



POCONO MOUNTAINS, PENNSYLVANIA



Kalahari Resorts' newest location opens this summer in the Pocono Mountains. Church services will be held here in a spacious ballroom with comfortable, ergonomic chairs.

Kalahari offers three types of guest rooms: Desert Room (two queen beds, queen sofa sleeper), Two-Room Family Suite (king bed, two queens, queen sofa sleeper, fireplace, family room) and African Queen Suite (king, two queens, queen sofa sleeper, fireplace, family room). All rooms include microwaves and refrigerators (medium-sized). For other housing off-site, see the Festival housing information.

For dining, the resort offers three full-service restaurants, a candy and ice cream shop, coffee shop and more. Shopping is available at multiple resort retail shops and at the Crossings Premium Outlet (100 stores), only seven miles away.

Kalahari room reservations include free passes for Pennsylvania's largest indoor waterpark—that's 100,000 square feet under a retractable roof, on-site! The waterpark rides include Flowrider, Anaconda water roller coaster, Swahili Swirl, Lazy River, Splashdown Safari (for kids), Tiko's Watering Hole (for toddlers) and an outdoor pool.

Additionally, the Family Entertainment Center has black light mini-golf, mini-bowling, XD Dark Ride, spa and salon, Kamp Kalahari (contests, coloring, games, crafts) and more. For other recreation, there's horseback riding, an 18-hole golf course and more. And assorted sightseeing attractions can be taken in throughout the tristate area of Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey.

We're also pleased to announce that seats are reserved for COGWA for the Sight & Sound Millennium Theatre's showing of *Joseph* on Thursday, Oct. 1, in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania (limited tickets on a first-come, first-served basis).

Tax rate for accommodations: 9 percent.

Connect with fellow Feastgoers at [facebook.com/cogwafotpocono](https://www.facebook.com/cogwafotpocono).

Kevin Epps

Kalahari Resorts

877-525-2427

kalahariresorts.com/pennsylvania

250 Kalahari Blvd.

Pocono Manor, PA 18349

- \$129 "Desert Room," 2 queen beds, 1-4 people, \$25/person for 1-2 people on sofa sleeper
- \$159 "Two-Room Family Suite" 2 bedrooms (1 king, 2 queen beds), 1-6 people, \$25/person for 1-2 on sofa sleeper
- \$199 "African Queen Suite," 2 bedrooms (1 king, 2 queen beds), living room, 1-6 people, \$25/person for 1-2 on sofa sleeper

Notes: Rates applicable three nights after the Feast if available. Kalahari has resorts in different states, so be sure to choose the resort in the "Poconos, PA" and use the group ID, "Church of God, a Worldwide Association."

Amenities: Restaurant on premises or adjacent, shopping nearby, equipped for handicapped, refrigerator, microwave, fireplace (in suites), indoor water park, outdoor pool, air-conditioning, suites, elevator, free Wi-Fi, coffeemaker, ironing board, in-room safe.

Distance from meeting hall: on-site.

The Carriage House Country Club

570-839-6761

570-839-6761 fax

carriagehousecountryclub.com

390 Manor Drive

Pocono Manor, PA 18349

- \$80 studio (1 full bed, sleeper sofa or Murphy bed), 1-2 people
- \$105 mini suite (1 bedroom, 1 queen bed, sleeper sofa or Murphy bed), 1-4 people
- \$125 royal suite (1 bedroom, 2 full beds, sleeper sofa or Murphy bed), 1-6 people

Note: Group ID is "COGWA." Rates are applicable two nights before and after the Feast. Timeshare rules: Credit cards are charged for the full amount 30 days before check-in (arrangements made at reservation). There is a 25% cancellation fee if within two weeks of arrival. Reservations closed two days prior to check-in. Towels/sheets (Mondays and Wednesdays).

Amenities: Restaurant on premises or adjacent, shopping nearby, kitchenette/eating utensils, mini refrigerator, microwave, stove, oven, dishwasher, indoor pool, queen- or full-size beds, air-conditioning, suites, elevator, free Wi-Fi, coffeemaker, ironing board (at front desk).

Distance from meeting hall: 2 miles

The Inn at Pocono Manor

570-839-7111

800-233-8150

570-839-3407 fax

poconomanor.com

1 Manor Drive

Pocono Manor, PA 18349

- \$115 single or double occupancy (1-2 people, 1 king or queen bed) or double room (2-4 people, 2 full beds) in main lodge
- \$127 single occupancy in main lodge with full breakfast buffet, 1 person
- \$139 double occupancy in main lodge with full breakfast buffet, 2 people
- \$12 additional breakfast coupons—inclusive rate, per person per day

Note: Group ID is "COGWA." Rates applicable three nights before and after the Feast, if available.

Amenities: Restaurant on premises or adjacent, shopping nearby, indoor pool, outdoor pool, king and standard-size beds, elevator, free Wi-Fi, ironing board, children 5 and under are free. Small refrigerator can be requested when making reservations (possible fee of \$10/night). A walk-in buffet dinner is also available.

Distance from meeting hall: 2 miles

RENTAL HOMES

We do not have any contracts for housing with any companies that offer rentals of private homes or condos. However, you are welcome to make your own arrangements for such.

HomeAway.com

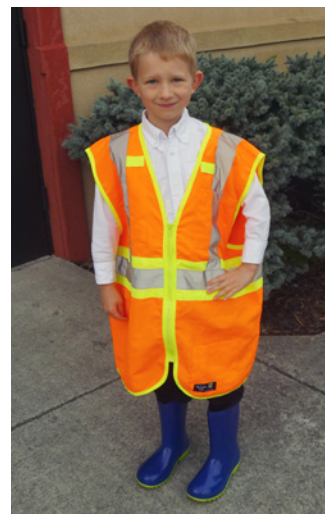
HomeAway.com (see also **vrbo.com** and **vacation-rentals.com**) has a number of homes near the Kalahari Resort (e.g. Lake Naomi, Pocono Summit, Pocono Lake). The site provides some reminders for booking property safely:

- Contact the property owner first before making a payment (you can get and verify the number from HomeAway customer service).
- Never make a payment using Western Union or MoneyGram. If owner insists on this mode of payment, we suggest that you look for another property. This method of payment is not safe.
- For other questions, visit **help.homeaway.com**.



2015 FESTIVAL HOUSING GUIDE

GOALS & GUIDELINES



The Feast of Tabernacles 2015 is now only a few months away. With five new U.S. sites, we realize many of you in the Church are anxious to look over the list of accommodations as you try to decide on the site you'll attend and what housing will best fit your needs. We spend more time at the Feast in our housing unit than we do anywhere else! Our housing is used not only to sleep, but also to entertain and to fellowship with other members.

Our Feast coordinators understand the importance of housing as a vital part of the overall Feast experience. Each coordinator makes a diligent effort to obtain nice, affordable housing for his site—it's a priority in our Feast planning each year. The results of this effort may be seen in the pages of this housing guide. We work hard each year to procure housing that's in close proximity to the Feast site and that will satisfy most tastes and budgets.

With so many new sites, there is a lot of brand-new housing in the lists. Even at the repeat sites there may be new establishments included, while some of the establishments we have used in the past are no longer listed.

There can be a variety of reasons for changing the housing listing in the guide. Each year the coordinators review all the housing from the previous year based on the housing surveys returned at each site. After considering the surveys, and in many cases talking with the establishment, we may decide not to include an establishment for the next year. In other cases we have to discontinue use of an establishment because it no longer cooperates with us regarding rates. Or there may be a change of management, or the establishment may be closed. Each year we are trying to improve the value, service and variety of housing establishments we feature.

In preparation for the Feast, we recommend that you review all the housing at the site you will be attending to see what fits for you. This may be dictated by price, by amenities an establishment features, by closeness to the meeting hall, or perhaps by other considerations. We encourage you to go online and look at the websites of the establishments (most listings in the guide include their web address). This will enable you to be sure of what you are getting and not be disappointed when you arrive. Some websites even have an area for reviews from people who have stayed at the facility so you can see their impressions.

Each Feast site coordinator makes every effort to secure the best available housing options based on quality, value,

amenities and proximity to the meeting facility. When you book from the listings in the housing guide, it can often help lower the cost of the meeting space and help with future housing negotiations. However, we also realize that you may have hotel membership points that you'd like to use to stay in a facility not listed. Or the options listed simply may not meet your family's needs. In any of these cases the Internet can help you find the housing you need.

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 May 19 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 May 6. (Check with your local congregation's Feast adviser for guidelines and to see if you qualify.) Several sites require a password in order to make early reservations. Please check with your local Feast adviser to see if this is the case for the site you plan to attend.
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 and be prepared to pay a deposit (or secure it with a credit card). Don't forget 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. Exceeding the number, such as having six people in a room designed for only four people, violates fire codes, creates extra work for housekeeping and violates our agreement with the establishment. If you have questions, be sure to ask the establishment—don't just assume you are okay.
5. Make only one housing reservation at one Feast site. Making duplicate reservations at multiple establishments is selfish and blocks 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 the housing for someone else.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. What if I can find cheaper housing elsewhere—such as online?

A. It may be possible to find cheaper housing online at times. For instance, an individual wanting to rent out his privately owned condo may offer it for less than the condos we list in the brochure. Members need to realize, though, that the quality and cleanliness of these properties may or may not be as good as what we list. In the event of problems, it may be more difficult to get your money back. In some cases, renting privately can also require a weekend-to-weekend stay, making the overall cost higher. There are a few hotels that offer “come-on” rates that are cheaper, but what you get may be an inferior or smaller room. We encourage you to use housing that is listed in the brochure for a number of reasons.

Q. What are the benefits to using housing from the housing guide?

A. First, the quality and price are assured. Each year we check out and examine some rooms at each establishment we use to ensure quality, cleanliness and price. The Church has added bargaining power, based on representing several hundred people, that an individual does not have.

Second, many of our meeting facilities require us to book a certain number of rooms in order to use the meeting hall or get it at a reasonable rate. Members utilizing those establishments get a good price, help us fulfill our commitment (rooms booked through third parties will generally not count toward fulfillment of our room block), and in some cases help the Church to incur a lower cost for the meeting facility. There have been cases where we almost lost some sites because not enough people stayed in the host establishment. Hotels and resorts make most of their money on services and amenities rather than the rent of meeting space. If we utilize their meeting space but not their sleeping rooms and other facilities, they see their costs increase and may not welcome us back.

Third, utilizing and reserving a property from the housing list generally ensures there will be other Church brethren staying there with whom you can get acquainted and spend time.

Finally, securing your accommodations from the COGWA Feast housing list means the Church can assist you in resolving any potential difficulties you run into with your housing. Over the years this has proved to be a real advantage to our members.

Q. We like to camp at the Feast. Why aren't there more campgrounds listed in the brochure?

A. While very few members camp anymore during the Feast, those who do camp are generally equipped to find all the campgrounds in the area and select one that fits their needs. Some campgrounds cater to tents while others are almost exclusively for motor homes and trailers. The Church does not generally list campgrounds because of the limited requests and because we don't use enough to have any bargaining power.

Thanks very much for cooperating and working together as God's family to make this Feast of Tabernacles the “best Feast ever!”

