## The Oregon Bed & Breakfast Guild

### **Benefits of Membership**

- ✓ Credibility and prestige of a group that maintains high standards and professionalism
- $\blacksquare$  Cooperative advertising
- ✓ Improved quality, service, and profits through annual conferences, workshops, seminars, newsletters, and continuing Quality Assurance inspections
- ☑ Networking with Guild members
- $\blacksquare$  A unified voice in the industry
- ✓ Inclusion in marketing programs such as the toll free information phone line, Guild website, Lodging Gift Vouchers, Print Media
- Participation in the Innkeeper Getaway Program



# Invitation to Membership

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#### **Mission Statement**

We are the professional association of Oregon's individually operated Bed & Breakfast Inns. Our mission is to assure travelers of consistently high standards in a variety of accommodations and to support members through networking, promotion, advocacy, and education.

#### Background

In October 1989 a steering committee of innkeepers representing bed and breakfast inns throughout the state met to form the Oregon Bed & Breakfast Guild, which was modeled after similar organizations in Washington and California. The committee discussed and ultimately adopted bylaws, goals and objectives, requirements for membership, and an application procedure.

#### Membership

Regular membership is held in the name of the inn which is located in the state of Oregon and which is appropriately licensed and meets Guild standards for health, safety, and hospitality in its operation. Guild benefits apply to owners and managers of the inn. Associate membership is available to individuals and businesses that support the objectives of the Guild.

#### **Membership Dues**

Regular membership annual dues are \$175 plus \$35 per room up to seven rooms. Additional rooms are no additional fee. In addition, there is a one-time marketing assessment of \$100 and a non-refundable \$100 application/inspection fee. Quality Assurance re-inspections are included in membership dues at no additional cost.

#### **Application Process**

The application and the Quality Assurance Guidelines can be downloaded from the Guild website. Alternatively, contact the Guild through the email or the toll free line and these items can be sent to you. You will need copies of all licenses, proof of insurance, and current brochure with rates, policies, and a photo of the inn.

#### **Benefits of Membership**

NETWORKING: The Guild maintains a private Facebook group which acts as a forum for innkeepers to ask questions, get advice and connect with other innkeepers. The Annual Meeting and Conference, as well as Regional Meetings held throughout the state provide opportunities for networking as well.

PROMOTION: The Guild publishes a Rack Card that is distributed to visitor centers, travel agencies, and potential guests. Our website, www.obbg.org, is a significant source for referrals, where guests may link directly to an inn's website or email questions to the Guild. The Guild also maintains a toll free information phone line (800-944-6196) to respond to calls from potential guests or questions from innkeepers. Lodging Gift Vouchers, which can be used at any member inn, are available for sale through the Guild website. The Innkeeper Getaway Program allows participating innkeepers to become better acquainted with other members through a low, \$40-per-night stay. The opportunity to interact with other innkeepers provides a stronger sense of community and the potential for future referrals.

ADVOCACY: Members of the Guild serve as representatives to important state organizations such as Oregon Lodging Association, State Food Service advisory committees, Oregon Tourism Commission, and others to promote awareness about the specific needs and issues of B&B inns.

EDUCATION: State conferences are held every year in conjunction with the annual meeting. In addition, smaller Regional Meetings take place throughout the state with an educational session and networking time. Conferences provide an opportunity to meet other innkeepers and to keep informed of issues of importance to inns in our region.

#### **Requirements for Membership**

Membership shall be subject to the following requirements:

- Inn shall be located in the state of Oregon.
- Facility shall be operated primarily as a bed and breakfast inn.
- Inn shall have a resident manager or owner involved in daily operation.
- The inn shall have no minimum number of guest rooms and shall have a maximum of 30 guest rooms.
- Inn shall have applicable and current permits, licenses, and/or certification including, but not limited to, all health department, safety, and travelers' accommodation licenses. Inns with two rooms or less may not be required to have some of these licenses, but must meet the requirements.
- Inns shall be registered with the Oregon Department of Revenue and shall be aware of and comply with all appropriate tax requirements on the State, County, and City levels.
- Inns shall be commercially insured for operation as a bed and breakfast inn.
- The member shall act with honesty and integrity in all business practices and shall refrain from misrepresentation in all advertising and promotion.
- The inn must pass a physical inspection as defined by the Guild's Quality Assurance Standards upon initial application to the Guild and shall be reinspected periodically and upon change of ownership.
- Additionally,

• There shall be a common area for guests' use for social interaction.

• The inn's breakfast service shall include more than coffee/tea/juice and be provided at no additional cost.

• The inn shall provide for its guests a safe and secure environment which shall comply with state and local regulations.