

INDEPENDENCE REALTY TRUST, INC

Form 424B5

September 27, 2016

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Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(5)  
Registration No. 333-196033

**The information in this preliminary prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is not complete and may be changed. This preliminary prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are not an offer to sell these securities, nor a solicitation of an offer to buy these securities, in any jurisdiction where the offering is not permitted.**

**SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED SEPTEMBER 27, 2016**

**PRELIMINARY PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT**

**(To Prospectus Dated June 16, 2014)**

**25,000,000 Shares**

**Common Stock**

This is a public offering of common stock of Independence Realty Trust, Inc. We are offering 25,000,000 shares of our common stock, par value \$0.01 per share. Our common stock is traded on the NYSE MKT LLC, or the NYSE MKT, under the symbol IRT. On September 26, 2016, the last reported sale price of our common stock was \$10.61 per share.

**Investing in our common stock involves risk. See Risk Factors beginning on page S-5 of this prospectus supplement, on page 5 of the accompanying prospectus and on page 8 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015 for a discussion of risks you should consider before deciding to invest in our common stock.**

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

	Per Share	Total
Public offering price	\$	\$
Underwriting discounts and commissions	\$	\$
Proceeds, before expenses, to us	\$	\$

We have granted the underwriters the right to purchase up to 3,750,000 additional shares of our common stock at the public offering price less the underwriting discount and commissions, within 30 days after the date of this prospectus supplement. If the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional shares in full, the underwriting discounts and commissions will be \$ , and the proceeds, before expenses, to us will be \$ .

The underwriters expect to deliver the shares on or about , 2016.

*Sole Book-Running Manager*

**Citigroup**

, 2016

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You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and any free writing prospectus prepared by us. We have not, and the underwriters have not, authorized anyone to provide you with different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. We are not, and the underwriters are not, making an offer to sell these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should not assume that the information contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is accurate as of any date other than the date of such documents or that the information incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is accurate as of any date other than the date of the document incorporated by reference. Our business, financial condition, liquidity, results of operations and prospects may have changed since such dates.

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**ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT**

This document is in two parts. The first part is this prospectus supplement, which describes the terms of this offering and also adds to or updates the information contained in the accompanying prospectus. The second part is the accompanying prospectus, which provides more general information about the securities we may offer from time to time, some of which may not apply to this offering. To the extent the information contained in this prospectus supplement conflicts with any information in the accompanying prospectus or any document incorporated by reference, the information in this prospectus supplement shall control. The information in this prospectus supplement may not contain all of the information that is important to you. You should carefully read both this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, including the documents incorporated by reference, before deciding to invest in our common stock.

Unless otherwise indicated or the context requires otherwise, references in this prospectus supplement to we, our, us and our company mean Independence Realty Trust, Inc., a Maryland corporation, and its consolidated subsidiaries, including Independence Realty Operating Partnership, LP, which we refer to as our operating partnership, and references in this prospectus supplement to RAIT mean RAIT Financial Trust, a Maryland real estate investment trust and the parent company of our external advisor.

**CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

This prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference contain certain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act. We claim the protection of the safe harbor for forward-looking statements provided in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Words such as anticipates, estimates, expects, projects, intends, plans, believes and terms of similar substance used in connection with any discussion of future operating or financial performance identify forward-looking statements. These statements include, but are not limited to, statements about our future financial and operating results and performance, statements about our plans, objectives, expectations and intentions with respect to our future operations, products and services, statements about our potential acquisitions and our potential financing transactions, and other statements that are not historical facts, including statements relating to our ability to complete the Stock Repurchase and the Internalization (each as defined herein) and realize the anticipated benefits of these transactions. These forward-looking statements are based upon the current beliefs and expectations of our management and are inherently subject to significant business, economic and competitive uncertainties and contingencies, many of which are difficult to predict and generally beyond our control. In addition, these forward-looking statements are subject to assumptions with respect to our future business strategies and decisions that are subject to change. Actual results may differ materially from the anticipated results discussed in these forward-looking statements.

The risk factors discussed in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and those discussed and identified in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015 and our other filings with the SEC, which we incorporate by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, among others, could cause actual results to differ materially from the anticipated results or other expectations expressed in the forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference. We caution you not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of their respective dates. All forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements contained or referred to in this section. Except to the extent required by applicable law or regulation, we undertake no obligation to update these forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date of this prospectus supplement or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events. If we do update one or more forward-looking statements, no inference should be drawn that we will make additional updates with respect to those or other forward-looking statements.



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**WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION**

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy any documents filed by us with the SEC at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You may request copies of these documents, upon payment of a copying fee, by writing to the SEC. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for information on the operation of the Public Reference Room. Our SEC filings are also available to the public through the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. In addition, our SEC filings are available free of charge through our website at <http://www.irtreit.com> as soon as reasonably practicable after filing with the SEC. The information contained on or linked to our website is not part of, or incorporated by reference into, this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus.

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-3 relating to the securities covered by this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are a part of the registration statement but do not contain all of the information in the registration statement, parts of which, including the exhibits to the registration statement, have been omitted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC. Whenever a reference is made in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or any document incorporated by reference herein or therein to a contract or other document, the reference is only a summary and you should refer to the exhibits that are a part of the registration statement for a copy of the contract or other document. You may review a copy of the registration statement at the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C., as well as through the SEC's website and our website.

**INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE**

SEC rules allow us to incorporate by reference information in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. This means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to another document. Any information referred to in this way is considered part of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus from the date we file that document. Any reports filed by us with the SEC after the date of this prospectus supplement and before the date that the offering of the securities covered by this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is completed or terminated will automatically update and, where applicable, supersede any information contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus or incorporated by reference herein or therein. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below that we have filed with the SEC:

our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015;

our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2016 and June 30, 2016;

the portions of our Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A filed on March 31, 2016 and incorporated by reference into Part III of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015;

our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on June 11, 2015 (only Item 9.01(a) and Exhibits 23.1, 99.2 and 99.3 thereto), May 17, 2016, June 27, 2016 and September 27, 2016; and

the description of our shares of common stock contained in our Registration Statement on Form 8-A filed on August 5, 2013.

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All documents that we file with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act on or after the date of this prospectus supplement and prior to the completion or termination of this offering are also incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and will automatically update and, where applicable, supersede information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. Nothing in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus shall be deemed to incorporate information furnished to, but not filed with, the SEC pursuant to Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of Form 8-K (or corresponding information furnished as an exhibit pursuant to Item 9.01 of Form 8-K).

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You may request a copy of these filings, at no cost, by writing or telephoning us at the following address:

Independence Realty Trust, Inc.  
Attention: Andres Viroslav  
Investor Relations  
Two Logan Square  
100 N. 18th Street, 23rd Floor,  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103  
Telephone: (215) 207-2100

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**SUMMARY**

*This summary highlights selected information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and may not contain all the information that you should consider before investing in our common stock. You should carefully read this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein, especially the Risk Factors section beginning on page S-5 of this prospectus supplement, on page 5 of the accompanying prospectus and on page 8 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015.*

**The Company**

We are a Maryland corporation that owns apartment properties in geographic non-gateway markets that we believe support strong occupancy and have the potential for growth in rental rates. We seek to provide stockholders with attractive risk-adjusted returns, with an emphasis on distributions and capital appreciation. We are externally advised by a wholly-owned subsidiary of RAIT Financial Trust, or RAIT (NYSE: RAS), a multi-strategy commercial real estate company organized as an internally managed REIT. RAIT invests in commercial mortgage loans and commercial real estate. We elected to be taxed as a REIT under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the Code, commencing with our taxable year ended December 31, 2011.

Our principal executive offices are located at Two Logan Square, 100 N. 18th Street, 23rd Floor, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103 and our telephone number is (215) 207-2100. Our internet address is <http://www.irtreit.com>. We do not incorporate by reference into this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus any material from our website, which should not be considered part of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus.

**Recent Developments**

As we disclosed in a Current Report on Form 8-K filed on September 27, 2016, on that date we entered into an agreement to complete a management internalization and separation from RAIT and certain of its affiliates, or the Internalization. The Internalization will consist of two parts: (i) the acquisition of our external advisor, Independence Realty Advisors, LLC, which is a subsidiary of RAIT, and (ii) the acquisition of certain assets and the assumption of certain liabilities relating to the multifamily property management business of RAIT, including property management contracts relating to apartment properties owned, as of September 26, 2016, by us (46 properties, totaling 12,982 units), RAIT (13 properties, totaling 3,493 units) and third parties (five properties, totaling 826 units). The purchase price for the Internalization is \$43.0 million, subject to certain pro rations at closing. In addition, we have agreed to repurchase up to all of the shares of our common stock owned by certain of RAIT's subsidiaries, or the Stock Repurchase, subject to certain conditions, as described below.

Each of the Internalization and Stock Repurchase are conditioned upon, among other things, receiving net proceeds of at least \$83.0 million from the sale of our common stock in this offering, and certain third party consents. As part of the Stock Repurchase, we have agreed to repurchase up to all 7,269,791 shares of our common stock from certain of RAIT's subsidiaries. The purchase price for the repurchased shares will be equal to the price to the public in this offering less any underwriting discounts or commissions. The Internalization is expected to close some time after the Stock Repurchase upon the satisfaction of certain closing conditions, including our entry into employment agreements with Scott F. Schaeffer, our Chief

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Executive officer, Farrell Ender, our president, and James J. Sebra, our Chief Financial Officer and our entry into a shared services agreement with RAIT.

For additional information regarding the Stock Repurchase and the Internalization, please see our Current Report on Form 8-K filed on September 27, 2016 and incorporated by reference herein.

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**THE OFFERING**

Issuer	Independence Realty Trust, Inc., a Maryland corporation
Shares of common stock offered by us	25,000,000 shares (or 28,750,000 shares if the underwriters exercise in full their option to purchase additional shares)
Shares of common stock to be outstanding after this offering	72,516,064 shares (or 76,263,064 shares if the underwriters exercise in full their option to purchase additional shares)(1)
Shares of common stock to be outstanding after this offering and the Stock Repurchase	65,243,345 shares (or 68,993,345 shares if the underwriters exercise in full their option to purchase additional shares)(1)
Restrictions on ownership	Our charter generally prohibits any stockholder from beneficially or constructively owning more than 9.8% in value of the aggregate of our outstanding shares of stock and 9.8% in value or in number of shares, whichever is more restrictive, of any class or series of outstanding shares of our capital stock, including our common stock. Our board of directors has granted such an exception for RAIT and its subsidiaries to own, in the aggregate, up to 100% of our outstanding common stock.
Use of proceeds	We intend to use the net proceeds of this offering (i) to repay in full our \$40.0 million senior secured term loan facility, (ii) to pay \$43.0 million for the Internalization, and (iii) to repurchase up to 7,269,719 shares of our common stock from certain of RAIT's subsidiaries. Any remaining proceeds will be used to repay outstanding borrowings under our \$325.0 million senior secured credit facility.
Distribution policy	We are required to distribute at least 90% of our REIT taxable income each year (subject to certain adjustments) in order to qualify as a REIT under the Code. To maintain our qualification as a REIT, we intend to continue to make regular quarterly distributions to the holders of our common stock. A portion of our distributions may be treated as a return of capital for federal income tax purposes. Distributions will be made at the discretion of our board of directors, subject to applicable law.
NYSE MKT symbol	IRT

(1) Based on 47,513,064 shares of our common stock outstanding as of September 20, 2016, including 36,814 shares issued subsequent to June 30, 2016. Excludes: (i) 3,593,663 shares of our common stock reserved for future issuance under our 2016 Long Term Incentive Plan and (ii) up to 2,915,008 shares of our common stock issuable upon the exchange of the same number of common units of limited partnership interest in our operating partnership.



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Risk factors

Investing in our common stock involves risks. See **Risk Factors** beginning on page S-5 of this prospectus supplement, on page 5 of the accompanying prospectus and on page 8 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015 for a discussion of certain risks you should consider before deciding to invest in our common stock.

Except as otherwise noted, the information set forth above and throughout this prospectus supplement assumes no exercise of the underwriters option to purchase up to 3,750,000 additional shares of our common stock in this offering.

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**RISK FACTORS**

An investment in our common stock involves risks. You should carefully consider, among other factors, the risks below, the risks described under the caption **Risk Factors** beginning on page 5 of the accompanying prospectus and on page 8 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015 before deciding to invest in our common stock.

**Risks Associated With the Internalization**

*We cannot assure you that we will be able to complete the Internalization or Stock Repurchase, which could materially adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.*

We cannot assure you that we will be able to close on the Internalization or Stock Repurchase pursuant to the transaction agreement related to the Internalization and the Stock Repurchase. Each of the Internalization and Stock Repurchase are subject to the satisfaction of closing conditions, including obtaining third party consents and the receipt of at least \$83.0 million in net proceeds from this offering. There can be no guarantee that the closing conditions will be satisfied and the transactions consummated. Failure to complete the transactions could materially adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Upon the completion of the Internalization, we may not be able to retain all of the current employees who provide services to our Advisor or our executive officers. Our general and administrative expenses after the Internalization could be higher than our current expectations. Any of these foregoing risks could materially adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

*We may not manage the Internalization effectively or realize its anticipated benefits.*

We may not manage the Internalization effectively. The Internalization could be a time-consuming and costly process. The internalized company may encounter potential difficulties in the integration process which may result in the inability to successfully internalize corporate management or the property manager in a manner that permits us to achieve the cost savings anticipated to result from the Internalization. Following the Internalization, we expect to be reliant on RAIT for certain services such as information technology, human resources, insurance, investor relations, legal, tax and accounting for a period of time after the closing. If we are unable to internalize or find other providers for these services within a reasonable time period, we may not achieve all of the expected benefits of the Internalization. We also may not be able to retain all of the current properties of the property manager or the employees expected to transfer from RAIT to us upon the Internalization. The failure to manage the internalization effectively, including failure to smoothly transition services or retain employees, could result in the anticipated benefits of the Internalization not being realized in the timeframe currently anticipated or at all.

*The Internalization was negotiated between a special committee of our Board of Directors, or the Special Committee, comprised solely of independent directors, and RAIT, which is affiliated with certain of our officers and directors.*

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The Internalization was negotiated with RAIT, which is affiliated with certain of our directors and officers. As a result, those officers and directors may have different interests than we do as a whole. This potential conflict would not exist in the case of a transaction negotiated with unaffiliated third parties. Moreover, if any of the RAIT-related parties to the transaction agreement breaches any of the representations, warranties or covenants made by it in the transaction agreement, we may choose not to enforce, or to enforce less vigorously, our rights because of our desire to maintain our ongoing relationship with RAIT and the interests of certain of our directors and officers. Moreover, the representations, warranties, covenants and indemnities in the transaction agreement are subject to limitations and qualifiers, which may also limit our ability to enforce any remedy under the agreement.

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**USE OF PROCEEDS**

We estimate that the net proceeds we will receive from this offering will be approximately \$        million, or approximately \$        million if the underwriters exercise in full their option to purchase additional shares, after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us. We intend to use the net proceeds of this offering (i) to repay in full our \$40.0 million senior secured term loan facility, (ii) to pay \$43.0 million for the Internalization, and (iii) to repurchase up to 7,269,719 shares of our common stock from certain of RAIT's subsidiaries. Any remaining proceeds will be used to repay outstanding borrowings under our \$325.0 million senior secured credit facility.

Under the transaction agreement related to the Internalization, we are obligated to repurchase up to 7,269,719 shares of our common stock from RAIT's subsidiaries. These shares will be purchased at a purchase price equal to the price to the public in this offering less any underwriting discounts or commissions. Pursuant to the transaction agreement, we are obligated to use 50% of all net proceeds received above \$83.0 million to repurchase the shares held by RAIT's subsidiaries until we have repurchased all of the shares held by RAIT's subsidiaries.

As of June 30, 2016, we had \$40.0 million outstanding under our secured term loan facility with an interest rate of 4.5% and approximately \$247.3 million under our secured credit facility with an interest rate of 2.9%. These borrowings were used for general corporate purposes, including the funding of acquisitions and the refinancing of outstanding indebtedness.

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The following table sets forth our capitalization as of June 30, 2016:

on an actual basis;

on an as adjusted basis to give effect to the sale of 25,000,000 shares of our common stock in this offering, assuming a public offering price of \$10.63 per share (based on the last reported sale price of our common stock as reported on the NYSE MKT on September 23, 2016) and no exercise of the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares, resulting in net proceeds to us, after deducting underwriting discounts and estimated expenses of this offering and the Internalization payable by us, of approximately \$250.5 million; and

on a pro forma as adjusted basis to give effect to (i) the sale of 25,000,000 shares of our common stock in this offering, assuming a public offering price of \$10.63 per share (based on the last reported sale price of our common stock as reported on the NYSE MKT on September 23, 2016) and no exercise of the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares, resulting in net proceeds to us, after deducting underwriting discounts and estimated expenses of this offering and the Internalization payable by us, of approximately \$250.5 million, and (ii) the anticipated use of proceeds from this offering.

This table should be read in conjunction with (i) Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and (ii) our consolidated financial statements, including the accompanying notes, each appearing in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015 and our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2016.

	Actual	As Adjusted	Pro Forma, As Adjusted(1)
	(unaudited, in thousands except share amounts)		
Indebtedness	\$ 880,288	\$ 880,288	\$ 746,750
Equity:			
Stockholders' equity:			
Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value, 50,000,000 shares authorized, no shares issued and outstanding, actual and as adjusted			
Common stock, \$0.01 par value, 300,000,000 shares authorized, 47,476,250 shares issued and outstanding, actual, 72,476,250 shares issued and outstanding, as adjusted, and 65,206,531 shares issued and outstanding, pro forma, as adjusted	475	725	652
Additional paid-in capital	380,532	630,745	514,393
Accumulated other comprehensive income	(1,195)	(1,195)	(1,195)
Retained earnings (accumulated deficit)	(2,601)	(2,601)	(1,308)
Total stockholders' equity	377,211	627,674	512,542
Noncontrolling interests	24,737	24,737	24,737
Total Equity	401,948	652,411	537,279
Total Capitalization	\$ 1,282,236	\$ 1,532,699	\$ 1,284,029

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- (1) Reflects the Internalization as being accounted for as a transaction between entities under common control under U.S. GAAP. Accordingly, the acquired net tangible and identifiable intangible assets and liabilities assumed are recognized at the carryover basis. Any consideration transferred in excess of carryover basis is recognized as a distribution (i.e., as a reduction to additional paid-in capital). The pro forma, as adjusted, capitalization also reflects adjustments associated with the Internalization and anticipated use of proceeds from this offering such as the removal of the liability payable to our Advisor as of June 30, 2016 and the extinguishment of certain deferred financing costs.

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**ADDITIONAL MATERIAL U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS**

The following is a summary of additional material federal income tax considerations with respect to the purchase, ownership and disposition of our common stock and our qualification and taxation of as a REIT. This summary supplements and, where applicable, supersedes the discussion under *Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations* in Exhibit 99.1 to our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015 (the *Base Tax Disclosure* ), and should be read together with such discussion.

**General**

As discussed in the *Base Tax Disclosure* under *Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations-General*, even if we qualify as a REIT, we will be subject to federal tax in certain circumstances. Among those circumstances, we will be subject to a 100% excise tax on income from certain transactions with a taxable REIT subsidiary (a *TRS* ) that are not on an *arm s-length* basis. Pursuant to the *Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes Act of 2015*, which was signed into law on December 18, 2015 (the *Act* ), and effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2015, such transactions will include those pursuant to which a *TRS* of ours provides services to us, if such transaction is determined to have not been conducted on an *arm s-length* basis.

**REIT Qualification Tests**

**Gross Income Tests.** Qualifying income for purposes of the *75%* gross income test generally includes the items described under *Gross Income Tests* in the *Base Tax Disclosure*; however, effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2015, gain from the sale of real estate assets includes gain from the sale of a debt instrument issued by a publicly offered REIT (i.e., a REIT that is required to file annual and periodic reports with the SEC under the *Securities Exchange Act of 1934*) even if not secured by real property or an interest in real property.

*Interest.* For taxable years beginning after December 31, 2015, in the case of real estate mortgage loans secured by both real and personal property, if the fair market value of such personal property does not exceed *15%* of the total fair market value of all property securing the loan, then the personal property securing the loan will be treated as real property for purposes of determining whether the mortgage is qualifying under the *75%* asset test and interest income that qualifies for purposes of the *75%* gross income test.

*Prohibited Transactions.* The *Act* provides increased flexibility in satisfying the dealer sales safe harbor described in the *Base Tax Disclosure*, and the determination of whether the dealer sales safe harbor applies is made independent of determining whether a real estate asset is inventory property. In addition to the three alternative requirements that must be met with respect to sales of property by a REIT which are described in the *Base Tax Disclosure* in the section regarding prohibited transactions, two supplemental alternative requirements are available to REITs seeking to satisfy the safe harbor. First, (i) the aggregate adjusted tax bases of all such property sold by the REIT during the year did not exceed *20%* of the aggregate tax bases of all property of the REIT at the beginning of the year and (ii) the average annual percentage of properties sold by the REIT compared to all the REIT's properties (measured by adjusted tax bases) in the current and two prior years did not exceed *10%*, and second (i) the aggregate fair market value of all such property sold by the REIT during the year did not exceed *20%* of the aggregate fair market value of all property of the REIT at the beginning of the year and (ii) the average annual percentage of properties sold by the REIT compared to all the REIT's properties (measured by fair market value) in the current and two prior years did not exceed *10%*.

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*Hedging Transactions.* Effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2015, if we entered into a hedging transaction (i) to manage the risk of interest rate, prices changes, or currency fluctuations with respect to borrowings made or to be made or (ii) to manage the risk of currency fluctuations, and a portion of the hedged indebtedness or property is disposed of and in connection with such extinguishment or disposition we enter into a new clearly identified hedging transaction (a Counteracting Hedge ), income from the applicable hedge and

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income from the Counteracting Hedge (including gain from the disposition of such Counteracting Hedge) will not be treated as gross income for purposes of the 95% and 75% gross income tests.

**Asset Tests.** As discussed in the Base Tax Disclosure, we must satisfy several asset tests at the end of each quarter of each taxable year. Under the first test described in the Base Tax Disclosure, at least 75% of the value of our total assets must consist of the items listed in the Base Tax Disclosure. In addition to those items, qualifying assets for purposes of the 75% asset test include, effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2015: (i) personal property leased in connection with real property to the extent that rents attributable to such personal property are treated as rents from real property, and (ii) debt instruments issued by publicly offered REITs.

An additional test applies, effective for taxable years after December 31, 2015, under which not more than 25% of the value of our total assets may be represented by debt instruments issued by publicly offered REITs to the extent not secured by real property or interests in real property.

## **U.S. Federal Income Taxation of Stockholders**

**Taxation of Taxable Domestic Stockholders.** Effective for distributions in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2015, the aggregate amount of dividends that we may designate as capital gain dividends or qualified dividend income with respect to any taxable year may not exceed the dividends paid by us with respect to such year, including dividends that are paid in the following year (if they are declared before we timely file our tax return for the year and if made with or before the first regular dividend payment after such declaration) are treated as paid with respect to such year.

**Taxation of Non-U.S. Stockholders.** The Base Tax Disclosure discusses the Foreign Investment in Real Property Tax Act of 1980 ( FIRPTA ) exemption limit on non-U.S. shareholders on distributions attributable to gain from sales or exchanges of United States real property interests. The FIRPTA exemption limit on distributions on publicly-traded REIT stock has been increased from ownership of more than 5% to ownership of more than 10% for distributions on or after December 18, 2015. Additionally, the FIRPTA exemption limit on sales of REIT stock has been increased from ownership of more than 5% to ownership of more than 10% for dispositions on or after December 18, 2015. The Base Tax Disclosure notes that we may be required to withhold 10% of any distribution that exceeds our current and accumulated earnings and profits. This 10% withholding requirement was increased to 15% under the Act. Consequently, although we intends to withhold at a rate of 30% on the entire amount of any distribution, to the extent we do not do so, we may withhold at a rate of 15% on any portion of a distribution not subject to withholding at a rate of 30%.

In addition, the Act provides for additional exemptions from FIRPTA applicable to qualified shareholders and qualified foreign pension plans, as further described below.

*Qualified Shareholders.* Subject to the exception discussed below, any distribution on or after December 18, 2015 to a qualified shareholder who holds REIT stock directly or indirectly (through one or more partnerships) will not be subject to U.S. tax as income effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business and thus will not be subject to special withholding rules under FIRPTA. While a qualified shareholder will not be subject to FIRPTA withholding on REIT distributions, certain investors of a qualified shareholder (i.e., non-U.S. persons who hold interests in the qualified shareholder (other than interests solely as a creditor), and hold more than 10% of the stock of such REIT (whether or not by reason of the investor's ownership in the qualified shareholder )) may be subject to FIRPTA withholding.

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In addition, on or after December 18, 2015, a sale of our stock by a qualified shareholder who holds such stock directly or indirectly (through one or more partnerships) will not be subject to U.S. federal income taxation under FIRPTA. As with distributions, certain investors of a qualified shareholder (i.e., non-U.S. persons who hold interests in the qualified shareholder (other than interests solely as a creditor), and hold more than 10% of

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the stock of such REIT (whether or not by reason of the investor's ownership in the qualified shareholder)) may be subject to FIRPTA withholding on a sale of our stock.

A qualified shareholder is a foreign person that (i) either is eligible for the benefits of a comprehensive income tax treaty which includes an exchange of information program and whose principal class of interests is listed and regularly traded on one or more recognized stock exchanges (as defined in such comprehensive income tax treaty), or is a foreign partnership that is created or organized under foreign law as a limited partnership in a jurisdiction that has an agreement for the exchange of information with respect to taxes with the United States and has a class of limited partnership units representing greater than 50% of the value of all the partnership units that is regularly traded on the NYSE or NASDAQ markets, (ii) is a qualified collective investment vehicle (defined below), and (iii) maintains records on the identity of each person who, at any time during the foreign person's taxable year, is the direct owner of 5% or more of the class of interests or units (as applicable) described in (i), above.

A qualified collective investment vehicle is a foreign person that (i) would be eligible for a reduced rate of withholding under the comprehensive income tax treaty described above, even if such entity holds more than 10% of the stock of such REIT, (ii) is publicly traded, is treated as a partnership under the Code, is a withholding foreign partnership, and would be treated as a United States real property holding corporation if it were a domestic corporation, or (iii) is designated as such by the Secretary of the Treasury and is either (a) fiscally transparent within the meaning of section 894, or (b) required to include dividends in its gross income, but is entitled to a deduction for distributions to its investors.

*Qualified Foreign Pension Funds.* Any distribution on or after December 18, 2015 to a qualified foreign pension fund (or an entity all of the interests of which are held by a qualified foreign pension fund) who holds REIT stock directly or indirectly (through one or more partnerships) will not be subject to U.S. tax as income effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business and thus will not be subject to special withholding rules under FIRPTA. In addition, on or after December 18, 2015, a sale of our stock by a qualified foreign pension fund that holds such stock directly or indirectly (through one or more partnerships) will not be subject to U.S. federal income taxation under FIRPTA.

A qualified foreign pension fund is any trust, corporation, or other organization or arrangement (i) which is created or organized under the law of a country other than the United States, (ii) which is established to provide retirement or pension benefits to participants or beneficiaries that are current or former employees (or persons designated by such employees) of one or more employers in consideration for services rendered, (iii) which does not have a single participant or beneficiary with a right to more than 5% of its assets or income, (iv) which is subject to government regulation and provides annual information reporting about its beneficiaries to the relevant tax authorities in the country in which it is established or operates, and (v) with respect to which, under the laws of the country in which it is established or operates, (a) contributions to such organization or arrangement that would otherwise be subject to tax under such laws are deductible or excluded from the gross income of such entity or taxed at a reduced rate, or (b) taxation of any investment income of such organization or arrangement is deferred or such income is taxed at a reduced rate.

The provisions of the Act relating to qualified shareholders and qualified foreign pension funds are complex. Stockholders should consult their tax advisors with respect to the impact of the Act on them.



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**UNDERWRITING**

Citigroup Global Markets Inc. is acting as sole book-running manager of the offering and as representative of the underwriters named below. Subject to the terms and conditions stated in the underwriting agreement dated the date of this prospectus supplement, each underwriter named below has severally agreed to purchase, and we have agreed to sell to that underwriter, the number of shares set forth opposite the underwriter's name.

Underwriters	Number of Shares
Citigroup Global Markets Inc.	
Total	25,000,000

The underwriting agreement provides that the obligations of the underwriters to purchase the shares included in this offering are subject to approval of legal matters by counsel and to other conditions. The underwriters are obligated to purchase all the shares (other than those covered by the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares described below) if they purchase any of the shares.

Shares sold by the underwriters to the public will initially be offered at the public offering price set forth on the cover of this prospectus supplement. Any shares sold by the underwriters to securities dealers may be sold at a discount from the public offering price not to exceed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per share. If all the shares are not sold at the initial offering price, the underwriters may change the offering price and the other selling terms.

If the underwriters sell more shares than the total number set forth in the table above, we have granted to the underwriters an option, exercisable for 30 days from the date of this prospectus supplement, to purchase up to 3,750,000 additional shares at the public offering price less the underwriting discount. To the extent the option is exercised, each underwriter must purchase a number of additional shares approximately proportionate to that underwriter's initial purchase commitment. Any shares issued or sold under the option will be issued and sold on the same terms and conditions as the other shares that are the subject of this offering.

We and all of our directors and executive officers, our advisor and RAIT (for itself and on behalf of certain of its subsidiaries), have agreed that, for a period of 60 days from the date of this prospectus supplement, we and they will not, without the prior written consent of Citigroup Global Markets Inc., dispose of or hedge any shares or any securities convertible into or exchangeable for our common stock. Citigroup Global Markets Inc. in its sole discretion may release any of the securities subject to these lock-up agreements at any time without notice. These restrictions do not apply to the sale of shares of our common stock by RAIT's subsidiaries to us in the Stock Repurchase.

Our common stock is listed on the NYSE MKT under the symbol IRT.

The following table shows the underwriting discount that we are to pay to the underwriters in connection with this offering. These amounts are shown assuming both no exercise and full exercise of the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares.

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	Paid by Us	
	No Exercise	Full Exercise
Per share	\$	\$
Total	\$	\$

We estimate that our portion of the total expenses of this offering and the Internalization will be \$2,000,000.

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In connection with the offering, the underwriters may purchase and sell shares in the open market. Purchases and sales in the open market may include short sales, purchases to cover short positions, which may include purchases pursuant to the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares, and stabilizing purchases.

Short sales involve secondary market sales by the underwriters of a greater number of shares than they are required to purchase in the offering.

Covered short sales are sales of shares in an amount up to the number of shares represented by the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares.

Naked short sales are sales of shares in an amount in excess of the number of shares represented by the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares.

Covering transactions involve purchases of shares either pursuant to the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares or in the open market in order to cover short positions.

To close a naked short position, the underwriters must purchase shares in the open market. A naked short position is more likely to be created if the underwriters are concerned that there may be downward pressure on the price of the shares in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchase in the offering.

To close a covered short position, the underwriters must purchase shares in the open market or must exercise the option to purchase additional shares. In determining the source of shares to close the covered short position, the underwriters will consider, among other things, the price of shares available for purchase in the open market as compared to the price at which they may purchase shares through the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares.

Stabilizing transactions involve bids to purchase shares so long as the stabilizing bids do not exceed a specified maximum.

Purchases to cover short positions and stabilizing purchases, as well as other purchases by the underwriters for their own accounts, may have the effect of preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the shares. They may also cause the price of the shares to be higher than the price that would otherwise exist in the open market in the absence of these transactions. The underwriters may conduct these transactions on the NYSE MKT, in the over-the-counter market or otherwise. If the underwriters commence any of these transactions, they may discontinue them at any time.

We have agreed to indemnify the underwriters against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribute to payments the underwriters may be required to make because of any of those liabilities.

## **Conflicts of Interest**

The underwriters are full service financial institutions engaged in various activities, which may include securities trading, commercial and investment banking, financial advisory, investment management, principal investment, hedging, financing and brokerage activities. The underwriters and their affiliates have in the past performed commercial banking, investment banking and advisory services for us from time to

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time for which they have received customary fees and reimbursement of expenses and may, from time to time, engage in transactions with and perform services for us in the ordinary course of their business for which they may receive customary fees and reimbursement of expenses. In the ordinary course of their various business activities, the underwriters and their respective affiliates may make or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade debt and equity securities (or related derivative securities) and financial instruments (which may include bank loans and/or credit default swaps) for their own account and for the accounts of their customers and may at any time hold long and short positions in such securities and instruments. Such investments and securities activities may involve securities and/or instruments of ours or our affiliates.

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Citigroup Global Markets Inc. is acting as the financial advisor to the special committee of our board of directors in connection with the Internalization.

### **Sales Outside the United States**

No action has been taken in any jurisdiction (except in the United States) that would permit a public offering of our common stock, or the possession, circulation or distribution of this prospectus supplement or any other material relating to us or our common stock in any jurisdiction where action for that purpose is required. Accordingly, the shares of common stock may not be offered or sold, directly or indirectly, and neither this prospectus supplement nor any other offering material or advertisements in connection with our common stock may be distributed or published, in or from any country or jurisdiction, except in compliance with any applicable rules and regulations of any such country or jurisdiction.

The underwriters may arrange to sell the common stock offered hereby in certain jurisdictions outside the United States, either directly or through affiliates, where it is permitted to do so.

### ***Notice to Prospective Investors in Canada***

The shares may be sold in Canada only to purchasers purchasing, or deemed to be purchasing, as principal that are accredited investors, as defined in National Instrument 45-106 Prospectus Exemptions or subsection 73.3(1) of the Securities Act (Ontario), and are permitted clients, as defined in National Instrument 31-103 Registration Requirements, Exemptions and Ongoing Registrant Obligations. Any resale of the shares must be made in accordance with an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to, the prospectus requirements of applicable securities laws.

Securities legislation in certain provinces or territories of Canada may provide a purchaser with remedies for rescission or damages if this prospectus supplement (including any amendment thereto) contains a misrepresentation, provided that the remedies for rescission or damages are exercised by the purchaser within the time limit prescribed by the securities legislation of the purchaser's province or territory. The purchaser should refer to any applicable provisions of the securities legislation of the purchaser's province or territory for particulars of these rights or consult with a legal advisor.

Pursuant to section 3A.3 of National Instrument 33-105 Underwriting Conflicts (NI 33-105), the underwriters are not required to comply with the disclosure requirements of NI 33-105 regarding underwriter conflicts of interest in connection with this offering.

### ***Notice to Prospective Investors in the European Economic Area***

In relation to each member state of the European Economic Area that has implemented the Prospectus Directive (each, a relevant member state), with effect from and including the date on which the Prospectus Directive is implemented in that relevant member state (the relevant implementation date), an offer of shares described in this prospectus supplement may not be made to the public in that relevant member state other than:

to any legal entity which is a qualified investor as defined in the Prospectus Directive;

to fewer than 100 or, if the relevant member state has implemented the relevant provision of the 2010 PD Amending Directive, 150 natural or legal persons (other than qualified investors as defined in the Prospectus Directive), as permitted under the Prospectus Directive, subject to obtaining the prior consent of the relevant Dealer or Dealers nominated by us for any such offer; or

in any other circumstances falling within Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive,

provided that no such offer of shares shall require us or any underwriter to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive.

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For purposes of this provision, the expression an offer of securities to the public in any relevant member state means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the shares to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe for the shares, as the expression may be varied in that member state by any measure implementing the Prospectus Directive in that member state, and the expression Prospectus Directive means Directive 2003/71/EC (and amendments thereto, including the 2010 PD Amending Directive, to the extent implemented in the relevant member state) and includes any relevant implementing measure in the relevant member state. The expression 2010 PD Amending Directive means Directive 2010/73/EU.

The sellers of the shares have not authorized and do not authorize the making of any offer of shares through any financial intermediary on their behalf, other than offers made by the underwriters with a view to the final placement of the shares as contemplated in this prospectus supplement. Accordingly, no purchaser of the shares, other than the underwriters, is authorized to make any further offer of the shares on behalf of the sellers or the underwriters.

### ***Notice to Prospective Investors in the United Kingdom***

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are only being distributed to, and is only directed at, persons in the United Kingdom that are qualified investors within the meaning of Article 2(1)(e) of the Prospectus Directive that are also (i) investment professionals falling within Article 19(5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005 (the Order) or (ii) high net worth entities, and other persons to whom it may lawfully be communicated, falling within Article 49(2)(a) to (d) of the Order (each such person being referred to as a relevant person). This prospectus supplement and its contents are confidential and should not be distributed, published or reproduced (in whole or in part) or disclosed by recipients to any other persons in the United Kingdom. Any person in the United Kingdom that is not a relevant person should not act or rely on this document or any of its contents.

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is are only being distributed in the United Kingdom to, and are only directed at, (a) investment professionals falling within both Article 14(5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Promotion of Collective Investment Schemes) Order 2001, as amended (the CIS Promotion Order) and Article 19(5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005, as amended (the General Promotion Order), and (b) high net worth companies and other persons falling with both Article 22(2)(a) to (d) of the CIS Promotion Order and Article 49(2)(a) to (d) of the General Promotion Order (all such persons together being referred to as relevant persons).

### ***Notice to Prospective Investors in France***

Neither this prospectus supplement nor any other offering material relating to the shares described in this prospectus supplement has been submitted to the clearance procedures of the *Autorité des Marchés Financiers* or of the competent authority of another member state of the European Economic Area and notified to the *Autorité des Marchés Financiers*. The shares have not been offered or sold and will not be offered or sold, directly or indirectly, to the public in France. Neither this prospectus supplement nor any other offering material relating to the shares has been or will be:

released, issued, distributed or caused to be released, issued or distributed to the public in France; or

used in connection with any offer for subscription or sale of the shares to the public in France.

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Such offers, sales and distributions will be made in France only:

to qualified investors (*investisseurs qualifiés*) and/or to a restricted circle of investors (*cercle restreint d'investisseurs*), in each case investing for their own account, all as defined in, and in accordance with articles L.411-2, D.411-1, D.411-2, D.734-1, D.744-1, D.754-1 and D.764-1 of the French *Code monétaire et financier*;

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to investment services providers authorized to engage in portfolio management on behalf of third parties; or

in a transaction that, in accordance with article L.411-2-II-1<sup>o</sup>-or-2<sup>o</sup>-or 3<sup>o</sup> of the French *Code monétaire et financier* and article 211-2 of the General Regulations (*Règlement Général*) of the *Autorité des Marchés Financiers*, does not constitute a public offer (*appel public à l'épargne*).

The shares may be resold directly or indirectly, only in compliance with articles L.411-1, L.411-2, L.412-1 and L.621-8 through L.621-8-3 of the French *Code monétaire et financier*.

### ***Notice to Prospective Investors in Hong Kong***

The shares may not be offered or sold in Hong Kong by means of any document other than (i) in circumstances which do not constitute an offer to the public within the meaning of the Companies Ordinance (Cap. 32, Laws of Hong Kong), or (ii) to professional investors within the meaning of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571, Laws of Hong Kong) and any rules made thereunder, or (iii) in other circumstances which do not result in the document being a prospectus within the meaning of the Companies Ordinance (Cap. 32, Laws of Hong Kong) and no advertisement, invitation or document relating to the shares may be issued or may be in the possession of any person for the purpose of issue (in each case whether in Hong Kong or elsewhere), which is directed at, or the contents of which are likely to be accessed or read by, the public in Hong Kong (except if permitted to do so under the laws of Hong Kong) other than with respect to shares which are or are intended to be disposed of only to persons outside Hong Kong or only to professional investors within the meaning of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571, Laws of Hong Kong) and any rules made thereunder.

### ***Notice to Prospective Investors in Japan***

The shares offered in this prospectus supplement have not been and will not be registered under the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law of Japan. The shares have not been offered or sold and will not be offered or sold, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to or for the account of any resident of Japan (including any corporation or other entity organized under the laws of Japan), except (i) pursuant to an exemption from the registration requirements of the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law and (ii) in compliance with any other applicable requirements of Japanese law.

### ***Notice to Prospective Investors in Singapore***

This prospectus supplement has not been registered as a prospectus with the Monetary Authority of Singapore. Accordingly, this prospectus supplement and any other document or material in connection with the offer or sale, or invitation for subscription or purchase, of the shares may not be circulated or distributed, nor may the shares be offered or sold, or be made the subject of an invitation for subscription or purchase, whether directly or indirectly, to persons in Singapore other than (i) to an institutional investor under Section 274 of the Securities and Futures Act, Chapter 289 of Singapore (the SFA), (ii) to a relevant person pursuant to Section 275(1), or any person pursuant to Section 275(1A), and in accordance with the conditions specified in Section 275 of the SFA or (iii) otherwise pursuant to, and in accordance with the conditions of, any other applicable provision of the SFA, in each case subject to compliance with conditions set forth in the SFA.

Where the shares are subscribed or purchased under Section 275 of the SFA by a relevant person which is:

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a corporation (which is not an accredited investor (as defined in Section 4A of the SFA)) the sole business of which is to hold investments and the entire share capital of which is owned by one or more individuals, each of whom is an accredited investor; or

a trust (where the trustee is not an accredited investor) whose sole purpose is to hold investments and each beneficiary of the trust is an individual who is an accredited investor,

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shares, debentures and units of shares and debentures of that corporation or the beneficiaries' rights and interest (howsoever described) in that trust shall not be transferred within six months after that corporation or that trust has acquired the shares pursuant to an offer made under Section 275 of the SFA except:

to an institutional investor (for corporations, under Section 274 of the SFA) or to a relevant person defined in Section 275(2) of the SFA, or to any person pursuant to an offer that is made on terms that such shares, debentures and units of shares and debentures of that corporation or such rights and interest in that trust are acquired at a consideration of not less than S\$200,000 (or its equivalent in a foreign currency) for each transaction, whether such amount is to be paid for in cash or by exchange of securities or other assets, and further for corporations, in accordance with the conditions specified in Section 275 of the SFA;

where no consideration is or will be given for the transfer; or

where the transfer is by operation of law.

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**EXPERTS**

The consolidated financial statements of Independence Realty Trust, Inc. and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2015, the financial statement schedule as of December 31, 2015, and management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2015 have been incorporated by reference herein in reliance upon the reports of KPMG LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, incorporated by reference herein, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

**LEGAL MATTERS**

The legality of the securities will be passed upon for us by Duane Morris LLP, Baltimore, Maryland. In addition, certain legal matters will be passed upon for us by Ledgewood, a professional corporation, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The descriptions of material U.S. federal income tax considerations described in Exhibit 99.1 to our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015, which is incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, and additional material U.S. federal income tax considerations in this prospectus supplement, are based on the opinion of Ledgewood, a professional corporation. Certain legal matters will be passed upon for the underwriter by Vinson & Elkins L.L.P., New York, New York.

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**PROSPECTUS**

**\$1,000,000,000**

**Common Stock**

**Preferred Stock**

**Warrants**

**Stockholder Rights**

**Units**

**Debt Securities**

This prospectus contains a general description of the securities which we may offer for sale. We will provide the specific terms of the securities we sell in one or more supplements to this prospectus or other offering materials.

You should read this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and any other offering materials carefully before you invest.

Our shares of common stock are listed for trading on the NYSE MKT under the symbol IRT. On June 13, 2014, the last reported sale price of our shares of common stock on the NYSE MKT was \$9.05 per share.

**Investing in our securities involves risk. You should read the sections entitled Risk Factors on page 5 in this prospectus and in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission that are incorporated by reference from our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 for a discussion of factors you should consider before buying our securities.**

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

This prospectus is dated June 16, 2014.

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**ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS**

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, using a shelf registration process. Under this registration process, over the three year period (or such longer period permitted under SEC rules) from the effective date of the registration statement, we may sell any combination of shares of our common stock, par value \$0.01 per share, or common stock, shares of our preferred stock, par value \$0.01 per share, or preferred stock, warrants exercisable for other securities of ours, stockholder rights, units and debt securities. The terms of these offerings will be determined at the time of sale. We refer to the common stock, preferred stock, warrants, stockholder rights, units and debt securities collectively as the securities in this prospectus. For more information on how our securities may be sold, please read the section of the prospectus entitled Plan of Distribution.

The specific terms of the securities we offer and the terms of their sale will be set forth in an accompanying supplement to this prospectus or other offering materials. This prospectus describes some of the general terms that may apply to these securities. The prospectus supplement or other offering materials may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. You should read this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and any other offering materials together with the additional information described in the section of the prospectus entitled Where You Can Find More Information. We are not making an offer of our securities in any state where the offer or solicitation is not authorized. References in this prospectus to the company, we, us, and our are to Independence Realty Trust, Inc., a Maryland corporation, unless the context otherwise requires inclusion of our subsidiaries.

**CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

This prospectus contains or incorporates by reference forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act. We claim the protection of the safe harbor for forward-looking statements provided in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Words such as anticipates, estimates, expects, projects, intends, plans, believes and words and terms of similar substance used in connection with any discussion of future operating or financial performance identify forward-looking statements. These statements may be made directly in this prospectus and they may also be incorporated by reference in this prospectus from other documents filed with the SEC, and include, but are not limited to, statements about future financial and operating results and performance, statements about our plans, objectives, expectations and intentions with respect to future operations, products and services, and other statements that are not historical facts. These forward-looking statements are based upon the current beliefs and expectations of our management and are inherently subject to significant business, economic and competitive uncertainties and contingencies, many of which are difficult to predict and generally beyond our control. In addition, these forward-looking statements are subject to assumptions with respect to future business strategies and decisions that are subject to change. Actual results may differ materially from the anticipated results discussed in these forward-looking statements.

The risk factors discussed in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and any other offering materials and those discussed and identified in item 1A of our most recent annual report on Form 10-K and our other public filings with the SEC, which we incorporate by reference in this prospectus, among others, could cause actual results to differ materially from the anticipated results or other expectations expressed in the forward-looking statements. We caution you not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date of this prospectus or the date of any document incorporated by reference in this prospectus. All subsequent written and oral forward-looking statements attributable to us or any person acting on our behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements contained or referred to in this section. Except to the extent required by applicable law or regulation, we undertake no obligation to update these forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date of this prospectus or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events. If we do update one or more forward-looking statements, no inference should be drawn that we will make additional updates with respect to those or other forward-looking statements.





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**WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION**

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC. You may read and copy any reports, statements or other information that we have filed with the SEC at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You may request copies of these documents, upon payment of a copying fee, by writing to the SEC. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for information on the operation of the Public Reference Room. Our SEC filings are also available to the public on the SEC internet site at <http://www.sec.gov>. Unless specifically listed under "Incorporation by Reference" below, the information contained on the SEC website is not intended to be incorporated by reference in this prospectus and you should not consider that information a part of this prospectus.

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-3 with respect to the securities offered hereby. This prospectus does not contain all the information set forth in the registration statement, parts of which are omitted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC. For further information with respect to us and the securities offered hereby, reference is also made to such registration statement.

**INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE**

Certain information about us is incorporated by reference to reports and exhibits we file with the SEC that are not included in this prospectus. We disclose important information to you by referring you to these documents. Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus will be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus to the extent that a statement contained in this prospectus or any other subsequently filed document that is deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus modifies or supersedes such statement. Any statement so modified or superseded will not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below that we have filed with the SEC:

Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 filed on March 11, 2014, which incorporates certain sections of our Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A filed on April 1, 2014.

Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2014.

Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on January 3, 2014, February 6, 2014 (as amended by a Current Report on Form 8-K/A filed on April 16, 2014), February 12, 2014, March 3, 2014, March 4, 2014 (as amended by a Current Report on Form 8-K/A filed on May 12, 2014), March 25, 2014, March 28, 2014, April 3, 2014 (as amended by a Current Report on Form 8-K/A filed on May 13, 2014), May 7, 2014, May 16, 2014 and June 12, 2014.

The description of our shares of common stock contained in our Registration Statement on Form 8-A dated August 5, 2013.

All documents that we file with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act on or after the date of the initial filing of the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part and prior to the effectiveness of this registration statement and on or after the date of this prospectus and prior to the termination of the offering made pursuant to this prospectus are also incorporated herein by reference and will automatically update and supersede information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. Nothing in this prospectus shall be deemed to incorporate information furnished to but not filed with the SEC pursuant to Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of Form 8-K (or corresponding information furnished under Item 9.01 or included as an exhibit to Form 8-K).



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You may request a copy of these filings, at no cost, by writing or telephoning us at the following address:

Independence Realty Trust, Inc.

Attention: Andres Viroslav

Investor Relations

Cira Centre

2929 Arch Street, 17th Floor

Philadelphia, PA 19104

Telephone: (215) 243-9000

You should rely only on the information incorporated by reference or provided in this prospectus, any supplement to this prospectus or any other offering materials we may use. We have not authorized any person to provide information other than that provided in this prospectus, any supplement to this prospectus or any other offering materials we may use. You should assume that the information in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and any other offering materials we may use is accurate only as of the date on its cover page and that any information in a document we have incorporated by reference is accurate only as of the date of the document incorporated by reference.

The statements that we make in this prospectus or in any document incorporated by reference in this prospectus about the contents of any other documents are not necessarily complete, and are qualified in their entirety by referring you to copies of those documents that are filed as exhibits to the registration statement, of which this prospectus forms a part, or as an exhibit to the documents incorporated by reference. You can obtain copies of these documents from the SEC or from us, as described above.

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**OUR COMPANY**

We are a Maryland corporation that owns apartment properties in geographic submarkets that we believe support strong occupancy and have the potential for growth in rental rates. We seek to provide stockholders with attractive risk-adjusted returns, with an emphasis on distributions and capital appreciation. We are externally advised by a wholly-owned subsidiary of RAIT Financial Trust, or RAIT (NYSE: RAS), a multi-strategy commercial real estate company organized as an internally managed REIT with approximately \$3.6 billion of assets under management as of December 31, 2013. RAIT invests primarily in commercial mortgages and, to a lesser extent, apartment properties. We elected to be taxed as a REIT under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the Code, commencing with our taxable year ended December 31, 2011.

We seek to acquire and operate apartment properties that:

have stable occupancy;

are located in submarkets that we do not expect will experience substantial new apartment construction in the foreseeable future;

in appropriate circumstances, present opportunities for repositioning or updating through capital expenditures; and

present opportunities to apply tailored marketing and management strategies to attract and retain residents and enable rent increases.

For a description of our portfolio of apartment properties, see Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations-Our Properties in our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2014 which is incorporated herein by reference. As of the date of this prospectus, we have two apartment properties under contract located in Ridgeland Mississippi and are in the process of completing our due diligence on these properties. One property has 170 units, with a contemplated purchase price of \$20.25 million, and the second property has 168 units, with a contemplated purchase price of \$17.6 million. These contracts are subject to customary closing conditions and we cannot provide any assurances that the acquisitions will be completed. As of the date of this prospectus, we do not consider the acquisition of the second property to be probable because significant open due diligence items must be resolved to our satisfaction. As of the date of this prospectus, we have proposed or signed non-binding letters of intent regarding the potential acquisition of apartment properties containing approximately 836 units, with an estimated aggregate purchase price of approximately \$66.85 million. Because these letters of intent are non-binding, we have determined that the acquisitions subject to these letters of intent are not probable as of the date of this prospectus. We cannot assure you that we will acquire any of the properties under contract or subject to letters of intent or that any actual acquisition price will not be significantly different from what we currently estimate.

Our principal executive offices are located at Cira Centre, 2929 Arch Street, 17th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19104 and our telephone number is (215) 243-9000. Our internet address is <http://www.irtreit.com>. We do not incorporate by reference into this prospectus any material from our website.

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**RISK FACTORS**

Investing in our securities involves risk. You should carefully consider the specific risks discussed or incorporated by reference in the applicable prospectus supplement or in this prospectus, together with all the other information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or in an applicable prospectus supplement. In particular, you should consider the risks, uncertainties and assumptions discussed under the caption Risk Factors included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013, which are incorporated by reference in this prospectus and may be amended, supplemented or superseded from time to time by other reports we file with the SEC in the future.

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**DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES**

**General**

Our board of directors may authorize the issuance of additional securities, including the securities described in this prospectus, for property or other consideration on such terms as it may deem advisable and may classify or reclassify any unissued shares of capital stock of our company without approval of the holders of the outstanding securities. We may issue debt obligations with conversion privileges on such terms and conditions as the directors may determine, whereby the holders of such debt obligations may acquire our common stock or preferred stock. We may also issue warrants, options and rights to buy shares on such terms as the directors deem advisable, despite the possible dilution in the value of the outstanding shares which may result from the exercise of such warrants, options or rights to buy shares, as part of a ratable issuance to stockholders, a private or public offering or another financial arrangement.

**DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK**

**Common Stock and Preferred Stock**

The following description of our shares of common stock and shares of preferred stock sets forth certain general terms and provisions of the shares of common stock and shares of preferred stock to which any prospectus supplement may relate. The terms of our charter and by-laws are more detailed than the general information provided below. Therefore, you should carefully consider the actual provisions of these documents.

We are authorized to issue 350,000,000 shares of stock, consisting of 300,000,000 shares of common stock, \$0.01 par value per share, and 50,000,000 shares of preferred stock, \$0.01 par value per share. Our charter authorizes our board of directors, with the approval of a majority of the entire board of directors and without any action on the part of our stockholders, subject to any preferential rights of any class or series of preferred stock, to amend our charter from time to time to increase or decrease the aggregate number of authorized shares of stock or the number of authorized shares of stock of any class or series. As of June 13, 2014, we had 17,751,540 outstanding shares of common stock and no outstanding shares of preferred stock. Under Maryland law, stockholders generally are not liable for a corporation's debts or obligations.

***Common Stock***

All of the shares of our common stock offered hereby will be duly authorized, validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable. Holders of our common stock:

are entitled to receive distributions as authorized by our board of directors and declared by us out of legally available funds;

in the event of any voluntary or involuntary liquidation or dissolution of our company, are entitled to share ratably in the distributable assets of our company remaining after satisfaction of the prior preferential rights of any outstanding preferred stock and the satisfaction

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of all of our debts and liabilities; and

do not have preference, conversion, exchange, sinking fund, redemption rights or preemptive rights to subscribe for any of our securities and generally have no appraisal rights unless our board of directors determines that appraisal rights apply, with respect to all or any classes or series of shares, to one or more transactions occurring after the date of such determination in connection with which holders of such shares would otherwise be entitled to exercise appraisal rights.

Shares of our common stock will be held in uncertificated form, which will eliminate the physical handling and safekeeping responsibilities inherent in owning transferable stock certificates and eliminate the need to return a duly executed stock certificate to effect a transfer.



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### ***Stockholder Voting***

Except as otherwise provided, all shares of common stock will have equal voting rights. Because stockholders do not have cumulative voting rights, holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of common stock can elect our entire board of directors. The voting rights per share of our equity securities issued in the future will be established by our board of directors.

Under Maryland law and our charter, generally we may not, without the affirmative vote of stockholders entitled to cast at least a majority of all the votes entitled to be cast on the matter:

amend our charter, except to increase or decrease the number of authorized shares of stock of any class or series or the aggregate number of authorized shares of stock, change our name, change the name or other designation or the par value of any class or series of stock, change the aggregate par value of our stock or effect certain reverse stock splits;

sell all or substantially all of our assets other than in the ordinary course of our business;

cause a merger or consolidation of our company;

effect a statutory share exchange; or

dissolve our company.

Each stockholder entitled to vote on a matter may do so at a meeting in person or by proxy directing the manner in which he or she desires that his or her vote be cast or without a meeting by a consent in writing or by electronic transmission. Any proxy must be received by us prior to the date on which the vote is taken. Pursuant to the Maryland General Corporation Law, or MGCL, and our charter and bylaws, any action required or permitted to be taken at any meeting of stockholders may be taken without a meeting (a) by the unanimous consent in writing or by electronic transmission of each stockholder entitled to vote on the matter or (b) if the action is advised and submitted for stockholder approval by our board of directors, by a consent in writing or by electronic transmission of stockholders entitled to cast not less than the minimum number of votes that would be necessary to authorize or take the action at a meeting. Our bylaws require us to provide notice of any action taken by less than unanimous written consent to each stockholder not later than 10 days after the effective time of such action.

### ***Preferred Stock***

Our charter authorizes our board of directors, without further stockholder action, to provide for the issuance of up to 50,000,000 shares of preferred stock, in one or more classes or series, with such terms, preferences, conversion or other rights, voting powers or rights, restrictions, limitations as to dividends or other distributions, qualifications and terms or conditions of redemption for each class or series, as our board of directors shall approve.

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Any shares of preferred stock issued under this registration statement will be issued as one or more new series of shares of preferred stock, the rights, preferences, privileges and restrictions of which will be fixed by articles supplementary relating to each series. A prospectus supplement relating to each series will specify the terms of the shares of preferred stock, including:

the maximum number of shares in the series and the designation of the series;

the terms on which dividends, if any, will be paid;

the terms on which the shares may be redeemed, if at all;

the liquidation preference, if any;

the terms of any retirement or sinking fund for the purchase or redemption of the shares of the series;

the terms and conditions, if any, on which the shares of the series will be convertible into, or exchangeable for, shares of any other class or classes of stock;

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the voting rights, if any, of the shares of the series; and

any or all other preferences and relative, participating, operational or other special rights or qualifications, limitations or restrictions of the shares of the series.

We currently have no shares of preferred stock outstanding. The description of the terms of a particular series of shares of preferred stock included in any prospectus supplement will not be complete. You should refer to the articles supplementary with respect to a series of preferred stock for complete information concerning the terms of that series. A copy of the articles supplementary for each new series of preferred stock will be filed with the SEC as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part or as an exhibit to a filing incorporated by reference in such registration statement.

Our board of directors may authorize the issuance of series of preferred stock with voting or conversion rights that could adversely affect the voting power or other rights of common stockholders. The issuance of shares of preferred stock, which may provide flexibility in connection with possible acquisitions and other corporate purposes, could have the effect of delaying or preventing a change in control, and may cause the market price of shares of common stock to decline or impair the voting and other rights of the holders of shares of common stock.

### ***Restrictions on Ownership and Transfer***

In order to maintain our qualification as a REIT, we must meet several requirements concerning the ownership of our outstanding capital stock. Specifically, no more than 50% in value of our outstanding capital stock may be owned, directly or indirectly, by five or fewer individuals, as defined in the Code to include specified private foundations, employee benefit plans and trusts, and charitable trusts, during the last half of a taxable year. Moreover, 100 or more persons must own our outstanding shares of capital stock during at least 335 days of a taxable year of 12 months or during a proportionate part of a shorter taxable year.

Because our board of directors believes it is essential for our company to continue to qualify as a REIT and for other corporate purposes, our charter, subject to the exceptions described below, provides that no person may beneficially or constructively own, more than 9.8% of the aggregate of our outstanding shares of stock and 9.8%, in value or in number of shares, whichever is more restrictive, of any class or series of the outstanding shares of our capital stock, including our common stock.

Our charter provides for certain circumstances where our board of directors, in its sole discretion, may except a holder of our shares (prospectively or retroactively) from the 9.8% ownership limitation and impose other limitations and restrictions on ownership. Our board of directors has granted such an exception for RAIT. Additionally, our charter prohibits, subject to the exceptions described below, any transfer of capital stock that would:

result in our capital stock being beneficially owned by fewer than 100 persons, determined without reference to any rules of attribution;

result in our company being closely held under U.S. federal income tax laws (regardless of whether the ownership interest is held during the last half of a taxable year);

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cause our company to own, actually or constructively, 9.8% or more of the ownership interests in a tenant of our real property; or

cause us to fail to qualify, under U.S. federal income tax laws or otherwise, as a REIT.

Any attempted transfer of our stock which, if effective, would result in our stock being beneficially owned by fewer than 100 persons, will be null and void, with the intended transferee acquiring no rights in such shares of stock, and any other prohibited transfer of shares of our stock described above will result in the number

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of shares that would cause such person to violate the above restrictions (rounded up to the nearest whole share) to be designated as shares-in-trust and transferred automatically to a trust effective at the close of business on the Business Day (as defined in our charter) before the purported transfer of such shares. The record holder of the shares that are designated as shares-in-trust, or the prohibited owner, will be required to immediately submit such number of shares of capital stock to our company for registration in the name of the trust. We will designate the trustee, but it will not be affiliated with our company and any prohibited owner. The beneficiary of the trust will be one or more nonprofit organizations that are named by our company and whose beneficial ownership does not violate any of the ownership restrictions set forth above. If the transfer to the trust would not be effective for any reason to prevent a violation of the limitations on ownership and transfer, then the transfer of that number of shares that otherwise would cause the violation will be null and void, with the intended transferee acquiring no rights in such shares.

Shares-in-trust will remain shares of issued and outstanding capital stock and will be entitled to the same rights and privileges as all other stock of the same class or series. The trust will receive all dividends and other distributions on the shares-in-trust and will hold such dividends or other distributions in trust for the benefit of the beneficiary. The trustee will vote all shares-in-trust and, subject to Maryland law, will have the authority to rescind as void any vote cast by the prohibited owner prior to our discovery that the shares have been transferred to the trust and to recast the vote in accordance with the desires of the trustee acting for the benefit of the beneficiary. However, if we have already taken irreversible corporate action, then the trustee will not have the authority to rescind and recast the vote.

Within 20 days of receiving notice from us that shares of our stock have been transferred to the trust, the trustee will sell the shares held by the trust to a person, designated by the trustee, whose ownership of the shares will not violate the above ownership limitations. Upon the sale, the interest of the beneficiary in the shares sold will terminate and the trustee will distribute the net proceeds of the sale to the prohibited owner and to the beneficiary as follows:

The prohibited owner will receive from the trust the lesser of:

the price per share such prohibited owner paid for the shares of capital stock that were designated as shares-in-trust or, if the prohibited owner did not give value for the shares (such as in the case of a devise or gift), the market price per share on the date of the event causing the shares to be held as shares-in-trust; or

the price per share received by the trust from the sale of such shares-in-trust.

The trustee may reduce the amount payable to the prohibited owner by the amount of dividends and other distributions which have been paid to the prohibited owner and are owed by the prohibited owner to the trustee. The trust will immediately distribute to the beneficiary any amounts received by the trust in excess of the amounts to be paid to the prohibited owner. If, prior to our discovery that shares of our stock have been transferred to the trust, the shares are sold by the prohibited owner, then such shares shall be deemed to have been sold on behalf of the trust and, to the extent that the prohibited owner received an amount for the shares that exceeds the amount such prohibited owner was entitled to receive, the excess shall be paid to the trustee upon demand.

In addition, the shares-in-trust will be deemed to have been offered for sale to our company, or our designee, at a price per share equal to the lesser of:

the price per share in the transaction that resulted in the transfer to the trust or, in the case of a gift or devise, the market price per share on the date of the gift or devise; or

the market price per share on the date that our company, or our designee, accepts such offer.

We may reduce the amount payable to the prohibited owner by the amount of dividends and other distributions which have been paid to the prohibited owner and are owed by the prohibited owner to the trustee. We may pay the amount of such reduction to the trustee for the benefit of the beneficiary. We will have the right to accept such offer until the trustee has sold such shares-in-trust. Upon a sale to the company, the interest of the beneficiary in the shares sold will terminate and the trustee shall distribute the net proceeds to the prohibited owner.

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Market price on any date means, with respect to any class or series of outstanding shares, the closing price for such shares on such date. The closing price on any date refers to the last quoted price as reported by the primary securities exchange or market on which our stock is then listed or quoted for trading. If our shares are not listed or admitted to trading on any national securities exchange, the last quoted price, or, if not so quoted, the average of the high bid and low asked prices in the over-the-counter market. If our stock is not so listed or quoted on any national securities exchange available on an over-the-counter market, or otherwise, at the time of determination of the market price, our board of directors will determine the market price in good faith.

Any person who (a) acquires or attempts or intends to acquire shares in violation of the foregoing restrictions on ownership and transfer of our stock, transfers or receives shares subject to such limitations, or would have owned shares that resulted in a transfer to a beneficial trust, or (b) proposes or attempts any of the transactions in clause (a), is required to give us immediate written notice or, in the case of a proposed or attempted transaction, at least 15 days written notice prior to such transaction. In both cases, such persons must provide to us such other information as we may request in order to determine the effect, if any, of such transfer on our status as a REIT.

If you own, directly or indirectly, more than 5%, or such lower percentages as required under U.S. federal income tax laws or the regulations promulgated thereunder, of our outstanding shares of stock, then you must, within 30 days of the end of each taxable year, provide to us a written statement or affidavit stating your name and address, the number of shares of capital stock owned directly or indirectly, and a description of how such shares are held. In addition, each direct or indirect stockholder must provide us such additional information as we may request in order to determine the effect, if any, of such ownership on our status as a REIT and to ensure compliance with the ownership limit.

The ownership limit generally will not apply to the acquisition of shares of capital stock by an underwriter that participates in a public offering or private placement of such shares. In addition, our board of directors, upon receipt of a ruling from the Internal Revenue Service or an opinion of counsel and upon such other conditions as our charter or board of directors may direct, may exempt a person (prospectively or retroactively) from the ownership limit or establish or increase an excepted holder limit for such person. Subject to certain conditions, our board of directors may also increase the ownership limit for one or more persons and decrease the ownership limit for all other persons.

The restrictions on ownership and transfer described above will continue to apply until our board of directors determines that it is no longer in the best interests of our company to attempt to qualify, or to continue to qualify, as a REIT or that compliance is no longer required for REIT qualification.

All certificates, if any, representing our common stock, will bear a legend referring to the restrictions described above.

The ownership limit in our charter may have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a takeover or other transaction or change in control of our company that might involve a premium price for your shares or otherwise be in your interest as a stockholder.

### ***Transfer Agent***

The transfer agent for our shares of common stock is American Stock Transfer & Trust Company. We expect that American Stock Transfer & Trust Company will act as the transfer agent for any common stock, preferred stock, warrants, stockholder rights (if traded separately) or units we may offer pursuant to a supplement to this prospectus.

**No Stockholder Rights Plan**

We currently do not have a stockholder rights plan.



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**DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS**

The following describes some of the general terms and provisions of warrants we may issue. Warrants may be issued independently or together with any other securities offered by any prospectus supplement or any other offering materials and may be attached to or separate from those securities. Warrants may be issued under warrant agreements to be entered into between us and a warrant agent or may be represented by individual warrant certificates, all as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement or any other offering materials. The warrant agent, if any, for any series of warrants will act solely as our agent and will not assume any obligation or relationship of agency or trust for or with any holders or beneficial owners of warrants.

Reference is made to each prospectus supplement or any other offering materials for the specific terms of the warrants offered thereby. These terms may include the following, as applicable:

the title and aggregate number of the warrants;

the price or prices at which the warrants will be issued;

the title, amount and terms of the securities purchasable upon exercise of the warrants;

the title, amount and terms of the securities offered with the warrants and the number of warrants issued with each such security;

the date, if any, on and after which the warrants and the related securities will be separately transferable;

the price at which the related securities may be purchased upon exercise of the warrants;

the exercise period for the warrants;

the minimum or maximum number of warrants which may be exercised at any one time;

any applicable anti-dilution, redemption or call provisions;

any applicable book-entry provisions;

a discussion of federal income tax considerations, if any; and

any other terms of the warrants.



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**DESCRIPTION OF STOCKHOLDER RIGHTS**

We may issue stockholder rights (rights of our stockholders to purchase shares of common stock or other securities). Rights may be issued independently or together with any other securities offered by any prospectus supplement and may be attached to or separate from such securities. Each series of rights will be issued under a separate rights agreement, each, a rights agreement, to be entered into between us and a bank or trust company, as rights agent, or the rights agent, specified in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to that particular issue of rights. The rights agent will act solely as our agent in connection with the rights of any series and will not assume any obligation or relationship of agency or trust for or with any holders or beneficial owners of rights. The foregoing sets forth certain general terms and provisions of the rights offered hereby. Further terms of any series of rights and the applicable rights agreement will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement we will file relating to that series and, with respect to the applicable rights agreements, will be incorporated by reference as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part at or before the issuance of such series of rights.

The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the terms of the rights to be issued including, where applicable, the following:

the date for determining the stockholders entitled to rights issued in the offering;

the aggregate number of shares of common stock or other securities purchasable upon exercise of such rights and the exercise price;

the aggregate number of rights being issued;

the date, if any, on and after which such rights may be separately transferrable;

the date on which the right to exercise such rights will commence and the date on which such rights will expire;

the minimum or maximum number of such rights which may be exercised at any one time;

a discussion of certain federal income tax considerations; and

any other terms of such rights, including the terms, procedures, and limitations relating to distribution, exchange and exercise of such rights.

The exercise price for any series of rights will be payable in United States dollars only and will be in registered form only.

**DESCRIPTION OF UNITS**

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We may issue units consisting of shares of common stock, shares of preferred stock, warrants, stockholder rights, debt securities, or any combination of those securities. The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the terms of any units including the following:

the terms of the units and each of the securities included in the units, including whether and under what circumstances the securities included in the units may or may not be traded separately;

the terms of any unit agreement governing the units;

if applicable, a discussion of certain United States federal income tax considerations relating to the units; and

the provisions for the payment, settlement, transfer or exchange of the units.

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**DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES**

**General**

The debt securities will be:

our direct general obligations;

either senior debt securities or subordinated debt securities; and

issued under separate indentures among us and a trustee which will be named in a prospectus supplement and a supplemental indenture.

We may issue debt securities in one or more series.

If we offer senior debt securities, we will issue them under a senior indenture. If we issue subordinated debt securities, we will issue them under a subordinated indenture. Each of the open-ended indentures is filed as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. We have not restated either indenture in its entirety in this description. You should read the relevant indenture because it, and not this description, controls your rights as holders of the debt securities. Capitalized terms used in the summary have the meanings specified in the indentures.

**Specific Terms of Each Series of Debt Securities in the Prospectus Supplement**

A prospectus supplement and a supplemental indenture relating to any series of debt securities being offered will include specific terms relating to the offering. These terms will include some or all of the following:

the issuer of the debt securities;

the co-issuers of the debt securities, if any;

the guarantors of the debt securities, if any;

whether the debt securities are senior or subordinated debt securities;

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the title of the debt securities;

the total principal amount of the debt securities;

the process to authenticate and deliver the debt securities and the application of the proceeds thereof;

the assets, if any, that are pledged as security for the payment of the debt securities;

the terms of any release, or the release and substitution of, any assets pledged as security for the payment of the debt securities;

whether we will issue the debt securities in individual certificates to each holder in registered form, or in the form of temporary or permanent global securities held by a depository on behalf of holders;

the prices at which we will issue the debt securities;

the portion of the principal amount that will be payable if the maturity of the debt securities is accelerated;

the currency or currency unit in which the debt securities will be payable, if not U.S. dollars;

the dates on which the principal of the debt securities will be payable;

the interest rate that the debt securities will bear and the interest payment dates for the debt securities;

any conversion or exchange provisions;

any optional redemption provisions;

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any sinking fund or other provisions that would obligate us to repurchase or otherwise redeem the debt securities;

any changes to or additional events of default or covenants; and

any other terms of the debt securities.

We may offer and sell debt securities, including original issue discount debt securities, at a substantial discount below their principal amount. The relevant prospectus supplement will describe special U.S. federal income tax and any other considerations applicable to those securities. In addition, the prospectus supplement may describe certain special U.S. federal income tax or other considerations applicable to any debt securities that are denominated in a currency other than U.S. dollars.

***Consolidation, Merger or Asset Sale***

Each indenture will, in general, allow us to consolidate or merge with or into another domestic entity. It will also allow each issuer to sell, lease, transfer or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of its assets to another domestic entity. If this happens, the remaining or acquiring entity must assume all of the issuer's responsibilities and liabilities under the indenture, including the payment of all amounts due on the debt securities and performance of the issuer's covenants in the indenture.

However, each indenture will impose certain requirements with respect to any consolidation or merger with or into an entity, or any sale, lease, transfer or other disposition of all or substantially all of an issuer's assets, including:

the remaining or acquiring entity must be organized under the laws of the United States, any state or the District of Columbia;

the remaining or acquiring entity must assume the issuer's obligations under the indenture; and

immediately after giving effect to the transaction, no event of default may exist.

The remaining or acquiring entity will be substituted for the issuer in the indenture with the same effect as if it had been an original party to the indenture, and the issuer will be relieved from any further obligations under the indenture.

***No Protection in the Event of a Change of Control***

Unless otherwise set forth in the prospectus supplement, the debt securities will not contain any provisions that protect the holders of the debt securities in the event of a change of control of us or in the event of a highly leveraged transaction, whether or not such transaction results in a change of control of us.

*Modification of Indentures*

We may supplement or amend an indenture if the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of all series issued under the indenture affected by the supplement or amendment consent to it. Further, the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series may waive past defaults under the indenture and compliance by us with our covenants with respect to the debt securities of that series only. Those holders may not, however, waive any default in any payment on any debt security of that series or compliance with a provision that cannot be supplemented or amended without the consent of each holder affected. Without the consent of each outstanding debt security affected, no modification of the indenture or waiver may:

reduce the principal amount of debt securities whose holders must consent to an amendment, supplement or waiver;

reduce the principal of or change the fixed maturity of any debt security;



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reduce or waive the premium payable upon redemption or alter or waive the provisions with respect to the redemption of the debt securities (except as may be permitted in the case of a particular series of debt securities);

reduce the rate of or change the time for payment of interest on any debt security;

waive an event of default in the payment of principal of or premium, if any, or interest on the debt securities (except a rescission of acceleration of the debt securities by the holders of at least a majority in aggregate principal amount of the debt securities and a waiver of the payment default that resulted from such acceleration);

except as otherwise permitted under the indenture, release any security that may have been granted with respect to the debt securities;

make any debt security payable in currency other than that stated in the debt securities;

in the case of any subordinated debt security, make any change in the subordination provisions that adversely affects the rights of any holder under those provisions;

make any change in the provisions of the indenture relating to waivers of past defaults or the rights of holders of debt securities to receive payments of principal of or premium, if any, or interest on the debt securities;

waive a redemption payment with respect to any debt security (except as may be permitted in the case of a particular series of debt securities);

except as otherwise permitted in the indenture, release any guarantor from its obligations under its guarantee or the indenture or change any guarantee in any manner that would adversely affect the rights of holders; or

make any change in the preceding amendment, supplement and waiver provisions (except to increase any percentage set forth therein).

We may supplement or amend an indenture without the consent of any holders of the debt securities in certain circumstances, including:

to establish the form of terms of any series of debt securities;

to cure any ambiguity, defect or inconsistency;

to provide for uncertificated notes in addition to or in place of certified notes;

to provide for the assumption of an issuer's or guarantor's obligations to holders of debt securities in the case of a merger or consolidation or disposition of all or substantially all of such issuer's or guarantor's assets;

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in the case of any subordinated debt security, to make any change in the subordination provisions that limits or terminates the benefits applicable to any holder of senior indebtedness of us, any co-issuer or guarantor, as applicable;

to add or release co-issuers pursuant to the terms of the indenture;

to add or release guarantors pursuant to the terms of the indenture;

to make any changes that would provide any additional rights or benefits to the holders of debt securities or that do not, taken as a whole, materially adversely affect the rights under the indenture of any holder of debt securities;

to comply with requirements of the SEC in order to effect or maintain the qualification of the indenture under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, or the Trust Indenture Act;

to evidence or provide for the acceptance of appointment under the indenture of a successor trustee;

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to add any additional events of default; or

to secure the debt securities and/or the guarantees.

**Events of Default and Remedies**

Unless otherwise indicated in the prospectus supplement, an event of default, when used in an indenture, will mean any of the following with respect to the debt securities of any series:

failure to pay when due the principal of or any premium on any debt security of that series;

failure to pay, within 90 days of the due date, interest on any debt security of that series;

failure to pay when due any sinking fund payment with respect to any debt securities of that series;

failure on the part of the issuers to comply with the covenant described under Consolidation, Merger or Asset Sale;

failure to perform any other covenant in the indenture that continues for 30 days after written notice is given to the issuers;

certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization of an issuer; or

any other event of default provided under the terms of the debt securities of that series.

An event of default for a particular series of debt securities will not necessarily constitute an event of default for any other series of debt securities issued under an indenture. The trustee may withhold notice to the holders of debt securities of any default (except in the payment of principal, premium, if any, or interest) if it considers such withholding of notice to be in the best interests of the holders.

If an event of default for any series of debt securities occurs and continues, the trustee or the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the debt securities of the series may declare the entire principal of, and accrued interest on, all the debt securities of that series to be due and payable immediately. If this happens, subject to certain conditions, the holders of a majority in the aggregate principal amount of the debt securities of that series can rescind the declaration.

Other than its duties in case of a default, a trustee is not obligated to exercise any of its rights or powers under the indenture at the request, order or direction of any holders, unless the holders offer the trustee reasonable security or indemnity. If they provide this reasonable security or indemnification, the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of any series of debt securities may direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding or any remedy available to the trustee, or exercising any power conferred upon the trustee, for that series of debt securities.

**No Limit on Amount of Debt Securities**

Neither indenture will limit the amount of debt securities that we may issue, unless we indicate otherwise in a prospectus supplement. Each indenture will allow us to issue debt securities of any series up to the aggregate principal amount that we authorize.

**Registration of Notes**

We will issue debt securities of a series only in registered form, without coupons, unless otherwise indicated in the prospectus supplement.

**Minimum Denominations**

Unless the prospectus supplement states otherwise, the debt securities will be issued only in principal amounts of \$1,000 each or integral multiples of \$1,000.

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### **No Personal Liability**

None of the past, present or future partners, incorporators, managers, members, trustees, directors, officers, employees, unitholders, stockholders of the company or stockholders of any issuer or any guarantor will have any liability for the obligations of the issuers or any guarantors under the indenture or the debt securities or for any claim based on such obligations or their creation. Each holder of debt securities by accepting a debt security waives and releases all such liability. The waiver and release are part of the consideration for the issuance of the debt securities. The waiver may not be effective with respect to violations of federal securities laws, however, and it is the view of the SEC that such a waiver is against public policy.

### **Payment and Transfer**

The trustee will initially act as paying agent and registrar under each indenture. The issuers may change the paying agent or registrar without prior notice to the holders of debt securities, and the issuers or any of their subsidiaries may act as paying agent or registrar.

If a holder of debt securities has given wire transfer instructions to the issuers, the issuers will make all payments on the debt securities in accordance with those instructions. All other payments on the debt securities will be made at the corporate trust office of the trustee, unless the issuers elect to make interest payments by check mailed to the holders at their addresses set forth in the debt security register.

The trustee and any paying agent will repay to us upon request any funds held by them for payments on the debt securities that remain unclaimed for two years after the date upon which that payment has become due. After payment to us, holders entitled to the money must look to us for payment as general creditors.

### **Exchange, Registration and Transfer**

Debt securities of any series may be exchangeable for other debt securities of the same series, the same total principal amount and the same terms but in different authorized denominations in accordance with the indenture.

Holders may present debt securities for exchange or registration of transfer at the office of the registrar. The registrar will effect the transfer or exchange when it is satisfied with the documents of title and identity of the person making the request. We will not charge a service fee for any registration of transfer or exchange of the debt securities. We may, however, require the payment of any tax or other governmental charge payable for that registration.

We will not be required:

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to issue, register the transfer of, or exchange debt securities of a series either during a period beginning 15 business days prior to the selection of debt securities of that series for redemption and ending on the close of business on the day of mailing of the relevant notice of redemption or repurchase, or between a record date and the next succeeding interest payment date; or

to register the transfer or exchange of any debt security called for redemption or repurchase, except the unredeemed portion of any debt security we are redeeming or repurchasing in part.

### **Provisions Relating only to the Senior Debt Securities**

The senior debt securities will rank equally in right of payment with all of our other senior and unsubordinated debt. The senior debt securities will be effectively subordinated, however, to all of our secured debt to the extent of the value of the collateral for that debt. We will disclose the amount of our secured debt in the prospectus supplement.

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### **Provisions Relating only to the Subordinated Debt Securities**

#### ***Subordinated Debt Securities Subordinated to Senior Indebtedness***

The subordinated debt securities will rank junior in right of payment to all of the senior indebtedness of ours, any co-issuer or any guarantor to the extent disclosed in the prospectus supplement.

#### ***Payment Blockages***

The subordinated indenture will provide that no payment of principal, interest and any premium on the subordinated debt securities may be made in the event:

we or our property is involved in any voluntary or involuntary liquidation or bankruptcy;

we fail to pay the principal, interest, any premium or any other amounts on any senior indebtedness of ours, any co-issuer or any guarantor to the extent disclosed in the prospectus supplement within any applicable grace period or the maturity of such senior indebtedness is accelerated following any other default, subject to certain limited exceptions set forth in the subordinated indenture; or

any other default on any senior indebtedness of ours, any co-issuer or any guarantor to the extent disclosed in the prospectus supplement occurs that permits immediate acceleration of its maturity, in which case a payment blockage on the subordinated debt securities will be imposed for a maximum of 179 days at any one time.

#### ***No Limitation on Amount of Senior Debt***

The subordinated indenture will not limit the amount of senior indebtedness that we, any co-issuer or any guarantor may incur, unless otherwise indicated in the prospectus supplement.

### **Book Entry, Delivery and Form**

The debt securities of a particular series may be issued in whole or in part in the form of one or more global certificates that will be deposited with the trustee as custodian for The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York, or DTC. This means that we would not issue certificates to each holder. Instead, one or more global debt securities would be issued to DTC, which would keep a computerized record of its participants (for example, your broker) whose clients have purchased the debt securities. The participant would then keep a record of its clients who purchased the debt securities. Unless it is exchanged in whole or in part for a certificated debt security, a global debt security may not be transferred, except that DTC, its nominees and their successors may transfer a global debt security as a whole to one another.

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Beneficial interests in global debt securities will be shown on, and transfers of global debt securities will be made only through, records maintained by DTC and its participants.

DTC has provided us the following information: DTC is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a banking organization within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the United States Federal Reserve System, a clearing corporation within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code and a clearing agency registered under the provisions of Section 17A of the Exchange Act. DTC holds securities that its participants, or direct participants, deposit with DTC. DTC also records the settlement among direct participants of securities transactions, such as transfers and pledges, in deposited securities through computerized records for direct participants' accounts. This eliminates the need to exchange certificates. Direct participants include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and certain other organizations. DTC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation, or DTCC. DTCC is the holding company for DTC, National Securities Clearing Corporation and Fixed Income Clearing Corporation, all of which are registered clearing agencies. DTCC is



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owned by the users of its regulated subsidiaries. Access to the DTC system is also available to others such as both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies and clearing corporations that clear or maintain a custodial relationship with a direct participant, either directly or indirectly. The rules that apply to DTC and its participants are on file with the SEC.

We will wire all payments on global debt securities to DTC's nominee. We and the trustee will treat DTC's nominee as the owner of the global debt securities for all purposes. Accordingly, we, the trustee and any paying agent will have no direct responsibility or liability to pay amounts due on the global debt securities to owners of beneficial interests in the global debt securities.

It is DTC's current practice, upon receipt of any payment on global debt securities, to credit direct participants' accounts on the payment date according to their respective holdings of beneficial interests in the global debt securities as shown on DTC's records. In addition, it is DTC's current practice to assign any consenting or voting rights to direct participants whose accounts are credited with debt securities on a record date, by using an omnibus proxy. Payments by participants to owners of beneficial interests in the global debt securities, and voting by participants, will be governed by the customary practices between the participants and owners of beneficial interests, as is the case with debt securities held for the account of customers registered in street name. However, payments will be the responsibility of the participants and not of DTC, the trustee or us.

Debt securities represented by a global debt security will be exchangeable for certificated debt securities with the same terms in authorized denominations only if:

DTC notifies us that it is unwilling or unable to continue as depository or if DTC ceases to be a clearing agency registered under applicable law and in either event a successor depository is not appointed by us within 90 days; or

we determine not to require all of the debt securities of a series to be represented by a global debt security.

## **Satisfaction and Discharge; Defeasance**

Each indenture will be discharged and will cease to be of further effect as to all outstanding debt securities of any series issued thereunder, when:

(a) either:

(1) all outstanding debt securities of that series that have been authenticated (except lost, stolen or destroyed debt securities that have been replaced or paid and debt securities for whose payment money has theretofore been deposited in trust and thereafter repaid to us) have been delivered to the trustee for cancellation; or

(2) all outstanding debt securities of that series that have not been delivered to the trustee for cancellation have become due and payable by reason of the giving of a notice of redemption or otherwise or will become due and payable at their stated maturity within one year or are to be

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called for redemption within one year under arrangements satisfactory to the trustee and in any case we have irrevocably deposited or caused to be irrevocably deposited with the trustee as trust funds cash in U.S. dollars, non-callable U.S. Government Obligations or a combination thereof, in such amounts as will be sufficient, without consideration of any reinvestment of interest, to pay and discharge the entire indebtedness of such debt securities not delivered to the trustee for cancellation, with respect to principal, premium, if any, and accrued interest to the date of such deposit (in the case of debt securities that have been due and payable) or the stated maturity or redemption date;

(b) we have paid or caused to be paid all other sums payable by us under the indenture; and

(c) we have delivered an officers certificate and an opinion of counsel to the trustee stating that all conditions precedent to satisfaction and discharge have been satisfied.

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The debt securities of a particular series will be subject to legal or covenant defeasance to the extent, and upon the terms and conditions, set forth in the prospectus supplement.

## **Governing Law**

Each indenture and all of the debt securities will be governed by the laws of the State of New York.

## **The Trustee**

We will enter into each indenture with a trustee that is qualified to act under the Trust Indenture Act and with any other trustees chosen by us and appointed in a supplemental indenture for a particular series of debt securities.

## ***Resignation or Removal of Trustee***

If the trustee has or acquires a conflicting interest within the meaning of the Trust Indenture Act, the trustee must either eliminate its conflicting interest or resign, to the extent and in the manner provided by, and subject to the provisions of, the Trust Indenture Act and the applicable indenture. Any resignation will require the appointment of a successor trustee under the applicable Indenture in accordance with the terms and conditions of such indenture.

The trustee may resign or be removed by us with respect to one or more series of debt securities and a successor trustee may be appointed to act with respect to any such series. The holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the debt securities of any series may remove the trustee with respect to the debt securities of such series.

## ***Limitations on Trustee if It Is Our Creditor***

Each indenture will contain certain limitations on the right of the trustee, if it becomes a creditor of an issuer or a guarantor, to obtain payment of claims in certain cases, or to realize on certain property received in respect of any such claim as security or otherwise.

## ***Annual Trustee Report to Holders of Debt Securities***

The trustee is required to submit an annual report to the holders of the debt securities regarding, among other things, the trustee's eligibility to serve as such, the priority of the trustee's claims regarding certain advances made by it, and any action taken by the trustee materially affecting the debt securities.

*Certificates and Opinions to Be Furnished to Trustee*

Each indenture will provide that, in addition to other certificates or opinions that may be specifically required by other provisions of an indenture, every application by us for action by the trustee shall be accompanied by a certificate of certain of our officers and an opinion of counsel (who may be our counsel) stating that, in the opinion of the signers, all conditions precedent to such action have been complied with by us.

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**MATERIAL PROVISIONS OF MARYLAND LAW AND OUR CHARTER AND BYLAWS**

*The following is a summary of certain provisions of Maryland law and of our charter and bylaws. While we believe that the following description covers the material aspects of these provisions, the description may not contain all of the information that is important to you. We encourage you to read carefully this entire prospectus, our charter and bylaws and the relevant provisions of Maryland law, for a more complete understanding of these provisions. Copies of our charter and bylaws are filed as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part and the following summary, to the extent it relates to those documents, is qualified in its entirety by reference thereto. See [Where You Can Find Additional Information](#).*

**Stockholders Meetings**

Our bylaws provide that an annual meeting of the stockholders will be held on a date that the board of directors may determine. The purpose of each annual meeting of the stockholders is to elect directors and to transact any other proper business.

The chairman, the president, the chief executive officer or the board of directors may call a special meeting of the stockholders. Subject to compliance with certain procedures set forth in our bylaws, the secretary must call a special meeting to act on any matter that may properly be considered at a meeting of stockholders when stockholders entitled to cast a majority of all the votes entitled to be cast at such meeting on such matter make a written request for the meeting. In general, the presence, in person or by proxy, of stockholders entitled to cast a majority of all the votes entitled to be cast at such meeting will constitute a quorum. Generally, a majority of the votes cast at a duly called meeting of stockholders at which a quorum is present is sufficient to approve any matter unless our charter or the MGCL require otherwise.

**Board of Directors**

Our business and affairs will be managed under the direction of our board of directors. Our charter and bylaws provide that the number of directors may not be less than the minimum number required by the MGCL and our bylaws provide that the number of directors may not be more than 15. Except as may be provided by our board of directors in setting the terms of any class or series of preferred stock, any vacancy on the board of directors may be filled only by a majority of the remaining directors, whether or not the remaining directors constitute a quorum, and any director elected to fill a vacancy will serve for the remainder of the full term of the directorship in which the vacancy occurred and until a successor is duly elected and qualifies. Any director may resign at any time by delivering notice to the board of directors, the chairman of the board or the secretary. Further, any director or the entire board may be removed but only for cause by the affirmative vote of stockholders entitled to cast not less than a majority of the votes entitled to be cast generally in the election of directors, subject to the preferential rights of any preferred stock. A plurality of all the votes cast at a duly called meeting of stockholders at which a quorum is present is sufficient to elect a director.

**Amendment of the Organizational Documents**

Our charter may be amended after a declaration by the board of directors that the amendment is advisable and, except for those amendments which are permitted under Maryland law to be made without stockholder approval, approval by the affirmative vote of holders of a majority of all votes entitled to be cast on the matter. Our board of directors has the exclusive power to adopt, alter or repeal any provision of our bylaws and to make new bylaws.

**Dissolution**

We may be dissolved after a declaration by a majority of the entire board of directors that dissolution is advisable and the approval by stockholders entitled to cast a majority of all the votes entitled to be cast on the matter.

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**Advance Notice of Director Nominations and New Business**

Our bylaws provide that, with respect to our annual meeting of stockholders, nominations for election to our board of directors and the proposal of other business to be considered by stockholders may be made only:

pursuant to our notice of the meeting;

by or at the direction of our board of directors; or

by any stockholder who was a stockholder of record both at the time of giving notice of such nomination or proposal of business and at the time of the meeting, who is entitled to vote at the meeting in the election of each individual so nominated or on any such other business and who has complied with the advance notice procedures set forth in our bylaws.

Our bylaws also provide that, with respect to special meetings of stockholders, only the business specified in the notice of meeting may be brought before the meeting of stockholders and that, with respect to meetings at which directors will be elected, nominations for election to the board of directors may be made only:

by or at the direction of the board of directors; or

provided that the special meeting has been called in accordance with our bylaws for the purpose of electing directors, by any stockholder who was a stockholder of record both at the time of giving notice of such nomination and at the time of the special meeting, who is entitled to vote at the meeting in the election of each individual so nominated and who complied with the advance notice procedures set forth in our bylaws.

A stockholder nomination or proposal of business in connection with a stockholders' annual meeting must provide the information required in our bylaws and be delivered to our secretary at our principal executive offices:

not earlier than the 150<sup>th</sup> day or later than 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, on the 120<sup>th</sup> day prior to the first anniversary of the date of the proxy statement for the prior year's annual meeting; provided, however,

in the event that the date of the annual meeting is advanced or delayed by more than 30 days from the first anniversary of the preceding year's annual meeting, not earlier than the 150<sup>th</sup> day or later than 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, on the later of the 120<sup>th</sup> day prior to the date of such annual meeting, as originally convened, or the tenth day following the day on which public announcement of the date of such meeting is first made; or

in the event that the number of directors is increased and there is no public announcement of such action at least 130 days before the first anniversary of the date of mailing of the proxy statement for the prior year's annual meeting, and with respect to nominees for any new positions created by such increase, not later than 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, on the tenth day following the day on which such public announcement is first made.

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A stockholder nomination for an individual for election as a director in connection with a special meeting called for the purpose of electing one or more directors must provide the information required in our bylaws and be delivered to our secretary at our principal executive offices:

not earlier than the 120<sup>th</sup> day prior to the special meeting; and

not later than 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, on the later of the 90<sup>th</sup> day prior to the special meeting or the tenth day following the first public announcement of the special meeting and the nominees proposed by the board of directors to be elected at the meeting. The public announcement of a postponement or adjournment of a special meeting shall not commence a new time period for the giving of stockholder notice.



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### **Business Combinations**

Under Maryland law, business combinations between a Maryland corporation and an interested stockholder or an affiliate of an interested stockholder are prohibited for five years after the most recent date on which the interested stockholder becomes an interested stockholder. These business combinations include a merger, consolidation, share exchange, or, in circumstances specified in the statute, an asset transfer or issuance or reclassification of equity securities. An interested stockholder is defined as:

any person who beneficially owns 10% or more of the voting power of the corporation's outstanding voting stock; or

an affiliate or associate of the corporation who, at any time within the two-year period prior to the date in question, was the beneficial owner of 10% or more of the voting power of the then outstanding voting stock of the corporation.

A person is not an interested stockholder under the statute if the board of directors approved in advance the transaction by which the person otherwise would have become an interested stockholder. However, in approving a transaction, the board of directors may provide that its approval is subject to compliance, at or after the time of approval, with any terms and conditions determined by the board of directors.

After the five-year prohibition, any business combination between a Maryland corporation and an interested stockholder generally must be recommended by the board of directors of the corporation and approved by the affirmative vote of at least:

80% of the votes entitled to be cast by holders of outstanding shares of voting stock of the corporation; and

two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast by holders of voting stock of the corporation other than shares held by the interested stockholders with whom or with whose affiliate the business combination is to be effected or held by an affiliate or associate of the interested stockholder.

These super-majority vote requirements do not apply if the corporation's common stockholders receive a minimum price, as defined under Maryland law, for their shares in the form of cash or other consideration in the same form as previously paid by the interested stockholder for his or her shares. Maryland law also permits various exemptions from these provisions, including business combinations that are exempted by the board of directors before the time that the interested stockholder becomes an interested stockholder. Pursuant to the statute, our board of directors has by resolution exempted business combinations between us and any other person from these provisions of the MGCL, provided that the business combination is first approved by our board of directors and, consequently, the five year prohibition and the supermajority vote requirements will not apply to such business combinations. As a result, we will be able to enter into any business combinations which are first approved by our board of directors, including business combinations that may not be in the best interests of our stockholders, without compliance by us with the supermajority vote requirements and other provisions of the statute. This resolution, however, may be altered or repealed in whole or in part at any time. If this resolution is repealed, or our board of directors does not otherwise approve a business combination, the statute may discourage others from trying to acquire control of us and increase the difficulty of consummating any offer.

### **Control Share Acquisitions**

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Maryland law provides that a holder of control shares of a Maryland corporation acquired in a control share acquisition has no voting rights with respect to such shares except to the extent approved by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter. Shares owned by the acquirer, by officers or by employees who are directors of the corporation are excluded from the vote on whether to accord voting rights to the control shares. Control shares are voting shares of stock which, if aggregated with all other shares of stock owned by the acquirer or in respect of which the acquirer is able to exercise or direct the exercise of voting power

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(except solely by virtue of a revocable proxy), would entitle the acquirer to exercise voting power in electing directors within one of the following ranges of voting power: (i) one-tenth or more but less than one-third; (ii) one-third or more but less than a majority; or (iii) a majority or more of all voting power.

Control shares do not include shares the acquiring person is entitled to vote as a result of having previously obtained stockholder approval or shares acquired directly from the corporation. A control share acquisition means the acquisition of issued and outstanding control shares, subject to certain exceptions. A person who has made or proposes to make a control share acquisition may compel the board of directors of the corporation to call a special meeting of stockholders to be held within 50 days of demand to consider the voting rights of the shares. The right to compel the calling of a special meeting is subject to the satisfaction of certain conditions, including an undertaking to pay the expenses of the meeting. If no request for a meeting is made, the corporation may itself present the question at any stockholders meeting.

If voting rights for control shares are not approved at the meeting or if the acquiring person does not deliver a statement as required by the statute, then the corporation may redeem for fair value any or all of the control shares, except those for which voting rights have previously been approved. The right of the corporation to redeem control shares is subject to certain conditions and limitations. Fair value is determined, without regard to the absence of voting rights for the control shares, as of the date of the last control share acquisition by the acquirer or of any meeting of stockholders at which the voting rights of the shares are considered and not approved. If voting rights for control shares are approved at a stockholders meeting and the acquirer becomes entitled to vote a majority of the shares entitled to vote, all other stockholders may exercise appraisal rights, unless the corporation's charter or bylaws provide otherwise. The fair value of the shares as determined for purposes of appraisal rights may not be less than the highest price per share paid by the acquirer in the control share acquisition.

The control share acquisition statute does not apply to (a) shares acquired in a merger, consolidation or statutory share exchange if the corporation is a party to the transaction, or (b) acquisitions approved or exempted by our charter or bylaws.

Our bylaws contain a provision exempting from the control share acquisition statute any and all acquisitions of shares of our stock by any person. We can offer no assurance that this provision will not be amended or eliminated at any time in the future.

## **Subtitle 8**

Subtitle 8 of Title 3 of the MGCL permits the board of directors of a Maryland corporation with a class of equity securities registered under the Exchange Act and at least three independent directors to elect to be subject, by provision in its charter or bylaws or a resolution of its board of directors and notwithstanding any contrary provision in the charter or bylaws, to any or all of the following provisions:

a classified board;

a two-thirds vote requirement for removing a director;

a requirement that the number of directors be fixed only by vote of the directors;

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a requirement that a vacancy on the board be filled only by the remaining directors and (if the board is classified) for the remainder of the full term of the directorship in which the vacancy occurred; and

a majority requirement for the calling of a stockholder requested special meeting of stockholders.

We have elected that, except as may be provided by our board of directors in setting the terms of any class or series of preferred stock, vacancies on our board of directors may be filled only by the remaining directors and for the remainder of the full term of the directorship in which the vacancy occurred. Through provisions in our

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charter and bylaws unrelated to Subtitle 8, we already vest in our board of directors the exclusive power to fix the number of directorships and require, unless the meeting is called by our chairman of the board, our chief executive officer, our president or our board of directors, the written request of stockholders entitled to cast not less than a majority of all the votes entitled to be cast on any matter that may properly be considered at a meeting of stockholders in order to call a special meeting of stockholders to act on such matter.

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**DESCRIPTION OF OUR OPERATING PARTNERSHIP AND  
OUR OPERATING PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT**

*The following is a summary of the agreement of limited partnership of Independence Realty Operating Partnership, LP, our operating partnership. This summary and the descriptions of our operating partnership agreement provisions included elsewhere or incorporated by reference in this prospectus are qualified by such agreement itself, which is filed as an exhibit to our registration statement, of which this prospectus is a part. See *Where You Can Find Additional Information*.*

**Management of our Operating Partnership**

Our operating partnership is organized as a Delaware limited partnership pursuant to the terms of the operating partnership agreement. We are the general partner of, and expect to conduct substantially all of our business through, our operating partnership. Pursuant to the operating partnership agreement we, as the general partner, will have full, exclusive and complete responsibility and discretion in the management and control of the partnership, including the ability to enter into major transactions, such as acquisitions, dispositions and refinancings, and to cause changes in our operating partnership's business and distribution policies. Further, we may, without the consent of the limited partners:

file a voluntary petition seeking liquidation, reorganization, arrangement or readjustment, in any form, of the partnership's debts under Title 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code, or any other federal or state insolvency law, or corresponding provisions of future laws, or file an answer consenting to or acquiescing in any such petition; or

cause our operating partnership to make an assignment for the benefit of its creditors or admit in writing its inability to pay its debts as they mature.

The limited partners, in their capacities as such, will have no authority to transact business for, or participate in the management or decisions of, our operating partnership, except as provided in the operating partnership agreement and as required by applicable law. Further, the limited partners have no right to remove us as the general partner.

Conducting our operations through our operating partnership allows the sellers of properties to contribute their property interests to our operating partnership in exchange for common units in our operating partnership rather than for cash or our common stock. This enables the seller to defer some or all of the potential taxable gain on the transfer. From the seller's perspective, there are also differences between the ownership of common stock and partnership units, some of which may be material because they impact the business organization form, distribution rights, voting rights, transferability of equity interests received and U.S. federal income taxation. Our operating partnership and each limited partner will file separate tax returns.

**Description of Partnership Units**

Partnership interests in our operating partnership are divided into units. Our operating partnership has two classes of units: general partnership units and common units in our operating partnership. General partnership units represent an interest as a general partner in our operating partnership and we, as general partner, will hold all such units. In return for our initial capital contribution of \$200,000, our operating

partnership issued to us 20,000 general partnership units.

Common units in our operating partnership represent an interest as a limited partner in our operating partnership. Our operating partnership may issue additional units and classes of units with rights different from, and superior to, those of general partnership units and/or other common units in our operating partnership, without the consent of the limited partners. Holders of common units in our operating partnership do not have any preemptive rights with respect to the issuance of additional units. Our operating partnership previously had

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issued four types of limited partnership units: (1) common units, (2) Series A preferred units, which were issued to us in connection with our sale of shares of our preferred stock, (3) Series B preferred units, which were issued to RAIT NTR Holdings, LLC in exchange for cash used to fund the acquisition of our Runaway Bay property, and (4) special units, which were also issued to RAIT NTR Holdings, LLC. On May 7, 2013, all outstanding operating partnership common units were exchanged for shares of our common stock, 100 common units were issued to IRT Limited Partner, LLC, which were not exchanged, and RAIT NTR Holdings LLC's special units were terminated. Effective August 19, 2013, all of the Series B preferred units of our operating partnership were redeemed with a portion of the net proceeds of our August 2013 underwritten offering and all of the Series A preferred units were redeemed in connection with our redemption of the Series A preferred stock with a portion of the net proceeds of our August 2013 underwritten offering.

For each common unit received, investors generally will be required to contribute money or property, with a net equity value determined by the general partner. Holders of limited partnership units will not be obligated to make additional capital contributions to our operating partnership. Further, such holders will not have the right to make additional capital contributions to our operating partnership or to purchase additional limited partnership units without our consent as general partner.

Limited partners do not have the right to participate in the management of our operating partnership. Limited partners who do not participate in the management of our operating partnership, by virtue of their status as limited partners, generally are not liable for the debts and liabilities of our operating partnership beyond the amount of their capital contributions. We, however, as the general partner of our operating partnership, are liable for any unpaid debts and liabilities. The voting rights of the limited partners are generally limited to approval of specific types of amendments to our operating partnership agreement. See Management of our Operating Partnership, above.

In general, each common unit will share equally in distributions from our operating partnership when such distributions are declared by us, the general partner, which decision will be made in our sole discretion. Upon our operating partnership's liquidation, common units will also share equally in the assets of our operating partnership that are available for dist