



Weekend Group Retreats at Serenity Retreat, Bellville, Texas

We are a full time Christian prayer center, and offer *two types of group retreats*:

1. Basic Group Retreat: Your group of 16 people (or up to 24 if you have eight couples) use the facility for one or two nights, bringing your own meals and programming.

2. Sponsored Retreat: up to eight participants receive **one private session** of Transformation Prayer Ministry, while the rest of the weekend can be spent on any program you choose. You bring your own food, and up to sixteen people may attend.

Accommodations:

Serenity Lodge has four bedrooms, each with two twin beds and private bath. These are adjacent to a large living/dining room and full kitchen with large preparation island. Outside is a large covered porch with rocking chairs and a lake view.

Two adjacent houses have a total of 8 queen bed rooms with private baths and private porches. The cabins are accessed by walking a gravel road. The retreat is on 26 acres in a quiet country setting. There is a wooded walking trail, lakeside pavilion with rockers, and two swing arbors.

2020 Weekend Group Rates:

Single Occupancy \$125 + 6% state room tax for one or two nights (second night free).

Double Occupancy \$180 + 6% state room tax for one or two nights. (second night free)

Rates per room include one or two nights, making a two night stay a good value.

Eight person minimum, sixteen person maximum.

Sponsored Retreats are the same rate, and we will work with you closely to customize the schedule of TPM sessions.

Do you accept credit cards? Yes, we accept all credit cards.

How do I make a reservation? Call 713-649-7729

Is smoking allowed at Serenity Retreat? We're sorry, but Serenity Retreat is a smoke-free environment.

Are children welcome? Yes, but Serenity Retreat is geared toward adults and does not have child-specific activities.

Can I bring my pet? Sorry, pets aren't allowed at Serenity Retreat. Even our cats must remain outside.

When is check in and check out? Check-in after 3 pm. If arriving after 7 p.m. call Mary Nell Partin, Operations Manager, at 682-239-7595. Checkout time is 11 am. The gate code is "0765".

Is there staff on-hand all the time? Yes, our Operations Manager lives on site and is available for any needs you and your group may have.

Is daily housekeeping service provided? No, we do not provide daily housekeeping service. If your stay is more than two

nights, housekeeping will check on you.

Food Service: If you like, you may provide your own meals. The ample kitchen is outfitted with most things you will need to cook and serve. If you prefer, the Serenity Retreat staff will provide and serve Breakfast, Lunch, and/or Dinner. The price for each meal, per individual is listed below:

Breakfast: \$5.00 plus tax Lunch: \$7.00 plus tax Dinner: \$12.00 plus tax

What about linens? Towels and linens are supplied.

Is there television in the house? There is no cable TV service, but a big screen TV and DVD player are provided.

How about Wi-Fi? The campus is equipped with Wi-Fi.

POLICIES

Deposit: Once you determine a date for your group, we will hold it as a courtesy for 14 days. To secure your reservations, pay a deposit of \$500. The balance is due 14 days prior to arrival, at which time the group sponsor's credit card will automatically be charged for the balance. If reservation is made less than 14 days prior to arrival, full payment is due at the time of making the reservation. A 6% Texas State Room Tax will be added to the price of your stay.

Group Final Count

A confirmation of the final guest count is required 5 days (Monday by 4 pm) prior to arrival. This determines the amount due. The total due will be calculated based on the final number of guests **confirmed** or the contract minimum, whichever is greater. An additional amount for Texas Hotel Occupancy Sales Tax will be added at a rate of 6% for lodging and meals when the total price for the retreat is determined.

NOTE: Groups must let the Operations Manager know of any drive-in day guests upon their arrival so that their grounds fee and/or meals may be computed into the bill.

Group Final Payment

The total is due upon leader's arrival. Payment can be made online or by a single check to 'Serenity Retreat'. (Retreat participants should pay the church, organization, or sponsor and the group leader then brings one check).

The credit card number of an individual or church is held on file by the Operations Manager until the end of the retreat.

Any additional costs incurred for unannounced guests or damages will be charged to the account. Returned checks will be assessed a fee of \$25.00 per occurrence.

Damage Policy: Any damages done to any Serenity Retreat property by guests or persons visiting or staying with guests will be the responsibility of the sponsor, and by payment of your deposit to Serenity Retreat, you agree to make restitution for such damage.

Vehicles: Please stay on the road within the Serenity Retreat property. Driving off the road or in the pastures puts you at risk for getting stuck. If it becomes necessary for us to tow your vehicle, there will be a charge of \$150 for labor and grounds repair. If you get a wrecker to assist you, the grounds repair charge is \$60.

Group Cancellation and Refund Policy

- Any stay cancelled 30 days prior to arrival, \$500 will be fully refunded or may be applied to another retreat date within one calendar year of the deposit payment. In the case of a refund, a 10% administrative fee is charged.
- Any stay cancelled 29-8 days prior to arrival, Serenity Retreat will retain the \$500 deposit toward a retreat within one year of the payment. If not used within one calendar year of initial payment, the entire amount is forfeited.

- Any stay cancelled less than 8 days prior to arrival incurs a 100% penalty
- If Serenity Retreat cannot host the group because of flooding, lack of utilities, mechanical failure, fire or other situation that renders the facility inoperable, Serenity Retreat will refund the guest's pre-paid amount in full, or if desired, offer another retreat within one year of the payment. Serenity Retreat will have no other liability due to such cancellation or unavailability of its facility.

Room keys must be returned to the Office prior to departure. A fee of \$25 will be charged for lost room keys.

Country Living: Serenity Retreat is spread out over 26 rustic acres of pasture land. Walking on the gravel road is required to get from Lodge to cabins. Please bring sneakers, boots, or closed-toed walking shoes. Fragile sandals or high heels are not appropriate. For those with mobility issues, there is also a golf cart to assist you in moving your luggage to the cabin.

Allergies: Serenity Retreat does not assume responsibility for health problems due to allergic reactions to anything related to the property. It is possible that Serenity Retreat personnel or previous guests may have prepared foods that some people are allergic to, such as foods containing peanuts or gluten, on our property. Our property is regularly, thoroughly cleaned. We will not be held responsible for any health problems.

Food Service: Plan to bring your own meals, or coordinate with our Operations Manager for meal service. The ample kitchen is outfitted with most things you will need to cook and serve. If you prefer, we can suggest a local caterer for your stay.

Animal Encounters: Serenity Retreat is in the country, and you will encounter animals such as deer, squirrels, raccoons or snakes. Barn cats are on constant patrol to minimize small animal encounters. Also our country road is rocky, with open cattle grazing, so slow driving is a must.

Emergencies: 911 for emergency assistance. The nearest hospital is Bellville General Hospital, at 44 N. Cummings in Bellville. 979-865-3141. Austin County Sheriff: 979-865-3111.

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These terms may be changed at any time without notice.

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