

The Stone Hut *on Mt. Mansfield*

2011-2012 Season



The historic Stone Hut was originally built in 1936 as a warming hut by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). These same crews cut some of the original ski trails on Mt. Mansfield. Once a home away from home for the ski pioneers of Vermont, it is now operated as a winter public lodging facility between mid-November and mid-April through a unique partnership between the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation and the Stowe Mountain Resort (Mt. Mansfield Company).

The Stone Hut is a rustic overnight lodging facility that is only heated by a woodstove. Guests should be prepared for winter camping as there is no electricity, lighting or cooking facilities in the Hut.



The Stone Hut
Department of Forests, Park and
Recreation
6992 Mountain RD
Stowe, VT 05672
Winter: (802)-253-4010
Prior to Nov. 1st: (802)-253-4014
www.vtstateparks.com

Accommodations



Your Stone Hut Stay:

- The maximum occupancy for the Hut is 12 people. Sleeping arrangements consist of 4 single beds and 4 full-sized beds on wood bunks. All beds have mattresses.
- Pets are not permitted in the Stone Hut.
- The Hut is heated by only a wood stove. Firewood is provided no charge in a woodshed outside of the Hut; however, kindling wood is not provided.
- Fuel-fired cooking stoves shall not be operated in the Hut, but may be operated outside away from the Hut. The wood-burning stove has a cooking surface, but many guests find it easier to use a cook stove. Use of candles in the Hut is prohibited.
- You must furnish all of your own gear for cooking, sleeping and lighting. Be prepared for winter camping.
- The Stone Hut is a “Carry-in/Carry-out” facility. You must pack out all of your trash; it may not be left in the Hut, Octagon, or any of the Resort’s receptacles. Please don’t leave anything in the Hut.
- At the nearby Ski Patrol Building (100 feet away), there is a courtesy phone, bathrooms and water. A key is provided to guests to access the outer section for these facilities. Access to the building is by courtesy of Stowe Mountain Resort and may not be available for the entire season. Guests should not enter any other Resort buildings, including the Octagon or the chairlift ramps. Please respect our neighbors.
- Stowe Mountain Resort operates on a 24-hour basis in the winter – grooming, snowmaking and other operations occur when the Resort is closed for business. Never recreate near any terrain where grooming or snowmaking operations are occurring. If you interfere with or contact any of these operations, you may cause equipment damage, injury and/or death to yourself and/or Stowe Mountain Resort Staff.
- The Hut is a historic building located in a fragile mountain ecosystem. Please keep the area in and around the Hut clean. Please inform the Hut Caretaker if you find the area unclean or damaged.

Check-in/Check-out Times:

- Check-in is after 12 PM (Noon). If you do not arrive prior to 4 PM we will be unable to provide a shuttle service to the base of the mountain.
- Check-out is NO LATER than 11:00 AM on the last day of your stay.

To Get to the Stone Hut

- Parking is available at the Vermont State Ski Dorm on the day of your arrival. If you park overnight at the Resort, you will be towed. With prior arrangements and before 4 pm, Hut Staff will be happy to shuttle you from the Ski Dorm to the chairlift.
- Reservations are from 12:00 PM on the day of arrival to 11:00 AM on the day of departure.
- Early and late in the season (November and mid-April), the only means to the Hut may be by hiking, snowshoeing, or skinning up the trails.
- During the Stowe Mountain Resort ski season, Stone Hut guests may ride the Quad chairlift. Lift tickets are not included with a Hut reservation and single-ride lift tickets can be purchased at Guest Services in the Mansfield Base Lodge of Stowe Mountain Resort. The resort phone number is: (800)-24-STOWE.
- The Quad chairlift operates from 7:30 AM until 4:00 PM on weekends, and from 8:00 AM until 4:00 PM on weekdays, weather permitting.
- For safety reasons, the only baggage allowed on the lift is what you can carry on your lap (1 medium-sized bag). There will be no downloading of gear or guests on the lifts.
- The lifts may not be open for all of the dates during the season. Guests should check with Stowe Mountain Resort.

2011 Reservation Procedure

The Stone Hut is a very special place and is in extremely high demand. Each year there are many more requests than are able to be filled. Due to this popularity, the Stone Hut reservation process occurs in two phases so that everyone has a chance. The first phase is a lottery and that is followed by a first-come first-served reservation period (phase two). The below procedures are used to ensure an equitable process for everyone. If you have any questions on the procedure, please feel free to contact us.

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| Beginning of Mail in Reservation Period | September 15 th , 2011 |
| End of Mail in Reservation Period (Lottery) | November 1 st , 2011 |
| Lottery Results Mailed | November 10 th , 2011 |
| Begin Reservation on First Come First Served | November 14 th , 2011 |
| First Night of Available for Occupancy | November 17 th , 2011 |
| Last Night available for Occupancy | April 14 th , 2012 |

Phase One: The Lottery – September 15 – November 1, 2011

1. Applications for reservations are only accepted through the mail.
2. Requests must contain the following to be considered:
 - a. **A completed Stone Hut Reservation Request Form.** You may list as many alternate dates as you wish. If you would like to stay at 2 different times in the season please fill out 2 request forms. Alternate dates may overlap (e.g., 1/6-8 as a 1st choice and 1/7-9 as a 2nd choice). We are not responsible for any illegible or incorrectly completed forms, it is impossible to call to confirm information on the day the lottery is conducted.
 - b. **Payment in full.** This may either be in the form of a check made out to “The State of Vermont” or a MasterCard, Visa or Discover card number and expiration date. Your check will not be cashed, or your credit card charged, unless you receive a reservation through the lottery.
 - c. **The reservation request(s) must be postmarked between Sept 15th and Nov 1st.** No preference will be given based on the order in which the reservation request was received.
3. Multiple requests from the same party are considered an attempt to bypass the lottery system and all of those requests will be considered last.
4. The maximum stay is 7 nights.
5. Preference will be given to the requests of longest duration (e.g., a 3-night request will be given preference over a 2-night request). This is accomplished by separating all of the requests based on length of stay; then randomly selecting forms from the pool 7-night requests and then proceeding through all the reservations ending with the pool of 1-night reservations. Detailed description below.
6. Confirmation letters will be mailed out on November 10, 2011. No results will be given over the

telephone prior to that date.

Phase Two: First-Come, First-Served – November 14, 2011 - April 14, 2012

1. Reservations will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis by telephone for any and all available dates.

Cancellation Policy

In the event of cancellation (including cancellation due to weather or accessibility) payment is forfeited unless the entire stay is re-booked. Sorry, No Exceptions.

2011 Fees

The fee, which includes 9% VT Room and Meals Tax, is \$195 per night (weekdays, weekends, and holidays).

A security deposit of \$200 is required from a credit card at check-in for all Stone Hut stays; it is refundable if the Stone Hut is left in an acceptable, clean condition and without damage.

Lottery Tips

There is only one Stone Hut. The Stone Hut is a special place and in high demand. Many more requests are received each year than are able to be fulfilled. While there is no way to guarantee a spot, the following tips may be beneficial.

- The best way to increase the odds of success is to identify as many alternate nights as possible, or increase the length of your stay, on the form.
- Consider specifying overlapping dates. For example: Jan 20th, 21st, and 22nd as one set and 21st, 22nd, and 23rd as another request.
- Consider specifying shorter stays as alternates. For example: If you requested a 3-night stay for Jan 20th, 21st, and 22nd, but January 20th is already reserved as part of another reservation you would not be able to receive your request. If January 21st and 22nd are among the choices, you have a second shot with the two night requests.
- Luck is still a very large factor. Historically, only around 15% of requests are able to be filled in the lottery.
- It is extremely important to fill out the form completely and correctly. If it is not filled out correctly it will not be considered in the lottery; this is to ensure fairness to everyone.
- If the number of nights and/or payment does not match the requested nights or they are left blank, the form will not be considered.
- If we notice errors when the form is received, it will be returned as soon as possible but no extension of the deadline will be granted.

Lottery Procedure

Below is a brief explanation of the procedure used on the day of the lottery. The lottery is conducted by multiple people and takes several hours to complete. Due to the nature of the lottery (individual guest information and credit card numbers) it is not open to the public.

1. As forms are received during the entry period (9/15 to 11/1), they are opened and prescreened to make sure the forms are completed correctly, payment information is provided, and the nights requested is clear.
2. If there is a problem with a form during prescreening, the form is returned to the sender in order to provide an opportunity to resubmit with correct information within the deadlines. No extension of the deadline is given. Examples of when forms are returned include omitting or incorrect form of payment, incomplete contact information, etc.
3. On the day of the lottery the forms are divided into piles based upon the length of stay requested for the first choice of nights. For example, all of the 1-night requests are placed in one pile, 2-night requests are placed in another pile, etc. until reaching the 7-night requests. Typically, over 200 requests are received.
4. With assistance from non-Stone Hut staff, the forms in each individual pile are randomized using random tables from the website: www.random.org
5. Reservations are then filled based on randomly selected forms. This is done by starting with the randomized pool of applicants that represent the 7-night requests.
6. When an individual request is processed, the first attempt is to fill their first choice of nights if it is available. If it is not available, the second choice is reviewed provided it is for the same length of stay. Staff continue through the entire list of choices until one of the following happens: the requester receives a reservation, nothing on their list is available, or the number of nights requested changes.
7. If someone receives a reservation, their credit card is charged and the reservation is entered into the computer reservation system. If the request is not filled, staff return their request form and payment. In either case, an envelope is stuffed and sealed for return mailing. If the request has other dates that are for less nights, the form is put in the respective pile with the other requests of that length to be randomized and considered in that pool.
8. After all of the 7-night requests are processed, staff proceed to the pool of the 6-night requests repeating the above process and finishing with the pool of requests for a single night.
9. No lottery results are given over the phone and all entrants receive a mailed response, which is mailed on November 10th each year.

Stone Hut Reservation Request Form

Desired NIGHTS: _____

#1 Alternate: _____

#2 Alternate: _____

#3 Alternate: _____

#4 Alternate: _____

#5 Alternate: _____

#6 Alternate: _____

#7 Alternate: _____

#8 Alternate: _____

#9 Alternate: _____

#10 Alternate: _____

Enclosed is Payment in Full for my stay:

_____ Number of Nights X \$195 per night = _____ Total Amount Enclosed

MC/Visa/Discover # if applicable: _____ Exp. Date: ____/____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ (Home) _____ (Work)

Must be postmarked between Sept. 15th and Nov. 1st

Mail to: Vermont State Ski Dorm, 6992 Mountain Road, Stowe, VT 05672

Please make Checks payable to "State of Vermont"