

**2020 Housing Brochure** 

## Welcome to the **Feast of Tabernacles** 2020 Festival Housing Guide

It seems like just yesterday we were all gathered together as God's family for the Feast of Tabernacles. And yet here we are on the cusp of Feast planning for 2020. No doubt we have been talking with our families and friends about where we would like to go for this year's Feast of Tabernacles. It may seem early, but before we know it, we will all be gathered at sites around the world to keep the Feast of Tabernacles!

We plan and save our second tithe to go to "the place where the LORD your God chooses to put His name" (Deuteronomy 14:24). We are excited and eager to make arrangements for accommodations for our family. Since we spend so much time in our housing at the Feast, this part of our Feast planning is extremely important to us! As you and your family make your plans and prepare to select and reserve housing for 2020, we recommend you review all available housing at the site you will be attending. To assist you in this endeavor, we have included websites for the housing establishments listed in this brochure. Please check out those websites, as they will allow you to preview the facilities secured by the Church and the amenities offered at each. This will greatly assist you in avoiding unpleasant surprises such as extra charges and incidental costs.

We again want to remind you of the benefits the Church experiences when our members use the housing establishments that are listed in the COGWA Festival housing brochure. By doing so, it enables us to secure fair prices with the housing establishments and is central in our ability to secure quality meeting space at sites where we meet in a hotel or resort property. We also realize that you may have specific needs or desires that are not available among the listed housing options. In such cases, you may be able to secure what you are looking for by doing your own Internet search. For example, you may have multiple generations of your family all desiring to share one large condominium unit or perhaps a house. Please feel free to do your own search and book what you would like. The housing options we have listed are properties

that desire to work with the Church by providing a discounted rate for attendees.

As you make your housing arrangements, please remember these important reminders:

- In general, please do not attempt to make reservations prior to the opening day and time for reservations, which is Monday, May 4, 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 Sunday, April 26. (Check with your local Feast adviser for guidelines.) Some sites may require a password in order to make early reservations.
- 3. When making your reservations, identify yourself as a member of the "Church of God, a Worldwide Association." In some cases the housing locations will use the acronym "COGWA." Be sure to give your arrival and departure dates, be prepared to give a deposit, and be sure to ask for 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 to seven people in the room is not allowed. It causes extra work for the housekeeping staff and violates the agreements we have made.
- 5. PLEASE make only one housing reservation at one Feast site. Making duplicate reservations blocks housing from others looking for housing. If your plans to attend that site change, be sure to cancel your housing reservations as soon as possible to free up housing.

Jon Pinelli Festival Planning Team

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### **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 else. 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 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 probably happens 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 rates. 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," or "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

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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 2020 FEAST OF TABERNACLES**

**April 12-26, 2020** Online registration

**July 6, 2020**Activity information posted to website

April 26, 2020

Early housing reservations begin (check with your local Festival adviser for guidelines)

Oct. 3-9, 2020 Feast of Tabernacles

> Oct. 10, 2020 Last Great Day

May 4, 2020 General housing reservations begin

Registration begins April 12 feast.cogwa.org

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## Orange Beach, Clabama

Serving the southeastern area of the United States, this year's Feast of Tabernacles will be held in beautiful Orange Beach, Alabama. Services will be held in the Orange Beach Event Center, located in The Wharf district.

The Wharf has many fine restaurants, shopping, a marina and lots of activities for the whole family, including an escape room, Ferris wheel and a newly added zipline. For more information on The Wharf, visit alwharf.com.

In addition to our regular services, we are scheduling teen and young adult drop-ins, a golf scramble, Family Day activities at the Orange Beach Sportsplex and a teen outing.

There are multiple beach locations—stretching across several miles—that allow for parasailing, diving, deep-sea fishing, glass-bottom boat tours, dolphin tours, beach volleyball and a host of other Gulf-related activities.

If your interest isn't beautiful white sand, then just minutes from the beach are several theme parks, a zoo and Wade Ward Nature Park with its scenic wetlands boardwalk.

We encourage you to visit gulfshores.com for more information on the attractions, restaurants and things to do in this coastal paradise. If your plans call for a beach venue for this year's Feast of Tabernacles, we welcome you to Orange Beach, Alabama!

Fragrance-controlled room available: No.

Tax rate for accommodations: 13 percent. (Be sure to read details on each property listed in the housing information. Some Orange Beach accommodations include taxes and fees in their rates.)

Closest airport: Pensacola, Florida (PNS) 30 miles.

**Phillip Sandilands** 

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Gulf Shores has an annual event in October that coincides with the Feast of Tabernacles this year. The Shrimp Festival will be Friday through Sunday, Oct. 9-11. That will include our last two days at the Feast this year. The activities are centered on the Gulf around the intersection of Highway 59 and East Beach Boulevard. Anyone staying in a hotel or condo near that area will have trouble getting to services on Friday and Saturday (the Last Great Day). Either plan ahead to leave your housing early in the day, or perhaps choose a place to stay that is not in that area.

Also, Kaiser Realty now has condos at the Turquoise House if anyone is interested.

#### **Kaiser Realty by Vacasa**

251-955-3133 888-346-1799 251-968-4668 fax

vacasa.com/go/partners/kaiser-realty

P.O. Drawer 1018 Gulf Shores, AL 36542

\$92-\$229	1-bedroom condo, 1-4 people
\$111-\$297	2-bedroom condo, 2-6 people
\$136-\$421	3-bedroom condo, 2-8 people
\$237-\$644	1- to 4-bedroom home

Note: Rates apply two nights before and after the Feast based on availability. Rates quoted do not include taxes, fees or parking pass. All reservations must be made on or before July 31, 2020. A deposit of 20% of the reservation total is required at time of booking. Deposit is refunded less the booking fee if reservation is canceled 30 days prior to check-in. Applicable taxes: 13%.

Amenities: Shopping nearby, laundry facilities, waterfront, outdoor pool, king or queen beds, air-conditioning, elevator, free Wi-Fi, online reservations, no maid service.

*Distance from meeting hall:* varies

#### **Caribe Resort**

251-980-9000 888-607-7020

cariberesort.com

28103 Perdido Beach Blvd. Orange Beach, AL 36561

\$230.52 2-bedroom, 2-bath condo, 2-6 people

\$265.10	3-bedroom, 3-bath condo, 2-8 people
\$292.95	3-bedroom, 3.5-bath + media condo,
	2-8 people
\$207.55	cleaning fee for 2-bedroom
\$230.15	cleaning fee for 3-bedroom
\$247.10	cleaning fee for 3-bedroom + media

Note: All taxes and fees are included. Rates apply three nights before and after the Feast based on availability. All reservations must be made on or before July 31, 2020. Reservation policy: 25% deposit required within 10 days to hold any room. Deposit refunded in full if reservation is canceled 15 days before check-in.

Amenities: Restaurant on premises or adjacent, laundry facilities, waterfront, indoor pool, outdoor pool, king or queen beds, air-conditioning, suites, elevator, free Wi-Fi, no maid service.

*Distance from meeting hall:* 7.6 miles

#### **Quality Inn – Foley**

251-943-6100

choicehotels.com/alabama/foley/quality-inn-hotels/al382

2441 S. McKenzie St. Foley, AL 36535

\$52.20 standard, 1 king bed, 1-2 people \$59 standard, 2 queen beds, 2-4 people

*Note:* Rates apply two nights before and after the Feast based on availability. All reservations must be made on or before July 31, 2020. Full payment must be made at least two weeks prior to arrival. No refund will be allowed if canceled within two weeks of arrival.

Amenities: Restaurant on or adjacent, shopping nearby, laundry facilities, equipped for handicapped, outdoor pool, king or queen beds, air-conditioning, elevator, free Wi-Fi.

Distance from meeting hall: 9.4 miles

#### Springhill Suites Orange Beach at The Wharf

251-943-6600 888-236-2427 251-943-6650 fax marriott.com/pnsor 4673 Wharf Parkway W. Orange Beach, AL 36561

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\$124 double queen suite, 2-4 people \$114 king suite, 1-2 people

*Note:* Rates apply two nights before and after the Feast based on availability. All reservations must be made on or before July 31, 2020. No deposit required to hold any room. Deposit refunded in full if reservation is canceled 30 days before check-in. Children aged 18 and under are free. ADA rooms available.

Amenities: Restaurant on premises or adjacent, shopping nearby, laundry facilities, in walking distance, equipped for handicapped, waterfront, outdoor pool, king or queen beds, air-conditioning, suites, elevator, free Wi-Fi, continental breakfast included.

Distance from meeting hall: adjacent

#### Young's Suncoast - The Wharf

251-968-2839 251-968-5139 fax youngssuncoast.com/rentals/complexes/the-wharf 23101 Canal Road Orange Beach, AL 36561

\$167.86	1-bedroom, 1-bath condo, 1-4 people
\$211.98	2-bedroom, 2-bath condo, 2-6 people
\$242.21	3-bedroom, 3-bath condo, 2-8 people

Note: Rates are available two nights before and after the Feast based on availability. All reservations must be made on or before July 31, 2020. Monthly rates available upon request. Reservation policy: \$99 nonrefundable deposit due at time of registration. Balance due 30 days prior to arrival.

Amenities: Restaurant on premises or adjacent, shopping nearby, waterfront, in walking distance, outdoor pool, king or queen beds, air-conditioning, elevator, free Wi-Fi, online reservations, no maid service.

Distance from meeting hall: 0.3 mile

#### Young's Suncoast - Orange Beach Villas

251-968-2839
251-968-5139 fax
youngssuncoast.com/rentals/complexes/orange-beach-villas
24198 Canal Road (off of Lindsey Lane)
Orange Beach, AL 36561

\$192.27 3-bedroom condo, 2-8 people

Note: Rates are available two nights before and after the Feast based on availability. All reservations must be made on or before July 31, 2020. Monthly rates available upon request. Reservation policy: \$99 nonrefundable deposit due at time of registration. Balance due 30 days prior to arrival.

Amenities: Restaurant on premises or adjacent, shopping nearby, laundry facilities, pets under 40 lbs. allowed with \$150 one-time fee, waterfront, outdoor pool, king or queen beds, air-conditioning, free Wi-Fi, no maid service.

Distance from meeting hall: 1.6 miles

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### **International Feast Sites**

#### **Africa**

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

#### **Asia/Pacific**

Mooloolaba, Australia Sigatoka, Fiji Kolkata, India Taupo, New Zealand Negombo, Sri Lanka Philippines

#### Caribbean

Dover, Christ Church, Barbados St. George's, Grenada Lethem, Guyana Runaway Bay, Jamaica

## Europe & Middle East

Torquay, Devon, England Montagnac, France Loutraki, Greece Jordan

#### **Latin America**

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

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

# Online Registration April 12-26 feast.cogwa.org

 $\ensuremath{\mathbb{C}}$  2020 Church of God, a Worldwide Association, Inc.

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