



**FEAST OF
TABERNACLES**
2018 HOUSING
INFORMATION



WELCOME TO THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES

2018 FESTIVAL HOUSING GUIDE

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 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!

With this fact in mind, the Feast coordinators for all our Feast sites strive to procure properties that will meet the needs of all the brethren—with a focus on quality, price and value.

Each year the Church evaluates the accommodations we offered the previous year. We do this by reviewing the housing surveys that the brethren fill out at the various sites. The Feast coordinators consider the price brethren paid for housing, the quality and cleanliness of the facility, and the cooperation of the management. By doing so, we are able to make the necessary adjustments to Feast housing at each site to meet the needs of brethren. As a result, you may find a few new properties and also a few that are no longer being used.

As you and your family make your plans and prepare to select and reserve housing for 2018, we recommend that you review all available housing at the site you will be attending. To assist you in this endeavor, we have included websites for most of the housing establishments listed in this housing brochure. Please take the time to visit those websites. It will allow you to preview the facility and the amenities it offers. This will greatly assist you in avoiding unpleasant surprises.

We again want to remind you of the benefits the Church realizes when our members use the housing establishments that are listed in the COGWA Festival housing brochure. Your doing so enables us to secure fair prices with the

housing establishments, and it is central in our ability to secure quality meeting space at sites where we meet in a hotel.

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

1. In general, please do not attempt to make reservations prior to the opening day and time for reservations, which is Monday, **May 14, 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 Monday, **May 7**. (Check with your local Festival 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, Feast of Tabernacles.” Be sure to give your arrival and departure dates, be prepared to pay 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 limits others who are looking for housing. If your plans to attend a particular 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 that isn't on it. 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. 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 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, such as parking, a resort fee, or a 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, after checking into a facility selected from the housing guide, 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 2018 Feast of Tabernacles

April 1-May 7, 2018
Online registration

May 7, 2018
Early housing reservations begin (check with your local Festival adviser for guidelines)

May 14, 2018
General housing reservations begin

July 3, 2018
Activity information posted to website

Sept. 24-30, 2018
Feast of Tabernacles

Oct. 1, 2018
Last Great Day

REGISTRATION BEGINS APRIL 1
feast.cogwa.org



NEW BRAUNFELS, TEXAS

New Braunfels is a small town of approximately 60,000 people located in the hill country of Texas, just 30 miles northeast of downtown San Antonio. Its German heritage is evident in the city's history, culture and cuisine.

Services will be held in the New Braunfels Convention Center, where we will have exclusive use of this beautiful facility throughout the Feast. Complimentary coffee and tea will be provided every morning prior to services. Anticipated attendance is 350.

Nestled where two rivers converge, New Braunfels offers many recreational opportunities that include water. Whether it is enjoying the famous Schlitterbahn Water Park, wakeboarding without a boat at the Texas Ski Ranch, floating one of the rivers, or swimming in the largest spring-fed pool in Texas—there are plenty of ways to get wet!

For those interested in history, there are seven museums to visit and the historic district of Gruene (a district within the city of New Braunfels) to explore. And for dining, there are many restaurants nearby where visitors can sample German dishes, Texas barbecue and contemporary fare.

If you'd like to venture beyond the local area, San Antonio is just 30 miles south on Interstate 35. There you can tour the historic Alamo, wander the River Walk, go up the Tower of the Americas, visit SeaWorld and enjoy Six Flags Fiesta Texas theme park.

The average high temperature in New Braunfels in October is 81 degrees.

Fragrance-controlled room available: Yes.

Tax rate for accommodations: 13 percent.

Closest airports: San Antonio (SAT), 30 miles; Austin (AUS), 55 miles.

David Treybig

Candlewood Suites

830-387-4014

830-627-9537 fax

ihg.com/candlewood/hotels/us/en/reservation

1471 IH 35 North

New Braunfels, TX 78130

\$89 1 king bed

\$89 1 or 2 queen beds

Note: Rates available three nights before and after the Feast. Deposit refunded in full if canceled one day before check-in.

Amenities: Shopping nearby, laundry facilities, king or queen beds, air-conditioning, suites, elevator, free Wi-Fi, linen changed once per week, pets allowed (\$20 first day, then \$15 per day; \$150 maximum).

Distance from meeting hall: 2.5 miles

Courtyard New Braunfels River Village

830-769-8380

800-769-8380

830-626-4701 fax

marriott.com/hotels/travel/satnb-courtyard-new-braunfels-river-village

750 IH 35 North

New Braunfels, TX 78130

\$129 Run of house

Note: Rooms based on availability. Rates available three nights before and after the Feast. Deposit refunded in full if reservation is canceled three days before check-in. Credit card to hold any room.

Amenities: Restaurant on premises or adjacent, shopping nearby, waterfront, outdoor pool, equipped for handicapped, king or queen beds, air-conditioning, elevator, free Wi-Fi. Excellent value on the Guadalupe River.

Distance from meeting hall: 2.5 miles

Fairfield Inn & Suites

830-626-3133

marriott.com/hotels/travel/satbf-fairfield-inn-and-suites-new-braunfels

1465 IH 35 North

New Braunfels, TX 78130

\$99 1 king bed

\$99 2 double beds

Note: Rates available three nights before and after the Feast. Call to make a reservation and identify yourself as with the Church of God to receive discounted rate. The cost of one night is required as a deposit within 10 days of making a reservation to hold any room. Deposit refunded in full if reservation is canceled three days before check-in.

Amenities: Shopping nearby, laundry facilities, outdoor pool,

king or queen beds, air-conditioning, suites, elevator, free Wi-Fi, hot breakfast included. Nicely maintained property.

Distance from meeting hall: 2.5 miles

New Braunfels Leasing & Property Management

830-643-0656

830-643-0658 fax

newbraunfelsresorts.com

471 Main Plaza, Suite B

New Braunfels, TX 78254

\$100 1-bedroom condo/home, 1-4 people

\$125 2-bedroom condo/home, 2-6 people

\$150 3-bedroom condo/home, 2-8 people

\$85 cleaning fee for 1 bedroom

\$95 cleaning fee for 2 bedrooms

\$105 cleaning fee for 3 bedrooms

Note: Reservation fee of \$30. Deposit of \$250 required with reservation. Balance due two weeks prior. If canceled up to 14 days before check-in, deposit will be refunded, less \$75 cancellation fee.

Distance from meeting hall: varies

Ramada New Braunfels

830-625-8017

830-625-3131 fax

ramada.com

1051 IH 35 East

New Braunfels, TX 78130

\$45 king or queen or 2 doubles, 1-4 people

Note: Rates available three nights before and after the Feast based on availability.

Amenities: Restaurant on premises or adjacent, shopping nearby, laundry facilities, equipped for handicapped, pets under 25 pounds allowed (with fee of \$25 per stay), outdoor pool, king or queen beds, air-conditioning, free Wi-Fi, refrigerator, microwave (upon request), hot breakfast buffet (with turkey sausage and eggs) included. Excellent value.

Distance from meeting hall: 1.8 miles

River Run Condominiums

830-629-0077

830-629-0712 fax

rrcondos.com

500 N. Market Ave.

New Braunfels, TX 78130

\$650 1-bedroom condo, 1-4 people

\$800 2-bedroom condo, 2-6 people

\$875 larger 2-bedroom condo, 2-6 people

\$950 3-bedroom condo, 2-8 people

\$80 cleaning fee for 1 bedroom

\$90-\$95 cleaning fee for 2 bedrooms

\$100 cleaning fee for 3 bedrooms

Note: Prices for eight-night stay. Deposit of \$250 required at booking. Deposit refunded less \$100 if a reservation is canceled 14 days before check-in. Cancellation less than 14 days before check-in results in loss of deposit. Since each condo is individually owned, units will vary in quality and furnishings. See the website for photos of each unit.

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

Distance from meeting hall: 0.9 mile

Wingate by Wyndham New Braunfels

830-515-4354

tinyurl.com/wingate-new-braunfels

245 FM 306

New Braunfels, TX 78130

\$79 1 king bed, 1-2 people

\$79 2 queen beds, 2-4 people

Note: Rates are available three nights before and after the Feast based on availability. Credit card on file for reservation. Join reward program for future free stay.

Amenities: Shopping nearby, laundry facilities, indoor pool, king or queen beds, air-conditioning, elevator, free Wi-Fi, microwave, refrigerator, coffeemaker, hot breakfast included.

Distance from meeting hall: 4.4 miles

INTERNATIONAL FEAST SITES

AFRICA

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

ASIA/PACIFIC

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

CARIBBEAN

Barbados
Grenada

Lethem, Guyana
Runaway Bay, Jamaica

EUROPE

Winchester, England
Normandy, France
Cortona, Italy

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 1
feast.cogwa.org

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