

# The Stone Hut

## On Top of Mount Mansfield

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### Information Packet

Dec. 1, 2016 – April 15, 2017 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.

**NOTICE:** The Stone Hut is presently under construction after a fire destroyed most of the building last winter. We are conducting this year's lottery under the assumption that the Stone Hut will be completed in time for this season; however, there is no guarantee that it will be finished before road access to the Hut is impassable. **In the event that construction is not completed, we will not be able to fulfill the reservations awarded in this lottery.** We are optimistic and assume that the Stone Hut will be ready for a great ski and snowboard season.



The Stone Hut  
VT Dept. of Forests, Parks and Recreation  
6992 Mountain Rd.  
Stowe, VT 05672  
Winter: (802) 253-4010  
Prior to Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>: (802) 253-4014  
[www.vtstateparks.com](http://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. **For 2016/2017 only – you must provide your own sleeping pad as mattresses will not be provided.**
- 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.
- 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 Stone Hut Manager if you find the area unclean or damaged.

## Check-in/Check-out Times:

- Check-in is after 12:00 PM (Noon). If you do not arrive prior to 4:00 PM, we will not be able to provide you with 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:***

- 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**. With prior arrangements and before 4:00 PM, Stone Hut staff will be happy to shuttle you from the Vermont State Ski Dorm to the chairlift.
- Early and late in the season (November and mid-April), 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 7:30 AM until 4:00 PM on weekends, and from 8:00 AM until 4:00 PM on weekdays, 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. Stowe Mountain Resort has stressed that this policy will now be much more strictly enforced.**
- The lifts **may not** be open for all of the dates during the season. Guests should check with Stowe Mountain Resort.

# 2016/2017 Reservation Procedures

## ***New for 2017:***

There will be TWO lotteries conducted. The first for individuals who had confirmed reservations for 2015/2016 but were unable to stay due to the fire. We're calling this the "Special Lottery".

After all possible stays have been awarded to people who missed out last year, a second lottery, or the "Regular Lottery" will be conducted.

Beginning this year, for both lotteries, **no preference will be given to length of stay.**

After both lotteries have been completed, first-come/first-served telephone reservations will be accepted.

Please read the details below. If you have any questions on the procedure, please feel free to contact us.

<b>Lottery</b>	Start of Reservation Period Mail-in	October 17, 2016
	Lottery Entry Forms Must Be Received by	November 14, 2016
	Lottery – Special and Regular	November 16, 2016
	Lottery Results Mailed	November 17, 2016
<b>First-Come, First-Served Reservations</b>	Start Reservations on First-Come, First-Served Basis by Telephone	November 23, 2016
<b>Stone Hut Season</b>	First Night Available for Occupancy	December 1, 2016
	Last Night Available for Occupancy	April 15, 2017

## **The Lottery – October 17 – November 14, 2016**

- 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.**
    1. Use the **Special Lottery Reservation Request Form** if you had a 2015/2016 reservation that was cancelled. Only one Special Lottery form may be submitted, even if you were awarded multiple stays last season. Special Lottery forms will be drawn prior to the open, regular lottery.
    2. Use the **Regular Lottery Request Form** if you did not have a cancelled 2015/2016 reservation, or you had a 2015/2016 cancelled reservation but you would like more than one stay this season.

Please be sure to use the correct form as we are not responsible for any illegible or incorrectly completed entries. We will not call to confirm information on the day the lottery is conducted. You may list as many alternate dates as you wish.

If you would like to stay at two different times in the season, please fill out two request forms. Alternate dates may overlap (e.g., 1/6 – 1/8 as a 1<sup>st</sup> choice, and 1/7 – 1/9 as a 2<sup>nd</sup> choice). Special Lottery individuals may submit a Reservation Request form in the Regular Lottery if they would like to stay more than once during the season.

- 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 14, 2016.** No preference will be given based on the order in which the reservation request was received.
- 3) Only one request per party, per stay, will be considered. You may request multiple stays for different dates on separate entry forms.
  - 4) The maximum stay is 5 nights.
  - 5) **Special Lottery entries** may only request the number of nights, or fewer, that they were awarded in 2015/16.
  - 6) Confirmation letters will be mailed out on November 17, 2016. No results will be given over the telephone prior to that date.

### **First-Come, First-Served – November 23, 2016 – April 15, 2017**

After the Special and Regular Lottery have been completed, reservations will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis by telephone for any remaining open 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.

### **Fees**

The fee, which includes 9% VT Room and Meals Tax, is \$225 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.

# 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.
- Consider specifying overlapping dates. For example: January 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 22<sup>nd</sup> as one set and 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 23<sup>rd</sup> as another request.
- Consider specifying shorter stays as alternates. For example: If you requested a 3-night stay for January 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 22<sup>nd</sup>, but January 20<sup>th</sup> is already reserved as part of another reservation you would not be able to receive your request. If January 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> are among the choices, you increase your chances by listing the 2 nights as alternates.
- Open requests in the narrative are acceptable. For example, “any 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. **This will increase your odds of getting a reservation.**
- 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.
- 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 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> and leave on the 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

# 2016/17 Lottery Process

The 2016/17 Lottery process will be open for observation to any interested members of the public. The **Lottery will be held at 9:00 AM on November 16, 2016 at the FPR Barre District Office located at 5 Perry Street, Suite 300 (the Penthouse), in Barre, Vermont.** Please arrive downstairs to the Vermont Dept. of Forests, Parks & Recreation offices prior to 9:00 AM for assistance in getting to the Penthouse.

Below is a brief explanation of the procedure used on the day of the lottery. The lottery will be conducted by multiple people and it takes several hours to complete. No personal customer information, beyond initials and town of residence, will be announced as reservations are being awarded.

1. As forms are received during the entry period (October 17 to November 14, 2016), 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. On the day of the lottery the forms will be divided into two piles (Special Lottery and Regular Lottery). The Special Lottery will be conducted first, followed by the Regular Lottery. **No preference will be given to length of stay in either case.**
4. With assistance from non-Stone Hut staff, the forms in each pile are randomized using a random number generator from the website: [www.random.org](http://www.random.org)
5. Reservations are then filled based on randomly selected forms with all Special Lottery being conducted first, followed by the Regular Lottery.
6. **PLEASE NOTE:** A Special Lottery entry does not guarantee a reservation. Please include several alternate dates, or consider an open request, as described on the previous page. This will make it much more likely that your request will be fulfilled.
7. 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.
8. 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.
9. No lottery results are given over the phone and all entrants receive a mailed response, which will be mailed on November 17, 2016.
10. Credit card charges will be processed by Smugglers' Notch State Park.

# Stone Hut "Special Lottery" Reservation Request Form

**Only use this form if your reservation from 2015/16 was cancelled due to the fire.**

- The name must match the name on the cancelled reservation last season.
- Your request may only be for the same number of nights, or less, as the cancelled reservation.
- You may include as many alternates as you like, please make sure they are listed clearly.
- Only 1 Special entry form may be submitted. For additional stays, use the regular form.

Desired **NIGHTS** (first choice): \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Nights #1: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Nights #2: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Nights #3: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Nights #4: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Nights #5: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Nights #6: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Nights #7: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Nights #8: \_\_\_\_\_

**(List and submit additional dates on a separate sheet if necessary)**

**Enclosed is Payment in Full** for my stay:

- Check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ \$225 a night x \_\_\_\_\_ nights
- MC/Visa/Discover # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Vermont State Parks may charge my card up to \$\_\_\_\_\_ which equates to \$225 a night x \_\_\_\_\_ nights. Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

**Must be received by November 14, 2016**

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

**Please make Checks payable to "State of Vermont"**

# Stone Hut "Regular Lottery" Reservation Request Form

Desired **NIGHTS** (first choice): \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Nights #1: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Nights #2: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Nights #3: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Nights #4: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Nights #5: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Nights #6: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Nights #7: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Nights #8: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Nights #9: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Nights #10: \_\_\_\_\_

(List and submit additional dates on a separate sheet if necessary)

Enclosed is **Payment in Full** for my stay:

- Check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ \$225 a night x \_\_\_\_\_ nights
- MC/Visa/Discover # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Vermont State Parks may charge my card up to \$\_\_\_\_\_ which equates to \$225 a night x \_\_\_\_\_ nights. Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

**Must be received by November 14, 2016**

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

**Please make Checks payable to "State of Vermont"**