

The Stone Hut

On Top of Mount Mansfield

Information Packet

November 17, 2017 – April 14, 2018 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.
- 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.

2017/2018 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, 2017
	Lottery Entry Forms Must Be Received by	November 5, 2017
	Lottery	November 8, 2017
	Lottery Results Mailed	November 10, 2017
Phase II – First-Come, First-Served Reservations	Start Reservations on First-Come, First-Served Basis by Telephone	November 17, 2017
Stone Hut Season	First Night Available for Occupancy	November 18, 2017
	Last Night Available for Occupancy	April 14, 2018

Phase I: The Lottery – September 15 – November 5, 2017

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.** Please be sure to use the correctly complete the 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 1st choice, and 1/7 – 1/9 as a 2nd choice).
 - 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 5, 2017.** 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. **Lottery Requests require a two night minimum.** The maximum stay is 5 nights.

5. Confirmation letters will be mailed out on November 10, 2017. No results will be given over the telephone prior to that date.

Phase II: First-Come, First-Served – November 17, 2017 – April 14, 2018

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.

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 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 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 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.

2017/18 Lottery Process

The 2017/18 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 8, 2017 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 (September 15 to November 5, 2017), 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, which will be mailed on November 10, 2017.
8. Credit card charges will be processed by Smugglers' Notch State Park.

Stone Hut Reservation Request Form

2 Night Minimum	
Desired Nights (1 st 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)
 Make Checks Payable to "State Of Vermont." Include multiple checks if all requesting varying length of stay (ex. 2 and 3 night requests – 1 check for \$450 and 1 for \$225).
- Vermont State Parks may charge my credit card for up to _____ (\$225 a night x ____ nights). Signature: _____

Billing Information (for credit card payment only)			
Card #: MC/Visa/Discover		Expiration Date:	
Name as it appears on card:		CW #:	
Billing Address			
Address:			
City:		State:	Postal Code:

Contact Information			
Name:		Email:	
Address:			
City:		State:	Postal Code:
Home Phone #:		Cell Phone #:	

Mail To: Vermont State Ski Dorm, 6992 Mountain RD, Stowe, VT 05672