Billeting FAQ for Guests

Billeting is a volunteer-based accommodation option for Unison Festival 2026 that connects visiting delegates with local hosts in Vancouver and surrounding areas. Billeting hosts offer space in their homes to help make festival participation possible, welcoming guests as visitors.

Hosts may offer various types of spaces, from sofas or sofa-beds in shared living areas to private bedrooms. Each host describes what they're able to offer, and guests can apply to listings that feel like a good fit. A place to sleep is the basic offer, with details varying by host.

Q1. How does billeting work?

The process is straightforward:

- Local hosts post billeting listings describing the space they can offer
- Registered delegates (guests) apply directly to listings they are interested in
- Hosts choose who they would like to welcome into their home
- Hosts and guests connect directly to confirm details and arrangements

Q2. Is billeting free for guests?

Yes. Billeting is offered at no charge. No payment or exchange of value is permitted.

Q3. Who can participate in billeting?

Billeting hosts are local and area residents who can offer a space in their home. Guests applying to be billeted must be registered Unison Festival 2026 delegates. For listings that can accommodate two or more guests, a delegate may apply on behalf of themselves and their accompanying travel companions, such as another delegate, a partner, or a friend.

Q4. What is Unison's role in billeting?

Unison Choruses Canada provides the platform to share listings and facilitate introductions. Hosts and guests make arrangements directly with one another.

Q5. Does Unison screen billeting participants or homes?

No. Unison does not screen or verify hosts or guests, inspect homes, or evaluate suitability, safety, or accessibility.

Q6. When do new listings get posted to the website?

Billeting listings are created by individual hosts and posted as they are submitted. While Unison encourages participation through communications and outreach, we can't predict when listings will appear. New listings are added to the Billeting page on an ongoing basis and depend entirely on local participation.

Q7. Am I guaranteed a guest space if I apply?

No. Billeting availability depends entirely on local host participation. Unison cannot guarantee that billeting spaces will be available for everyone who applies.

Q8. What should I include in my guest application details?

It's helpful to include a brief introduction, where you're travelling from, your festival plans, and anything you think the host should know to decide if their space is a good fit.

Q9. How does the host decide who to have as a guest?

Hosts select the guests they feel are the best fit for their homes and circumstances. Hosts often consider requested dates, communication style, and anything you share in your application that feels like a good match.

Q10. How will I know if I've been selected?

If a host is interested in moving forward, they will contact you directly to confirm your interest and discuss details. If another delegate is selected, the Unison billeting coordinator will notify you by email.

Q11. How long does it usually take to hear back?

Response times vary depending on the number of applicants, but it can be about a week.

Q12. Can I cancel my application or decline an offer?

Yes. If you are in communication with a host and decide not to proceed, please let them know as soon as possible so they can offer the space to another delegate.

Q13. What if I need to cancel after confirming arrangements?

If your plans change after you've confirmed arrangements, you may cancel if you need to. Please let your host know as soon as possible so they can adjust their plans.

Q14. What if my arrangement with a host falls through?

If your host needs to cancel your arrangement, it's your responsibility to find alternate accommodation. You may wish to have a backup plan in place. Unison cannot arrange or secure alternative accommodation if a billeting arrangement is cancelled.

Q15. What level of interaction should I expect with my host?

There's no set expectation. Some hosts may enjoy spending time chatting with their guests, while others will have busy schedules. Guests should be comfortable being independent and respectful of their host's routines.

Q16. Can I extend my stay before or after the festival?

That depends on the host. If you're interested in staying additional nights, ask the host directly. Hosts are under no obligation to extend a stay, and arrangements are entirely at their discretion.

Q17. Can I give my host a thank-you gift?

Yes. A small, voluntary thank-you gift given at the end of your stay is perfectly fine.

Questions? billeting@unisonchoruses.ca
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