FEAST OF TABERNACLES 2019 HOUSING INFORMATION

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WELCOME TO THE **FEAST OF TABERNACLES** 2019 FESTIVAL HOUSING GUIDE

"So, where are you planning to go for the Feast this year?" "How about you? What are you thinking?"

Each year around March we all focus on the upcoming spring holy days. But many of us also take time to sit around the table and talk with our family members about where we would like to attend the Feast of Tabernacles in the fall.

Even earlier in the year preparations are made by others representing the Church to secure excellent housing options and values for all attendees. Of course, where we stay during the Feast certainly plays a role in how much we enjoy a particular location. It is not what defines the Feast experience, not by a long shot. However, securing housing that provides comfort and value for eight or nine nights is the goal of those of us who secure the contracts, as well as every member attending.

Each year we follow God's instruction to save a tithe of our money in order to go and keep God's Feast of Tabernacles (Deuteronomy 14:22-23) in "the place where the LORD your God chooses to put His name" (verse 24). It is a tremendous blessing to understand the importance of keeping these days, as well as specifically how to have what we need in order to keep them. So, selecting our housing is an important part of preparing for and ultimately keeping the Feast.

For eight days we will stay in a temporary dwelling or booth (Leviticus 23:42-43). As you and your family make your plans and prepare to select and reserve housing for 2019, 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 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.

Although there may be benefits to the Church when you use certain housing on our list, such as a lower cost for—or even free—meeting space, we do 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. Or maybe you would like to stay in a particular location nearby that offers something specific you are looking for and that location was not contracted by the Church. 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.

Finally, below are some important guidelines to remember before making your Festival housing reservation:

- In general, please do not attempt to make reservations prior to the opening day and time for reservations, which is Monday, May 27, 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 20. (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.

Mark Winner Festival Planning Team



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



Q. Can I rent "outside" our housing list?

A. As we explain above, if the housing on our list does not meet your needs or desires, you are free to rent something that isn't on it.

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 special 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 either for 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 2019 FEAST OF TABERNACLES

April 14-May 20, 2019 Online registration July 19, 2019 Activity information posted to website

May 20, 2019 Early housing reservations begin (check with your local Festival adviser for guidelines)

May 27, 2019

General housing reservations begin

REGISTRATION BEGINS APRIL 14 feast.cogwa.org

Oct. 14-20, 2019 Feast of Tabernacles

> Oct. 21, 2019 Last Great Day

SAN DIEGO, California

San Diego is the jewel of Southern California! Sitting at the southern end of the California coastline, with temperate weather most of the year, it will provide a tropical setting for the Feast of Tabernacles in 2019.

This year we are meeting at a new location. The Handlery Hotel is located on Hotel Circle just a quarter mile from the Fashion Valley Mall. Because of its location north of downtown, it is just a short distance from Old Town San Diego, Mission Bay, Sea World, Balboa Park and the San Diego Zoo, and other attractions.

Those who stay at the Handlery will not only enjoy walking to services and having other members close by, but will also help the Church by reducing the cost of meeting space. Guest rooms have all been upgraded in the last 18 months and are very modern. The Handlery offers complimentary Wi-Fi, iron and ironing board, hair dryer and mini fridge. It offers shuttles to local attractions within 5 miles and provides airport transportation for a per-person fee. Parking at the hotel is \$5 per day, and those staying off-site will pay \$2 for access to the hotel each time. There is a restaurant on the premises for dining.

Church-organized activities will include Family Day, seniors' luncheon, teen and young adult hospitalities, a teen beach party, our traditional dinner cruise and more.

Local activities are plentiful, with snorkeling, surfing, kayaking, paddleboards, deep-sea fishing, whale watching, local wine tasting, mountain biking, golfing, scuba diving, tide pools, and famous La Jolla.

San Diego offers a wide variety of restaurants, many of which have views of the Pacific Coast or San Diego Harbor.

Fragrance-controlled room available: No.

Tax rate for accommodations: 12.7 percent.

Closest airports: San Diego (SAN), 6 miles; Orange County (SNA), 86 miles.

Paul Carter

Handlery Hotel San Diego

619-398-8333 619-260-8235 fax sd.handlery.com 950 Hotel Circle N. San Diego, CA 92108

| \$139 | single room, 1-4 people |
|-------|---------------------------|
| \$159 | superior room, 1-4 people |
| \$179 | premier room, 1-4 people |

Note: When making reservations, call the group reservation department at 619-298-0511 or 800-676-6567. Be sure to mention the group name **Feast of Tabernacles**. All reservations must be made on or before Sept. 11, 2019. Credit card deposit required within 10 days of reservation to hold any room. Deposit refunded in full if reservation is canceled two days before check-in. Rates are available three nights before and after the Feast.

Amenities: Restaurant on premises or adjacent, shopping nearby, laundry facilities, equipped for handicapped, heated outdoor pool, king or queen beds, refrigerator, coffeemaker, iron and ironing board, fitness center, air-conditioning, suites available, free Wi-Fi, online reservations. Daily parking for guests is \$5 per day. Event parking for those staying off-site is \$2 per day.

Distance from meeting hall: on-site

Comfort Inn & Suites

619-881-6200 619-881-4701 fax comfortinnzoo.com 2485 Hotel Circle Place San Diego, CA 92108

| \$96 | 2 queen beds and sofa, up to 6 people |
|-------|---------------------------------------|
| \$106 | family suite, up to 6 people |

Note: When calling to make reservations, mention you are with **Church of God 2019**. To book online, go to: choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/MH38Q7. All reservations must be made on or before Sept. 20, 2019. 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. Discounted SeaWorld, Zoo and Safari tickets available.

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

Distance from meeting hall: 1.1 miles

Days Inn by Wyndham 619-297-8800 800-277-4743 619-298-6029 fax daysinnhc.com 543 Hotel Circle S. San Diego, CA 92108

| \$79 | single room, 1-4 people |
|------|-------------------------|
| \$89 | kitchenette, 1-4 people |

Note: Rates are available three nights before and after the Feast. All reservations must be made on or before Sept. 13, 2019. Deposit refunded in full if reservation is canceled two days before check-in. Rates include 20% off BUNZ Restaurant voucher good for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Mention you are with the **Church of God, a Worldwide Association**, and confirm rates to receive discount.

Amenities: Restaurant on premises or adjacent, shopping nearby, laundry facilities, equipped for handicapped, outdoor heated pool, king or queen beds, microwave, refrigerator, coffeemaker, air-conditioning, kitchenettes (cookware provided upon check-in), elevator, free Wi-Fi. Daily parking for guests is \$5 per day.

Distance from meeting hall: 1.1 miles

Homewood Suites Hotel Circle

619-881-6800 619-295-6802 fax homewoodsuites3.hilton.com 2201 Hotel Circle S. San Diego, CA 92108

\$135 1 king bed, 1-4 people\$135 2 double queen bed, 1-4 people

Note: Reservations can be made by calling 619-881-6800, selecting option 2 and referencing either the **2019 Feast of Tabernacles** block or the Group Code **FT5**. To book online, go to: tinyurl.com/homewood-suites-fot2019. Rates are based on a seven-night-minimum stay. All reservations must be made on or before Sept. 13, 2019. 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, 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 \$10 per day.

Distance from meeting hall: 1.4 miles

INTERNATIONAL FEAST SITES

AFRICA

Mugina, Burundi Man, Côte d'Ivoire Douala, Cameroon Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo Ejura, 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

Mooloolaba, Australia Pacific Harbour, Fiji Pondicherry, India Taupo, New Zealand Negombo, Sri Lanka Baguio City, Philippines

CARIBBEAN

Needham's Point, Barbados St. George's, Grenada Lethem, Guyana Runaway Bay, Jamaica

EUROPE

Torquay, Devon, England Montagnac, France Cortona, Italy

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

NORTH AMERICA

Mont-Sainte-Anne, 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 14 feast.cogwa.org

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Page 30