ship tour
- Choice of excursions - leisurely, traditional or essential sightseeing options
- Complimentary maps and use of Nordic walking sticks
- Culture and cruise on-board experiences with entertainers, artisans and experts
* Expanded "on-demand" in-room entertainment
* Self-serve beverage station with complimentary tea, hot chocolate and premium coffees
* Well-stocked library with books and board games

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**Activity Level:**

**Moderate**

Activities are generally not very strenuous, but a fair amount of walking can be expected. Different paces are available for each excursion, including a basic orientation of the must-sees with time to explore on your own, the traditional sightseeing following a guide at an average pace, or leisurely exploring, where all the same sites will be visited for a shorter amount of time or from a distance. All activities, included and non-included, are optional.

It is our expectation that guests on this program are able to follow a guide through cobblestone streets at an average pace for two hours and walk up and down stairs without assistance. Historic city centers are usually more accessible by foot than vehicle, and sometimes it is not possible for your motor coach to drop you off at the hotel and site entrances. Due to the structure of some buildings, handrails may not be present, and facilities for the disabled may be limited.

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**What They’re Saying:**

“We had a great time on this trip. The river was spectacular! The crew and Cruise Director were great. Exceptionally competent.”

—Haddy P., Dallas, TX

“Orbridge did a wonderful job from start to finish. You were all knowledgeable, attentive and genuinely interested in making the travel experience a memorable one! Way to go!”

— Mary D., New Providence, NJ

“Orbridge is an exceptional tour company who had secured high quality people to present information to us at every stop on the way. Our guide was the top in his field—very professional, accommodating, and knowledgeable.”

— Betsy S., Amherst, MA

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**Optional Extension:**

**ADD DAYS 10-12 IN BUDAPEST**
Extend your stay in one of Europe's most intriguing cities. Discover Budapest's notable monuments and remnants of the communist period, wander the Great Market Hall, spend time amongst the shops and cafes of Váci Utca, and make a special guided visit to the colorful art town of Szentendre.

Itinerary:

Day 10: Budapest / History of Communism
Today includes guided sightseeing of Budapest’s notable monuments and remnants of the communist period. From 1947-1989, the Hungarian Communist Party ruled. Although the regime was not as deferential to the Soviet Union, the collective economy and fear of the secret police shaped the lives of Hungarian citizens. This guided tour begins in Memento Park to view the unique collection of communism’s powerful expression, including a 15-foot statue of Lenin, and mighty heads of Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels. Our afternoon also includes a stop at the former headquarters of the AVH—the dreaded secret police—which is now a museum exhibiting the grim moments of the communist period. Your local expert will share commentary on how residents lived and survived under communism.

Overnight: InterContinental Budapest (or similar) (B)

Day 11: Budapest / Szentendre
Venture to the bohemian side of Hungary. Szentendre is a welcoming town providing a distinctively Mediterranean flavor that’s rare this far north in Europe. Discover Turkish and Serbian influences among its rich collection of historical buildings. Stroll along the cobblestone streets and wander beside the unique and colorful houses. Enjoy free time to explore the various art museums and souvenir shops, which feature local pottery and paprika.

Overnight: InterContinental Budapest (or similar) (B)

Day 12: Depart Budapest
After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your flight home. (B)

Please note that extensions are not escorted by an Orbridge Travel Director. Included sightseeing is accompanied by a local guide. Group space may not be available within 90 days of departure.

Accommodations:
InterContinental Budapest (or similar)

Retreat to the elegant rooms of the InterContinental Budapest, located on the bank of the Danube and surrounded by Budapest’s most iconic landmarks. Enjoy breathtaking views of Budapest’s vibrant life from the lounge or relax in the state-of-the-art spa.

Room Amenities: Heating and air conditioning, pillow-top mattresses, flat screen LCD TVs, complimentary high-speed internet & WiFi, telephones with voicemail, mini-bar, coffee and tea making facilities, en suite bathroom with bathrobes and hair dryer.

What's Included:

★ Two nights accommodations at the InterContinental Budapest (or similar) with breakfast daily

★ Locally guided sightseeing of Budapest including notable monuments and remnants of the communist period, and a visit to the picturesque and historic town of Szentendre

★ Transfers to and from the guided tour and from hotel to airport, as well as gratuities to local guides and drivers
Reservation Form

The Danube by River Ship

MAY 25, 2016 — JUNE 03, 2016
EXTENSION: JUNE 03, 2016 — JUNE 05, 2016

☐ Option 1: Reserve online now
at [http://rutgers.orbridge.com](http://rutgers.orbridge.com)
or call (866) 639-0079.

☐ Option 2: Secure your reservation with
a deposit charged to the credit card below,
or with the enclosed check payable to:
Orbridge LLC.

Guest Information:

Guest #1 (as printed on passport): ___________________________ Class Year ______
Guest #2 (as printed on passport): ___________________________ Class Year ______
Guest #1 (preferred on name badge): ________________________
Guest #2 (preferred on name badge): ________________________
Address: ______________________________________________________
City: ___________________________ State: _______ ZIP: _____________
Email: ___________________________ Phone: ___________ Alt. Phone: ______
Category Preference (if applicable): 1st choice__________ 2nd choice__________

Payment:

Card type: ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ American Express ☐ Discover ☐ Check enclosed
Card #: ___________________________________________ Exp. date: _______ CVV: ______
Name (as printed on card): _________________________________
Billing address (if different than above): ______________________
City: ___________________________ State: _______ ZIP: _____________

(#) _____ guests joining program ($850/person) +
(#) _____ guests joining extension ($500/person if applicable) = Total deposit: $ _______

I/we have read, understand, and agree to the full Terms & Conditions at [http://terms.orbridge.com](http://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: ____________

Send or fax reservation form: Orbridge
and deposit to: P.O. Box 10339, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110
Fax: (206) 452-5655

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*Special group rates, limited offer. Rates are per person based on double occupancy, in U.S. dollars. For single reservations, a 50% supplement is added to the applicable category’s special rate; availability limited. Airfare not included. **Extension rate is per person based on double occupancy except where noted as Single, in U.S. dollars. Single availability limited. Airfare not included.
Cancellations and Refunds. All cancellations must be submitted to Orbridge in writing and will be subject to a cancellation fee (“Cancellation Fee”) as follows: (a) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge before 151 days or more prior to the scheduled departure date, the Cancellation Fee will be $500 per person per program and $300 per person per program for any extension; (b) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 151 and 91 days prior to the scheduled departure date the Cancellation Fee will be forfeiture of the full deposit per person per program including any extension; (c) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge 90 or fewer days prior to the scheduled departure date, the Cancellation Fee will be the full program price. In addition to any other penalties, a Cancellation Fee equal to 100% of the carrier charge applies to all non-refundable airfares due to your cancellation made at any time prior to the scheduled program departure date, as applicable. Refunds, if any, of any Payments in excess of the aggregate Cancellation Fee shall be processed within 30 calendar days of our receipt of your written notice.

Travel Insurance. Orbridge strongly recommends that you purchase travel and cancellation insurance to protect your interests in the event of unexpected or unforeseen circumstances, including without limitation, force majeure events, that cause the cancellation of your trip. In addition, we recommend that you consider obtaining a policy(ies) that will cover some or all of your losses associated with damage or loss of luggage or personal effects. If you do not have, but are interested in, purchasing travel and cancellation insurance please contact us immediately.

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. Please be advised that air carriers often impose restrictions or limitations on the number of pieces, size and weight of luggage and may reject or impose additional fees on luggage exceeding such restrictions or limitations. If your reservation is made fewer than 90 days prior to departure, the entire cost of the program, plus any extension and options, is due at the time of registration by check, money order, ACH or wire transfer of same day U.S. funds only and due no later than 90 days prior to the scheduled program departure date. If your reservation is made fewer than 90 days prior to departure, the entire cost of the program, plus any extension and options, is due at the time of registration by check, money order, ACH or wire transfer of same day U.S. funds only and due no later than 90 days prior to the scheduled program departure date. If your reservation is made fewer than 90 days prior to departure, the entire cost of the program, plus any extension and options, is due at the time of registration by check, money order, ACH or wire transfer of same day U.S. funds only and due no later than 90 days prior to the scheduled program departure date. If your reservation is made fewer than 90 days prior to departure, the entire cost of the program, plus any extension and options, is due at the time of registration by check, money order, ACH or wire transfer of same day U.S. funds only and due no later than 90 days prior to the scheduled program departure date. If your reservation is made fewer than 90 days prior to departure, the entire cost of the program, plus any extension and options, is due at the time of registration by check, money order, ACH or wire transfer of same day U.S. funds only and due no later than 90 days prior to the scheduled program departure date. If your reservation is made fewer than 90 days prior to departure, the entire cost of the program, plus any extension and options, is due at the time of registration by check, money order, ACH or wire transfer of same day U.S. funds only and due no later than 90 days prior to the scheduled program departure date. If your reservation is made fewer than 90 days prior to departure, the entire cost of the program, plus any extension and options, is due at the time of registration by check, money order, ACH or wire transfer of same day U.S. funds only and due no later than 90 days prior to the scheduled program departure date. If your reservation is made fewer than 90 days prior to departure, the entire cost of the program, plus any extension and options, is due at the time of registration by check, money order, ACH or wire transfer of same day U.S. funds only and due no later than 90 days prior to the scheduled program departure date.
Dependent(s) (if any). For and in consideration of the benefits you enjoy and receive in connection with the program, you, individually and on behalf of your Dependent(s), hereby agree and grant to Orbridge a limited, non-exclusive, irrevocable, worldwide, perpetual, royalty-free right, license and release, with right to sublicense, to exhibit, publish, display, and promote the photographs, images, visual depictions, and reproductions of you (together “Photos”) recorded in digital or other format during the program for use by Orbridge for the limited purpose of promoting and marketing the services of Orbridge in such manner as Orbridge may elect in its sole discretion. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the license granted herein includes the right, without limitation, for Orbridge to reproduce the Photos in digital or other form, to edit such materials, and to publicly display, publish and/or distribute such reproductions on Orbridge’s proprietary website (“Website”) and in such other digital media and print materials as Orbridge may elect.

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Arbitration. Any controversy or claim arising out of or relating to any services or products offered or obtained through Orbridge, including without limitation, any claim related to bodily injury, death or property damage, shall be adjudicated and conclusively settled and resolved by binding arbitration in Seattle, Washington before a single arbitrator reasonably knowledgeable in travel services matters selected by Orbridge in its sole reasonable discretion in accordance with the rules of the American Arbitration Association then existing, and judgment on the arbitration award may be entered in any court having jurisdiction over the subject matter of the controversy.

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Force Majeure. Dates, program details and costs, although given in good faith and based on tariffs, exchange rates and other information current at the time of printing, 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. There are many inherent risks in travel, which can lead to illness, injury, or even death. These risks are increased by the fact that some of our programs take place in remote locations, far from medical facilities. You acknowledge and agree to assume all such risks associated with participating in this 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 by a court of competent jurisdiction, 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.

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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