



FEAST OF TABERNACLES

2017 U.S. HOUSING INFORMATION

WELCOME TO THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES

2017 FESTIVAL HOUSING GUIDE

Each year God's Feast of Tabernacles is the highlight of the year for His people. We anticipate it and plan for it all year long. As you read this, the Feast is only a few months away once again.

We plan and save our second tithe every year in anticipation of going to the "place where the LORD your God chooses to put His name" to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles (Deuteronomy 14:24). We are excited to make arrangements for accommodations for our family, or extended family, that will help us truly rejoice before the Lord our God at His Feast. This aspect of our Feast planning is very important, especially since we will spend more time at our housing establishment than we'll spend doing any other thing while at the Feast.

Each of our Festival coordinators keeps this in mind, knowing the importance of procuring properties that will meet the needs of all of our brethren—with a focus on quality, price and value. Our Festival coordinators spend considerable time each year looking at possible establishments that will fill the bill for God's people. We try to constantly be aware of members' needs and the best facilities to fulfill those needs.

Each year we ask brethren at all of our Feast sites to evaluate the housing properties we used for that year. After the Feast, these surveys are all reviewed, and we evaluate the properties for future use.

Many factors go into the decision as to whether to use the facility again the following year, based on input from those who stayed there. As a result of this review, you will generally find some new facilities each year, as well as some that are discontinued from last year. Our goal

is to always provide the best quality and value available in the area.

A lot of work has gone into providing this guide to help you select and reserve quality housing that meets your needs at a fair price. We recommend you review all the housing offered at the site you will be attending.

To help you get a better idea of what each facility is like, we have listed the websites of most of the establishments we are using. This way you can preview the facility, see all of its amenities, as well as be aware of other factors that may be important.

It is best to get all the information you can about the housing possibilities you are considering before you make a decision.

Please be sure to note any extra charges not included in the basic room cost. These can include resort charges, charges for a pet (if allowed), and other incidental charges. Most facilities (but not necessarily all) offer free wireless Internet in the rooms. These can impact your total cost. Knowing all this in advance will help you make the right decision and hopefully avoid any disappointments or unfortunate surprises.

We would like to remind you of the benefits the Church realizes when our members use the housing establishments that are listed in the COGWA Festival Housing Guide. It enables us to secure fair prices with the housing establishments due to room night volume. It is also central to our ability to acquire quality meeting space for our services at sites where we meet in a hotel.

You will also realize benefits from using the listed housing by knowing that the facilities have been examined for quality, cleanliness and good

value. If you should encounter a problem with housing, it is much easier for the Church to help you rectify problems if you are using housing from our housing list. That said, we want you to find the housing that best fits your family's needs. Should you find it via your own Internet search, we certainly understand and have no problem with that.

As you make your housing arrangements, please remember these important reminders regarding the listed properties:

1. In general, please do not make reservations prior to the opening day and time for reservations, which is **Monday, May 22, at 10 a.m. in the time zone of the site you are attending.** The establishments have been asked to **not accept reservations prior to the agreed-upon time.**
2. Those with disabilities, health problems or other special needs that require specific types of facilities may make early housing reservations beginning May 15. (Check with your local Festival adviser for guidelines.) Some sites may require a password to make early reservations.
3. When making your reservations, identify yourself as a member of the "Church of God, a Worldwide Association, Feast of Tabernacles." Be sure to give your arrival and departure dates, be prepared to pay a deposit, and be sure to get a confirmation number.
4. Please take notice of the maximum number of occupants allowed in a room, and *do not exceed that number.* Reserving a room for four people and then putting six or seven in the room is a violation of fire code. It violates our agreement with the facility, and it also creates extra work for the housekeeping staff.
5. PLEASE make only one housing arrangement at one Feast site. Making duplicate reservations blocks housing from others looking for housing and is also unfair to the housing establishment when they get cancellations only a few weeks before the Feast. If your plans to attend that site change, be sure to cancel your housing reservation as soon as possible to free up housing.

Mike Blackwell
Festival Planning Team

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. What if I have a large family and need a larger facility, such as a house, to have enough space. Can I rent "outside" our housing list?

A. If there is no satisfactory housing on our housing list, you are certainly free to rent something that isn't on the housing list. Most of the large, home-type facilities are "one of a kind," and it would cause more potential problems than it would solve for us to list a large number of one-of-a-kind facilities. And once such a facility was reserved, it would be a frustrating waste of time for any other members who tried to reserve the facility.

Q. What if I'm torn between two different housing properties (maybe even at two different sites). What is wrong with reserving them both until I decide and then releasing the one I decide not to use?

A. This situation happens probably more often than most would think. It causes difficulties on more than one level. First, it removes a room from the "available block" that may eventually go unused if you cancel just before the Feast. Second, it may cause a facility to assume it is full and turn down possible bookings only to later have one or several cancellations by people who had "double-booked" rooms. This causes us problems when we go to book blocks of rooms for the following year.

Q. My extended family is all attending the same site, yet we find we are paying different tax rates on our rooms. Why is that? It seems confusing!

A. Some Feast sites have facilities in different communities, each with different "lodging tax" setups. Some facilities have a "county tax," while others have a "county tax" and a "city lodging tax." Generally, the difference isn't that great, but it may be 4 to 5 percent different.

Q. What about "extra fees" that appear on my bill in addition to the basic room charge?

A. Some facilities have extra charges for things such as "resort fee," "fee for Internet service in sleeping rooms" (in some facilities, the Internet is free only in the public areas). Most of these should be listed in

the housing brochure, but it is good to ask about any extra fees that the facility charges when making your room reservation. When in doubt, ask, so you aren't surprised when you check out.

Q. I have found an establishment that I feel would be a great fit for our housing block. How do I go about giving this input to the right person?

A. At times, members may find a facility that we may have overlooked or that may be under new management. There are a couple of ways you can give input in this area. First, since we may already have our room blocks set for this year, you can write in your suggestion on your copy of the Housing Survey, which is passed out at each site. The Festival coordinator for that site will see it and can follow up on it. Second, you can email the suggestion to the Festival coordinator for that site or to a member of the Festival Planning Team. But either way, please do not try to negotiate with the establishment on behalf of the Church.

Q. I have several ideas on areas that I feel would make wonderful Feast sites. How do I go about giving input on possible locations?

A. We are always keeping our eyes open for possible Feast sites. Our main criteria for site selection is desirable locations within a reasonable distance of the majority of our people in a region. We will occasionally

have a specialty site on a one-time or a periodic basis, but due to manpower and expense, we mostly focus on regional sites across the United States and regional sites in the international areas as well.

The Festival Planning Team is always open to suggestions for possible future sites and welcomes input from interested members. If you know of a specific facility in a particular area, feel free to mention it in an email to a member of the Festival Planning Team. But please do not contact the facility directly or discuss possible terms with the facility, as if you are representing the Church. Doing so can cause confusion. Send in your ideas, and we will look at and consider them in light of current needs, contracts and other relative conditions.

Q. What do I do if I check into a facility selected from the housing guide and, after checking in, I find the conditions to be totally unacceptable?

A. While this situation seldom happens, it is a possibility. Before you actually occupy the room, go back to the management and tell them the conditions are totally unacceptable and ask for either another room that is acceptable or for a refund. Most facilities will work with you. In the event that you still have a situation, feel free to contact the Festival coordinator for the site or, if you know his name, the housing officer. Either of them will be able to help you with the situation.

Key Dates for 2017 Feast of Tabernacles

April 16-May 15, 2017
Online registration

July 10, 2017
Activity information posted to website

May 15, 2017
Early housing reservations begin (check with your local Festival adviser for guidelines)

Oct. 5-11, 2017
Feast of Tabernacles

May 22, 2017
General housing reservations begin

Oct. 12, 2017
Last Great Day

Registration begins April 16
feast.cogwa.org



SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA



San Diego, the jewel of Southern California, will again be one of our sites for this year's Feast of Tabernacles. San Diego is a top travel destination and has a year-round climate that attracts many visitors.

This year we will be meeting at the Crowne Plaza for all services during the Feast. The resort is located on Hotel Circle and is just one mile from Old Town San Diego and 3 miles or less to Mission Bay, Sea World and other attractions. The Crowne Plaza is beautifully landscaped with a Hawaiian theme, and the hotel has seen many upgrades in the last year. We are expecting about 350 in attendance.

The hotel has offered us a \$10 discount off the normal parking rate, charging only \$3 per day for hotel guests and \$5 per day for members staying off-site and coming to the venue each day for services. Those staying off-site can purchase a guest parking pass at the Crowne Plaza's front office for easy access to parking each day. This full-service hotel also has a restaurant, coffee/sandwich shop, sushi bar in the evenings, lounge, gift shop, exercise room, business center, on-site guest laundry, large outdoor heated swimming pool and whirlpool/hot tub.

We appreciate attendees' staying at the Crowne Plaza, since that will reduce our cost for a wonderful meeting space. The hotel has given us a reduced rate and offers complimentary Internet, in-room refrigerators and microwaves. There are numerous restaurants and shopping facilities within 1 to 2 miles of the hotel. Other nearby hotels and vacation rentals will be available. Some of these housing properties are within walking distance.

Planned activities will include a family dance, seniors' luncheon, teen and young adult activities, a golf tournament and more.

Local activities are plentiful, with snorkeling, surfing, kayaking, paddleboarding, deep-sea fishing, whale and dolphin watching, dinner or harbor cruises, wineries, mountain biking, golfing, scuba diving, tide pools, shopping and more. San Diego is also host to a wide variety of restaurants and fine dining.

Fragrance-controlled room available: No.

Tax rate for accommodations: 12.7 percent.

Closest airports: San Diego (SAN), 5.7 miles; Orange County (SNA), 82 miles.

Paul Carter

Bluewater Vacation Homes

800-243-3588
858-408-3247 fax
bluewatervacationhomes.com
926 Turquoise St., Suite F
San Diego, CA 92109

10% off listed rate of less than \$250/night
15% off listed rate of \$250-\$350/night
20% off listed rate of more than \$350/night

Note: To receive discount, reservations must be made by calling the 800 number. Mention you are with COGWA or Church of God, a Worldwide Association. Discounts apply to online rates (subject to change). Discount applies only to fully managed properties, pending approval by Bluewater Vacation Homes. Must book before Aug. 15 to receive discount. Discounts are for 8 or more consecutive nights. See bluewatervacationhomes.com/rental-terms-and-conditions.htm for terms and cancellation policy.

Amenities: Bluewater is a rental agency that lists a variety of apartments, condos and homes, so amenities will vary. See their website to find a property that meets your needs. No security deposit is required.

Distance from meeting hall: varies

Candlewood Suites

619-299-3501
619-394-7882 fax
tinyurl.com/sandiegocandlewood
1335 Hotel Circle South
San Diego, CA 92108

\$99.99 1 king suite, 1-3 people
\$99.99 2 queens suite, 2-5 people
\$99.99 1 queen suite, 1-3 people

Note: For reservations, call the hotel directly—mention you are with COGWA or Church of God, a Worldwide Association, and ask for Tammy Yang. No penalty if reservation is canceled more than 24 hours before check-in. Price does not include applicable taxes. These rates are available three nights before and after the Feast.

Amenities: Kitchen, laundry facilities, pets allowed (with fee), king or queen beds, air-conditioning, suites, fitness center, whirlpool, barbecues available, free Wi-Fi. Parking fee of \$8 per day.

Distance from meeting hall: 1.2 miles

Comfort Inn & Suites

619-881-6202
619-881-4701 fax
comfortinnzoo.com
2485 Hotel Circle Place
San Diego, CA 92108

\$95 2 queen beds and sofa, up to 6 people
\$105 family suite, up to 6 people

Note: When calling to make reservations, mention you are with COGWA or Church of God, a Worldwide Association. These rates are available three nights before and after the Feast. The deposit is refunded in full if reservation is canceled seven days before check-in.

Amenities: Restaurant on premises or adjacent, shopping nearby, laundry facilities, equipped for handicapped, outdoor pool, king or queen beds, suites (mini fridge and microwave included; bunkbeds are available), air-conditioning, elevator, fitness room, free Wi-Fi, parking and hot breakfast included.

Distance from meeting hall: 0.3 mile

Crowne Plaza San Diego

619-819-7141
888-233-9527
619-297-0555 fax
crowneplaza.com/sandiego
2270 Hotel Circle North
San Diego, CA 92108

\$110 single room, 1-4 people

Note: When calling to make reservations, please ask for the "Feast of Tabernacles 2017" rate. (Call-in hours are from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Eastern time.) To book online, go to: aws.passkey.com/e/49061556. All reservations must be made before Sept. 13, 2017. All individual reservations have a 48-hour cancellation policy. Information for 1-bedroom suites are available upon request.

Amenities: Restaurant on premises or adjacent, shopping nearby, laundry facilities, equipped for handicapped, pets allowed (\$75 deposit), outdoor pool, king or queen beds, refrigerator, coffeemaker, air-conditioning, suites (upon availability), elevator, free Wi-Fi, online reservations. Daily parking for guests is \$3 per day. Daily parking for members not staying at the Crowne Plaza \$5 per day.

Distance from meeting hall: on-site

Homewood Suites Hotel Circle

619-881-6800
619-295-6802 fax
hwsuitessandiego.com
2201 Hotel Circle South
San Diego, CA 92108

\$155 1 king bed, 1-2 people
\$165 2 queen beds, 2-4 people

Note: Reservations can be made online at tinyurl.com/homewoodsuitescog or by calling 800-225-5466 and referring to the **Group Name "Church of God Festival"** and the **Group Code "COG."** Rates are based on an eight-night-minimum stay. These rates are available three nights before and after the Feast. A \$200 deposit is required within 10 days of reservation to hold any room. Deposit refunded in full if reservation is canceled 30 days before check-in.

Amenities: Restaurant on premises or adjacent, shopping nearby, laundry facilities, equipped for handicapped, pets allowed, outdoor pool, king or queen beds, air-conditioning, suites (pull-out sofa included), elevator, free Wi-Fi, online reservations, evening receptions (Monday through Thursday), breakfast buffet included. Parking fee of \$8 per day.

Distance from meeting hall: 0.7 mile

Motel 6 Hotel Circle

619-296-1612
motel6.com

2424 Hotel Circle North
San Diego, CA 92108

\$69.99 flat rate, 1-4 people

Note: Rates are based on an eight-night minimum stay. Reservations must be made by calling 800-544-4866 and referring to **Group Number M001400431** by Sept. 4, 2017. Rates before and after the 8 days will vary depending on weekday or weekend rates.

Amenities: Shopping nearby, laundry facilities, equipped for handicapped, pets allowed, outdoor pool, king or queen beds, air-conditioning, elevator, free self-parking, next door to Crowne Plaza. Wi-Fi is available (\$2.99/24 hours basic; \$4.99/24 hours premium).

Distance from meeting hall: 0.1 mile

Residence Inn by Marriott

619-881-3600

residenceinn.marriott.com

1865 Hotel Circle South

San Diego, CA 92108

\$189 2-bedroom 1-bath suite (1 king bed and 2 queen beds), 2-6 people

\$249 2-bedroom 2-bath suite (1 king bed, 2 queen beds and pull-out couch), 2-8 people

Note: Rates are based on an eight-night minimum stay. When calling to make reservations, mention you are with COGWA or Church of God, a Worldwide Association. To book online, go to: tinyurl.com/sandiegoresidenceinn. These rates are available three nights before and after the Feast.

Amenities: Shopping nearby, laundry facilities, equipped for handicapped, pets allowed, outdoor pool, fitness center, king or queen beds, air-conditioning, elevator, suites (full kitchens), free Wi-Fi, online reservations, evening receptions (Monday through Wednesday), breakfast buffet included. Parking fee of \$8 per day.

Distance from meeting hall: 0.3 mile

International Feast Sites

AFRICA

Mugina, Burundi
Éséka, Cameroon
Man, Côte d'Ivoire
Kinshasa, Democratic
Republic of the Congo
Kumasi, Ghana
Nakuru, Kenya
Salima, Malawi
Flic-en-Flac, Mauritius
Benin City, Nigeria
Giti, Rwanda
Uvongo, South Africa
Kpalimé, Togo
Mapoko, Zambia
Bulawayo, Zimbabwe

ASIA/PACIFIC

Coffs Harbour, Australia
Pacific Harbour, Fiji
Kochi, India
Taupo, New Zealand
Bacolod City, Philippines

CARIBBEAN

St. Lawrence Gap,
Barbados
Grenada
Lethem, Guyana
Runaway Bay, Jamaica

EUROPE

Calais, France

LATIN AMERICA

Villa la Merced,
Argentina
Santa Cruz, Bolivia
Lican Ray, Chile
El Rodadero, Santa
Marta, Colombia
Antigua, Guatemala
San Miguel de Allende,
Mexico
Huanchaco, Peru

NORTH AMERICA

Orford, Québec

Note: Not all locations in this list are final. Please check feast.cogwa.org for up-to-date information on international sites.

Registration begins April 16
feast.cogwa.org

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