

The Stone Hut

On Top of Mount Mansfield

Information Packet

November 18, 2023 – April 13, 2024 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
VT Dept. of Forests, Parks 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.
- 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 new 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 behind in the Hut.
- At the nearby Ski Patrol Building (100 feet away) there are 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.
- 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 Stone Hut Manager if you find the area unclean or damaged.

Check-in/Check-out Times:

- Check-in is after 12:00 PM (Noon).
- Check-out is NO LATER than 11:00 AM on the last day of your stay.

To Get to the Stone Hut:

- Reservations are from 12:00 PM on the day of arrival to 11:00 AM on the day of departure.
- Parking is available at the Vermont State Ski Dorm on the day of your arrival. If you park overnight at the Resort, your vehicle will be towed. We will not be providing shuttle service this year. The Forerunner Quad is a short 5-minute walk from the ski dorm, please plan accordingly.
- Early and late in the season (November and mid-April), or when the Resort is closed for ski operations, the only means to the Hut may be by hiking, snowshoeing, or skinning up the trails. When ski operations are active, uphill travel (including hiking, skinning and snowshoeing) on Resort trails is prohibited during hours of operation and you must use the chair lift. Stowe Mountain Resort does not recommend the use of their trails during non-operational hours.
- 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 8:00 AM until 4:00 PM, weather permitting.
- Please give yourself ample time to buy your lift ticket and to get yourself to the base of the Fourrunner Quad chairlift base. The last loaded chair leaves the base at 4:00 PM sharp.
- For safety reasons, the only baggage allowed on the lift is what you can carry on your lap (1 medium-sized bag per trip). There will be no downloading of gear or guests on the lifts. Baggage will not be allowed to accumulate in the lift area.
- The lifts may not be open for all of the dates during the season. Guests should check with Stowe Mountain Resort.

2023/2024 Reservation Procedures

The Stone Hut reservation process will occur in two phases. The first phase will be the lottery that will be followed by a first-come, first-served reservation period (Phase II). Please read the details below. If you have any questions on the procedure, please feel free to contact us.

Phase I - Lottery	Start of Reservation Period Mail-in	September 15, 2023
	Lottery Entry Forms Must Be Received by	November 1, 2023
	Lottery Livestream (9am)	November 6, 2023
	Lottery Results Mailed	November 10, 2023
Phase II – First-Come, First-Served Reservations	Start Reservations on First-Come, First-Served Basis by Telephone	November 17, 2023
Stone Hut Season	First Night Available for Occupancy	November 18, 2023
	Last Night Available for Occupancy	April 13, 2024

Phase I: The Lottery – September 15 – November 1, 2023

1. Applications for reservations are only accepted through the mail. Park Staff are often busy outdoors during the mail-in period and may not be available to sign for entries. Staff will not travel to the carrier's facility to pick up and sign for entries. Hand delivered entries will not be considered.
2. Requests must contain the following to be considered:
 - a. **A completed Stone Hut Reservation Request Form.** Please be sure to correctly complete the form as we are not responsible for any illegible or incorrectly completed entries. The entry form may be completed in Adobe Reader. We will not call to confirm information on the day the lottery is conducted. You may list as many alternate dates as you wish.
 - 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 received by Nov 1, 2023.** No preference will be given based on the order in which the reservation request was received.
3. Only one request per group, per stay, will be considered.
 - a. You may request multiple stays for different dates on separate entry forms. For example: If you would like to stay once in January and once in March, you may submit 2 forms with January dates on one form and March dates on another form.
 - b. Multiple requests from the same person or group will have all their entries considered last if

the requested dates on separate forms overlap in any way. For example, if you were awarded any one of your choices on one submission it would eliminate the possibility of being awarded one of your choices on your second submission.

4. Lottery Requests require a two-night minimum. The maximum stay is 5 nights.
5. The Lottery will be live streams on November 6 starting at 9am. Please visit the Stone Hut webpage at vtstateparks.com for a link.
6. Confirmation letters will be mailed out on November 10, 2023. No results will be given over the telephone prior to that date.

Phase II: First-Come, First-Served – November 17, 2023 – April 13, 2024

Reservations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis by telephone for any and all available dates. Only one day or set of continuous dates per caller may be reserved.

At this time, we will also begin accepting names for the stand-by list, which will be called in the event of future cancellations. If you accept a reservation from the stand-by list, you will be moved to the end of the stand-by list.

Fees

The fee, which includes 9% VT Room and Meals Tax, is \$300 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 and is refundable if the Stone Hut is left in an acceptable, clean condition and without any damage.

Cancellation Policy

In the event of cancellation (including cancellation due to weather or accessibility) payment is forfeited unless the entire stay is successfully rebooked. All cancellations will be assessed a \$25 cancellation fee. Sorry, no exceptions.

Commercial Use

Commercial use of the Stone Hut, such as the reselling of reservations, is strictly prohibited.

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 can 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.
- Consider specifying overlapping dates. For example: January 20th, 21st, and 22nd as one set and 21st, 22nd, and 23rd as an alternate request.
- Consider specifying shorter stays as alternates. For example: If you requested a 3-night stay for January 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 increase your chances by listing the two nights as alternates.
- Open requests in the narrative are acceptable. For example, “any Friday and Saturday in January or February” or “any two days between 1/7 and 1/22.” Please just make sure you clearly indicate what you desire.
- The choices of alternate dates are considered in the order they are listed.
- Luck is still a very large factor. Only a small number of requests are able to be filled in the lottery. Only single nights remain during the first-come, first-served period.
- 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.
- To eliminate confusion, please list only the nights you would like to stay on the form (don’t include the checkout day). For example, if you want to stay January 1st, 2nd, and 3rd and leave on the 4th please list January 1 – 3 and not January 1 – 4.
- 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.

2023/2024 Lottery Process

Below is a brief explanation of the procedure used on the day of the lottery. The lottery is conducted by multiple staff of the State of Vermont's Dept. of Forests, Parks and Recreation 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, 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 will be 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. With assistance from non-Stone Hut staff, the forms are randomized using a random number generator from the website: www.random.org
4. Reservations are then filled based on the randomly selected forms.
5. 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, staff continue through the entire list of choices until one of the following happens: the requester receives a reservation, or nothing on their list is available.
6. 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.
7. No lottery results are given over the phone and all entrants receive a mailed response.
8. Credit card charges will be processed by Smugglers' Notch State Park.

New

Go to VtStateParks.com and set up your online account with the same email address and phone number you use on your lottery entry. You will get instant notification if you get a spot on the day of the lottery.