

# **2021 Housing Brochure**

### Welcome to the **Feast of Tabernacles** 2021 Festival Housing Guide

"You shall dwell in booths for seven days." With those words in Leviticus 23, we are reminded of the temporary dwellings that we all will live in during the Feast of Tabernacles.

As families, we talk about and plan where we want to go for the Feast and where we want to stay. We look forward to this time of the year. In order to make it a positive and memorable experience, we do not leave details till the last minute. We save our second tithe, we plan our budget, and we look to the Festival housing brochure to see what is offered at the various sites.

As you and your family make your plans and prepare to select and reserve housing for 2021, 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 encourage you to consider the choices at several sites that serve as anchor facilities for our daily Festival services. In many, if not most, cases, the Church benefits greatly with reduced meeting space charges when members stay on-site at these facilities.

Of course, if you do not find the housing you desire, you may find what you are looking for via an online search. 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 24**, 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.

Those with disabilities, health problems or other special needs that require specific types of facilities may make early housing reservations, beginning **Monday, May 17**. (Check with your local Feast adviser for guidelines.) Some sites may require a password in order to make early reservations.

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.

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.

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 a 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.

### **Feast of Tabernacles 2021 KEY DATES**

#### April 11, 2021

#### June 28, 2021

Registration for assigned sites begins Activity information posted to website

#### May 17, 2021

Early housing reservations begin (see local Festival adviser for guidelines)

#### May 24, 2021

General housing reservations begin

#### Sept. 21-27, 2021

Feast of Tabernacles

#### Sept. 28, 2021 Last Great Day

## **General registration for U.S. and international sites begins APRIL 25** feast.cogwa.org



## Kohala Coast, Hawaii

We will be returning to the Big Island of Hawaii this year for the Feast, meeting at the Fairmont Orchid, a hotel and resort about a half hour north of the city of Kona. This is a very popular resort area on the "dry side" of the Big Island.

This area north of Kona, on the west side of the largest of the Hawaiian Islands, is the world-famous Kohala Coast.

We will be returning to the four-star Fairmont Orchid, which hosted us in 2017 and 2019. The Fairmont Orchid is located on over 33 acres of lush, tropical, oceanfront grounds that include not only the resort with its seven restaurants, but also a private bay with a children's beach, two championship golf courses, a fitness center, spa, 10 tennis courts, pools, gardens and coastal hiking trails through a historical park.

We are expecting between 300 and 400 to attend the Feast on the Big Island this year. All of our services and meetings will be held in the ballroom at the resort, where we have reserved a large block of rooms at deeply discounted rates.

The hotel is offering us complimentary meeting space for our services and activities if most attendees stay at the hotel. Those staying at the hotel will help save the Church thousands of dollars in rental fees, and we appreciate your support in reserving rooms and staying at the hotel during the Feast.

There is plenty to do and see on the Big Island–sightseeing, shopping, fine dining, ocean water sports and beaches abound. Organized Feast activities will include Family Day on the beach, a teen beach party, a young adult kayaking and snorkeling excursion, a family sailing and snorkeling adventure, and a Hawaiian luau.

You will find plenty of helpful information and pictures on our Facebook page–COGWA FOT - Kohala Coast, HI. We look forward to seeing you on the Big Island! Aloha!

Fragrance-controlled room available: No.

Tax rate for accommodations: 14.4 percent.

Closest airport: Kona (KOA), 23 miles.

#### **Dave Register**

Staying at the Fairmont Orchid Hotel helps the Church receive complimentary meeting space and resort discounts. Thank you for helping us out by reserving rooms at the hotel!

Additional housing, including condominiums and homes, may be available in the area. However, these are all privately owned, and we are unable to negotiate reduced group rates. If you would like additional information on housing options, you may contact the Festival coordinator, David Register, at david.register@cogwa.org.

#### **Fairmont Orchid Hotel**

808-885-2000 800-257-7544 808-885-8888 fax fairmont.com/orchid-hawaii 1 N. Kaniku Drive Kohala Coast, HI 96743

\$225	hotel room, 1-2 people
\$280	hotel room with ocean view, 1-2 people
\$25	extra person
free	children 17 and under

*Note:* All reservations must be made on or before July 31, 2021. Rates available three nights before and after the Feast. The cost of one night is required as a deposit within 10 days of reservation. Deposit refunded in full if canceled 30 days before check-in. Applicable taxes: 14.6%.

*Amenities:* Restaurants on premises or adjacent, shopping nearby, equipped for handicapped, waterfront available, outdoor pool, king or queen beds, air-conditioning, suites, elevator, free Wi-Fi, online reservations. Self-parking is free. Resort fee is waived with room.

Distance from meeting hall: on-site

# **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 Yanuca Island, Fiji Kolkata, India Taupo, New Zealand Negombo, Sri Lanka Philippines

### Caribbean

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

### Europe & Middle East

Torquay, Devon, England Montagnac, France Loutraki, Greece

## 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.

### Registration for International Sites **Sunday, April 25** feast.cogwa.org

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