

# **BIO 2024 Housing Guidelines**

BIO is pleased to be partnering with Maritz Global Events again, as our official, exclusive housing provider for the 2024 BIO International Convention (BIO 2024). Accommodation requests are processed on a first-come, first-served basis and are based on availability.

The privacy and security of your personal information throughout the reservation process is very important to us.

## **Important Dates**

Housing is now open! RESERVE ROOM

**Rooming List Deadline**: All rooms in your block must have a name assigned and a credit card for <u>guarantee</u> by **April 29, 2024.** Any unassigned rooms will be released from your block at 5pm ET on April 29. At this time, your group pickup will be monitored and evaluated post event in accordance with the Attrition Cancellation Policy.

New Reservations: Requests for new reservations (based on availability) will be accepted through May 6, 2024.

Reservation Changes: Changes can be made online or by emailing the group coordinator through May 17, 2024.

Between the dates of May 18 - May 23, 2024 your reservations will be transferred to your confirmed hotel for processing.

Starting **May 24, 2024**, you may contact your confirmed hotel directly to make changes, cancellations and new reservations (based on availability).

#### **Securing Reservations**

Effective **Tuesday January 23, 2024**, accommodations can be reserved through the BIO Housing Website.

- Hotel reservations can be made through the Maritz Global Events website. View all the hotels available in the block with descriptions, photos, amenities, and exclusive promotions.
- In order to secure your room, a credit card valid through June 2024 is required. Maritz will <u>not</u> charge your credit card at the time of reservation. Some hotels will charge a 1 night's room and tax deposit 30 days prior to arrival.
- Some hotels will charge an early departure fee should date changes not be made in advance of your arrival at the hotel
- Reservations must be cancelled at least 72 hours prior to your scheduled arrival.

  If you cancel your reservation later than 72 hours before check-in and/or do not arrive at the hotel on the check-in date selected, you will be subject to two night's room, and tax fees, and your reservation will be cancelled. All reservations are subject to a one night's room and tax deposit, charged by the hotel, on or after May 6, 2024.
- If you are a travel agent representing an affiliated group, you must enter the group's name when booking. Otherwise, your reservation is subject to cancellation by BIO/Maritz.

#### **Group Reservations**

- The Maritz website allows for full group control. Blocks of 10 or more rooms can be requested and held, allowing you to add names at a later date.
- After your block request has been fulfilled, Group Contacts have the opportunity to send invitations to group members to complete their reservations.
- Group Contacts have the ability to guarantee payment by a master credit card or assign to each individual group member.
- If you need assistance with booking, please contact us at <u>BIOgroup@Maritz.com</u> or by phone at 864-658-5280.
- Please Note: All groups must be attending or exhibiting at the 2024 BIO International Convention. If the group is not attending BIO 2024, your reservation is subject to cancellation by BIO/Maritz.
- Maritz is also partnering with FHTglobal to provide international travel packages to the 2024 BIO International Conference.
  - The **FHTglobal** service is comprised of an "a la carte package" system which allows groups to design their travel packages based on what they need. **FHTglobal's** dedication is to ensure that the travel experience is as flawless as possible.
  - Below you will find more information on what is included in the options for packages:
    - Groups at BIO have a dedicated team that will be there to support all of their needs.
    - All Travel Services Include: Room, Tax, and Breakfast
    - Dedicated service professionals to support your group from start to finish from our offices in the USA, Europe and Asia
    - Registration support to help you or your participants register for the conference
    - Onsite team at San Diego hotels to make sure your guests stay is the last thing they need to worry about
    - Visa and travel support (as required) to help make the travel to the US as easy as possible
    - Support to get meeting space approval for your ancillary events outside of the main program Much more!
- Please reach out to with Laetitia Ghanime at <u>laetitia@fht.global</u> with FHT Global for any package inquiries.

## **Booking Requirements**

- All rooms require occupant names by April 29, 2024. Rooms without names are subject to cancellation.
- BIO/Maritz reserve the right to adjust your requested block to mirror historical patterns from 2023 and will approve a maximum 5% increase over your actual historical room usage from previous years. If such modification is made, BIO/Maritz will reach out to the Group Manager to confirm appropriate reservation levels. Please indicate the reason for an increased request on the block request website if you have special circumstances that warrant an increase of more than 5%
- PLEASE NOTE: If at least 70% of your requested room nights are not picked up, an attrition penalty may be charged. Any attrition fees may be invoiced directly to the group, which could be up to 90 days after the 2024 BIO International Convention. Room Block Attrition Penalty fees will be in addition to the Hotel Cancellation Policy. Attrition Penalty fees will be assessed post event by BIO. Hotel Cancellation Policies will be enforced and charged by the hotel during the cancellation period.

#### **Non-Restricted Hotels**

- Group contacts may request a reasonable number of rooms, based on past attendance, at the following San Diego hotels. Confirmation will be based on pick-up from the 2023 Convention:
  - Embassy Suites San Diego Bay
  - Four Points by Sheraton San Diego Downtown/Little Italy
  - Hard Rock Hotel
  - Hotel Indigo
  - Hotel Republic
  - Intercontinental
  - Pendry San Diego Hotel
  - Porto Vista Hotel
  - Residence Inn San Diego Downtown/ Gaslamp Quarter
  - San Diego Marriott Gaslamp
  - Margaritaville
  - SpringHill Suites San Diego Downtown/Bayfront
  - Westin San Diego
  - The US Grant
  - Westgate Hotel
  - Westin Gaslamp

#### **Restricted Hotels**

- Due to limited available accommodations, reservations are restricted to a maximum of twenty (20) rooms per night per company.
- Enforcement of this rule is in an effort to allow all companies the opportunity to secure a room within these properties.
- Any companies who book above 20 rooms total, via group and individual bookings, will have the remainder of their group placed at additional non-restricted properties.
  - Grand Hyatt San Diego
  - Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina
  - Hilton San Diego Bayfront
  - Omni San Diego
  - · Hilton San Diego Gaslamp Quarter
  - Staypineapple, Hotel Z, Gaslamp Quarter

BIOhousing@Maritz.com

- Andaz San Diego
- Courtvard San Diego Gaslamp Convention Center
- Moxy San Diego Downtown/Gaslamp Quarter

#### **Questions?**

Please contact Maritz as follows:

Email:

International Convention

• Phone: Monday – Friday, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM ET (864) 658-5392

# **WARNING: Unauthorized Housing Providers**

Maritz & FHTglobal are the *only* official housing companies associated with the 2024 BIO International Convention. Please look for the Official BIO 2024 Vendor logo when booking your housing. Reservations made through any company other than **Maritz** or by **FHTglobal**, are at your own risk.





While other hotel re-sellers may contact you offering housing for your trip, they are not endorsed by or affiliated with BIO and entering into financial agreements with such companies may have costly consequences.

Some of these unauthorized companies may even claim to be a partner of BIO or even outright falsely claim to be BIO's housing company. If you are contacted by a company that is not our official housing provider, or if you are ever unsure whether or not a company is legitimate, please immediately e-mail BIO at <a href="mailto:customercare@bio.org">customercare@bio.org</a>.

For your own protection, please do not make reservations through any unknown housing or travel company. There are many reported situations of false or deceptive activities by some of these third-party room block marketers. Here are some things to be aware of:

- Many of these groups cannot actually guarantee a reservation because they do not have contracts for room blocks within the 2024 BIO hotels. Instead, they will contact a housing wholesalerto see if anything is available that can be resold to you.
- Rooms booked through unauthorized housing companies must sometimes be fully prepaid.
   Rather than a one-night deposit, an unauthorized company may require payment of the full cost for the entire stay for each room booked at the time of booking.
- Reservation confirmations and numbers are often not available from these companies until less than a week before the arrival date. Even then, this may not guarantee that a room will be available when you arrive.
- Generally, these companies cannot secure a large block of rooms; only one or two at a time.
   Exhibitors and large delegations should be particularly wary, since they often need to book a group of rooms for their staff who will be exhibiting during or attending the Convention.
- Name changes on room reservations with unofficial wholesalers/room brokers may be difficult to make.
- BIO may not be able to assist attendees who have reserved rooms outside the block if
  problems result from booking through an unauthorized company. As a result of negotiated
  contracts with hotels, BIO is able to protect attendees should the hotel oversell the rooms or
  should issues arise with reservations made using BIO's official housing company -- Maritz.
- If the hotel determines a Convention attendee has been solicited or contacted by a wholesaler, then the room rate may be increased to match or exceed the BIO 2024 group rate, or the room reservation may even be canceled. In many instances, a rate quote from a room broker is not a guaranteed rate.