



FEAST
of Tabernacles

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:

1. 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

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

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

May 4, 2020
General housing reservations begin

Oct. 10, 2020
Last Great Day

Registration begins April 12
feast.cogwa.org

Satellite Site

Woodbury, Minnesota

This year the satellite site for the Wisconsin and Minnesota area will be in Woodbury, Minnesota, an eastern suburb of St. Paul and only 13 miles from the Wisconsin border. "Satellite site" means that services will be provided via webcast from one of the other Feast sites. While we will be a small site, there will be plenty of good fellowship.

Services will be held at the Residence Inn (205 Radio Drive, Woodbury, MN), and we have a block of rooms set aside so that brethren can stay on-site.

This Residence Inn is an extended-stay hotel and is a short drive from historic downtown Stillwater. It offers a free shuttle service, Monday to Friday, within a 5-mile radius. Local attractions include Lake Elmo Park Reserve, many good restaurants and retailers. Cub Foods, Whole Foods and Trader Joe's are a short distance away. There are many attractions in the greater Twin Cities area as well, including Como Zoo and the Mall of America.

A complimentary breakfast buffet is provided each morning, and each room includes an in-suite kitchen so you can prepare your own meals.

The hotel includes a business center, free Wi-Fi and on-site laundry. Pets are allowed. You may also enjoy the outdoor fire pit and the patio grill.

Monday to Wednesday you are invited to enjoy the Residence Inn Mix social hour for snacks, drinks and good conversation.

Franchise-controlled room available: No.

Tax rate for accommodations: 7.125 percent.

Closest airport: Minneapolis-St. Paul (MSP), 20 miles.

Larry Solomon

Residence Inn St. Paul Woodbury

651-731-9010

651-731-6867 fax

marriott.com/hotels/travel/mspwb-residence-inn-st.-paul-woodbury

205 Radio Drive

Woodbury, MN 55125

\$109 studio suite, 1 king bed, 1-4 people

\$129 1 king bed suite, 1-4 people

\$179 2 king bed suite, 1-6 people

Note: When making reservations, mention you are with Church of God to receive discounted rate.

Amenities: Laundry services, equipped for handicapped, pets allowed, complimentary breakfast, king or queen beds, indoor pool, indoor hot tub, fitness center, outdoor basketball court, outdoor fire pit, patio grill, air-conditioning, suites, elevator, free Wi-Fi, free parking, in-suite kitchen. Rooms may have sofa bed (ask when making reservations). Complimentary hors d'oeuvres,

wine and beer in the lobby on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. Free shuttle service in available Monday through Friday within a 5-mile radius.

Distance from meeting hall: on-site

Courtyard St. Paul Woodbury

651-731-5338

marriott.com/hotels/travel/mspwc-courtyard-st-paul-woodbury

185 Radio Drive

Woodbury, MN 55125

Check online for rates

Amenities: Restaurant on premises or adjacent, laundry facilities, equipped for handicapped, indoor pool and whirlpool, king or queen beds (sofa beds available), refrigerator, coffeemaker, air-conditioning, suites, elevator, free Wi-Fi, fitness center, free parking.

Distance from meeting hall: 0.1 mile

Hampton Inn Woodbury

651-578-2822

651-578-8692 fax

tinyurl.com/hampton-inn-woodbury

1450 Weir Drive

Woodbury, MN 55125

Check online for rates

Amenities: Laundry facilities, equipped for handicapped, pets allowed (service pets only), indoor saltwater pool and whirlpool, king or queen beds (sofa beds available), refrigerator, coffeemaker, air-conditioning, elevator, free Wi-Fi, fitness center, breakfast included, free parking, van-accessible parking.

Distance from meeting hall: 3.7 miles

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

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