



General Terms and Conditions of Swiss Youth Hostels

Valid from 1 October 2021

1) Area of application

The General Terms and Conditions of Swiss Youth Hostels apply to all reservation enquiries and reservations at youth hostels operated by Swiss Youth Hostels.

2) Membership

Swiss Youth Hostels is a membership organisation. The following memberships are available:

Hostel Card Standard

The Hostel Card Standard is included in the room rate and is valid from the day of arrival up to and including the day of departure in the youth hostel in which you are staying.

Hostel Card Premium

The Hostel Card Premium can be purchased and is valid for 12 months from the issue date. Hostel Card Premium holders benefit from a discount in all youth hostels of Swiss Youth Hostels for bookings made directly through youthhostel.ch, the booking centre of Swiss Youth Hostels or with one of our youth hostels. The discount is currently CHF 7 per person per night including VAT (excluding prices for children); there are special conditions for groups and children in their parents' room (excluding double rooms). The Hostel Card Premium also provides access to many other benefits as listed on youthhostel.ch.

3) Lodging agreement and payment

The lodging agreement is concluded directly and exclusively between the person booking (the guest) and the youth hostel at which they wish to stay.

If a lodging agreement in writing is requested, it must be returned, duly signed, to the youth hostel within 10 days of receipt. Otherwise, the reservation is invalid.

The guest must pay the price of accommodation confirmed by the youth hostel, including additional services and visitor taxes, at the youth hostel at the time of check-in.

The youth hostel is entitled to charge a premium for empty beds in a booked room.

4) Payment in advance

In order to guarantee a booking, the youth hostel is entitled to request payment in advance. If a payment in advance is requested, it must be made by the due date stated.

In the case of bookings via the online reservation system of Swiss Youth Hostels, the booking is to be paid for immediately at the time of booking.

5) Cancellation terms

The guest is obliged to notify the youth hostel booked in writing, and as soon as possible, of all changes to the agreement. Cancellation of the reservation and reduced numbers of participants or duration of stay must be communicated to the respective Youth Hostel in writing either by letter or e-mail. This notification shall only be deemed given once the youth hostel has issued a confirmation. Cancellations are free of charge up to 14 days prior to arrival. In the event of a late cancellation (less than 14 days prior to arrival), failure to appear or early departure, the total amount will be payable.

Non-refundable booking: Any changes or cancellation of the booking is subject to a fee. No refunds are possible. The entire amount of the booking is due for payment immediately.

In case of group bookings, large events or special events, deviating cancellation conditions shall apply as per the accommodation contract/reservation confirmation.

We recommend that you take out cancellation insurance.

6) Cancellation insurance

Cancellation insurance covers the cancellation costs that are contractually due if, for example, the stay has to be cancelled or ended early due to illness or an accident.

Insurance can be taken out during the booking process on youthhostel.ch or at the youth hostel directly. The insurance cover is valid from the booking date. The insurer's terms and conditions apply. These can be viewed at www.youthhostel.ch.

7) Arrival

Arrival is possible during the reception desk's opening hours. Attention must be paid to each youth hostel's special opening hours.

Guests who have not made a payment in advance should arrive by 6 pm or give notice of a later arrival to the youth hostel.

Reservations without any payment in advance are regarded as binding until 6 pm on the day of arrival. In the event of non-arrival by 6 pm and if notice of a later arrival is not given, the youth hostel is free to allocate the reserved beds or rooms at its discretion.

8) Data protection

The protection of our guests' privacy is an absolute priority for Swiss Youth Hostels. We strive to guarantee the highest possible levels of data protection and security for our guests. The personal data collected as part of the booking process (e.g. name and email address) is stored by Swiss Youth Hostels and used exclusively to process the reservation and booking correctly, and for the purposes of the stay in our youth hostels. Additionally, we anonymise the data and use it for statistical and analytical purposes. We only use our guests' data for the purposes of customer surveys and advertising with their express consent. Our guests' personal data is always treated as confidential and is disclosed to third parties only in justified cases. The Privacy Policy of Swiss Youth Hostels is available on the website www.youthhostel.ch.

We do not store our guests' credit card details. At the end of the booking process, the card details are transmitted directly to the credit card company over an encrypted connection and validated.



9) App / Loyalty

Since October 2021 the Swiss Youth Hostels Association is running Overnight Rewards, its customer loyalty programme. Thanks to Overnight Rewards, guests using the SJH app can participate in the Swiss Youth Hostels loyalty programme. Participants in the loyalty programme can benefit from advantages such as vouchers and discounts. All rights and obligations in connection with the loyalty programme apply exclusively to the Swiss Youth Hostels Association.

Eligibilit

Private individuals aged 18 and over are eligible to participate. Each loyalty account and the points collected through it are personal and non-transferable. They are linked to an identification number which is automatically generated via the membership app. Participation is free.

Usage

Points can be collected for various purposes on the app. These are added into the user account and can be used to redeem services and products according to the applicable provisions. Points redemption can only take place if the given conditions are met and promotions under the customer loyalty programme cannot be combined with other special offers. Certain discount promotions and rewards have time limitations. Redeemed rewards cannot be refunded and there is no entitlement to cash compensation for points. SJH reserves the right to make changes or additions to participation conditions, the issuing of points, the value of points or other changes affecting the loyalty programme, and/or to discontinue it at any time. These actions can also be carried out retrospectively. Points can only be collected via the app or the online reservation system. Telephone bookings cannot be taken into account.

Misuse/Exchange/Loss/Expiry

The Swiss Youth Hostels Association accepts no liability for improper use of the loyalty programme. The exchange or sale of points to third parties is prohibited. In the event of abuse, SJH reserves the right to exclude offending persons from the loyalty programme. Guests can leave the programme at any time. Upon request, we will delete all data stored about you. For more information, please contact our membership service.

10) Legal jurisdiction

The legal jurisdiction is the registered office of Swiss Youth Hostels in Zurich.