

For the Family

When arriving to a new base, you and your family may have concerns regarding housing, childcare, schools and medical service. Travis AFB and the surrounding communities offer a wide selection to meet the needs of a military family; so rest assured, you are in good care. We want you feel welcomed by your new Air Force family and we strive to make Travis your "Home Town."

Lodging

The Westwind Inn, Building 402, is located on Travis Avenue. Permanent Change of Station parties arriving after Military Personnel Flight is closed, (customer service hours, Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. or on a weekend or holiday) should check in at the 24-hour arrival point in the Westwind Inn Lodging Office. Otherwise, report to Military Personnel Customer Service on the first floor of Building 381 on Airlift Drive. Members will drop off personnel records and schedule in-processing appointments at Customer Service. For more information, call (707) 424-8359.

People traveling on official government orders are eligible to make reservations for transient quarters. Members or their sponsors can make reservations. Reservations can be made in person or by calling (707) 424-8000 or by going online at http://dodlodging.net/vt_travis.htm

Visiting Airmen Quarters and Visiting Officer Quarters are available for individuals traveling alone, according to their grade. Priority is given to military personnel and U.S. civilian employees traveling with official government orders and active-duty personnel on emergency leave. Foreign military or civilian personnel sponsored through security assistance under allied exchange or foreign liaison programs are also eligible. Retirees and military members who are traveling without official government orders may use the VAQs and VOQs on a space-available basis.

Contract quarters are available for those traveling with official government orders for use in the event transient quarters are full. For more information, contact the Westwind Inn at (707) 424-8000.

Temporary Lodging

Travis Temporary Lodging Facilities can comfortably accommodate families of five or less. The Lodging Office assigns these units to military members accompanied by their family members during a PCS move, leave or permissive temporary duty. Civilian and military friends and relatives of patients in Air Force hospitals and hospital outpatients are also eligible for TLF reservations. For more information on temporary lodging, call (707) 424-8000.

Dormitories

The Travis dormitory campus recently underwent a renovation that included new carpet and furniture, and upgrades to the bathrooms and day rooms. All single enlisted

personnel E-4 and below, with few exceptions, are required to live in on-base dormitories unless the occupancy rate is near capacity. Units will assign newcomers to a dorm by squadron. Dorms include recreation rooms on each floor as well as built-in closets, wall-to-wall carpeting and basic furniture in each room. Travis has 16 dormitories (1,207 rooms) of varying ages and configurations; the most common living arrangement is a single room for each enlisted member with a shared bathroom facility.

Housing on Travis Air Force Base

Military Housing Management Office

Your military housing management office can assist you with both on and off base housing questions. Located at the Airman and Family Readiness Center, Building 660, contact them directly at (707) 424-2726.

On-base Housing

Conveniently located within the Airman & Family Readiness Center, you can take care of all your housing needs in one location. Housing on base is privatized and is owned and managed by Balfour Beatty Communities. There are 1320 attractive homes in seven friendly neighborhoods. We offer two-, three- and four-bedroom homes in a variety of different styles and floor plans. A few of our community amenities include a dual dog park, interconnecting fitness trails, tot parks, water splash park and a brand new Community Center that is home to our LifeWorks Programs. We specially tailor the LifeWorks @ Balfour Beatty Communities program for the Team Travis community.

You will find a variety of activities, seminars, and events to help you get fit, challenge your mind, interact positively with others and enrich your life. Travis is fortunate to be able to offer townhomes to qualified unaccompanied military members; this unique program provides military members the opportunity to enjoy the Travis housing community.

With San Francisco only 50 minutes away, Napa Valley within 30 minutes and Sacramento just a short drive, our community is a great place to call home. Here at Travis, Balfour Beatty Communities' primary focus is on providing high quality homes and services and a welcoming community for our nation's military and their families.

The following numbers should provide you with answers to any questions you may have about housing on Travis Air Force Base:

Balfour Beatty Communities

Management Office

351 Travis Blvd., Building 660

Travis AFB, CA 94535

(877) 386-1108

Community Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.,
Wednesday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Balfour Beatty Facilities Management Office
151 Wyoming St.

Travis AFB, CA 94535 (707) 437-1230

Maintenance Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Self Help Store:
Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Balfour Beatty Community Center
1000 First St.

Travis AFB, CA 94535

(707) 207-3376

Community Center Hours: Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Reservations
available after hours)

For more information including FAQs, local schools, housing applications, current
waitlists, upcoming events and much more, visit us at:

<http://www.travisfamilyhousing.com>

Renting an Off-base Residence

Housing in the surrounding communities is readily available. Many of the apartment
complexes can be contacted through the ads in the Military Buyers Guide section of this
document. There are several Internet sites that provide information about apartment
and single-family housing, including <http://www.ahrn.com>. In addition, you may find off-
base housing by reading the local newspapers. The Daily Republic is the newspaper for
the Fairfield-Suisun City area and an online version can be found at
<http://www.dailyrepublic.com>. The Reporter is the newspaper for the Vacaville area and
you can find their online paper at <http://www.thereporter.com>.

When you move, you need to notify DEERS of your new address. You can do this at the
Military Personnel Flight and request to update your DEERS information.

You may request permissive TDY for house hunting through your unit and MPF.
Important documents to have on hand include: personnel records, household goods
shipping records, financial records and school records.

If you get married before you PCS, you must inform your commander. You may not be
reimbursed for your spouse's travel and housing expenses if you do not follow the
proper procedures.

Child Care

Travis has three Child Development Centers, which are all accredited by the National
Association for the Education of Young Children. Only seven percent of early childhood
programs nationwide have achieved this recognition, all three are among the few with
this accreditation in Northern California.

The centers provide developmental and educational care for infants, toddlers and
preschool children. Child development is available for dependents of active duty military

and Department of Defense civilians on a first-come, first-serve basis.

The centers use a reservation system to better meet the needs of as many parents and children as possible. Childcare fees are aligned with the military pay day to help families better manage their finances. Fees for care are based upon total family income. Verification of income is required to assess fees for child care.

Each child must have an Air Force Form 1181 (Emergency Care) and a United States Department of Agriculture form on file at the center for admission to the preschool. It is the parent's responsibility to keep all records updated. Each child must have reached his or her third birthday before admission to the preschool program. Full-time preschool classes are offered for children 3, 4 and 5 years old. Before and after school care is also available for kindergartner. Fees for care are based on total family income and verification of income is required.

CDC 1 is located on Illinois Street in Building 665, CDC 2 is located on Illinois Street in Building 668, and CDC 3 is located on Upson Street in Building 7690. For more information, call CDC 1 at (707) 424-0341, CDC 2 at (707) 424-5400, and CDC 3 at (707) 437-0553. Also visit <http://www.travisfss.com> for more information.

Family Child Care

Parents who prefer family-style childcare for their children also have that option available at Travis. The Family Child Care program, which has its offices in Building 251 on First Street, has a network of providers at Travis who offer quality childcare. In addition to weekday care, some of these homes provide before- and after-school care, weekend care and overnight care for active-duty parents who go TDY.

These home environments have a child-to-caregiver ratio that is much lower than the CDCs. Every FCC provider at Travis is licensed by the Air Force and has completed a mandatory training process, a rigorous review of records and security inspections by several base agencies. Personal training in various areas of child development, nutrition, safety, fire prevention, first aid and CPR are also mandatory. The FCC program also sponsors the United States Department of Agriculture Food Program for all providers to ensure nutritious meals and snacks for children in family childcare. Monitoring of FCC homes at Travis is a partnership between the parent, the FCC provider and the licensing agency. It is against Air Force regulations to provide full-time childcare in base housing without a license. For more details, call the FCC office at (707) 424-4596 or (707) 424-8104.

Private Child Care

More options are available beyond base-provided services for childcare. If you register at <http://www.care.com> you will receive information and lists of individuals that provide private care. This site also includes a list of private tutors and can also aid you in finding individuals that also take care of pets if you will be gone for extended periods of time.

Private providers can also be found using the local newspapers. Depending on the area in which you live, visit either <http://www.dailyrepublic.com> or <http://www.thereporter.com>

Travis Youth Center

The Travis Youth Center, located in Building 7763 on Fairchild Drive, has a comprehensive recreational program for dependent youth throughout the year. The center is open Monday through Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The center's objective is to provide a variety of wholesome recreational opportunities that reflect the diverse interests and needs of Travis youth. The facility includes a gymnasium, multi-purpose room and game room. A few of the Youth Center's special programs include:

- Before school, after school and interim care for children from first grade to 12 years of age
- Team sports such as soccer, basketball and baseball
- Classes in gymnastics, dance, piano, arts and crafts, drama and sewing
- Field trips to athletic events, theater performances, amusement parks and outdoor recreational activities

The center offers workshops, seminars, holiday theme parties, athletic events and special children's matinee movies for youth of various ages. The staff sponsors dances, tournaments, field trips, get-togethers, parties, contests, a job line, volunteer work programs and educational classes especially for teens.

The Teen Zone

The Teen Zone, located in the BX Mini-Mall, is where youth from 13 to 18 can hang out and participate in structured activities or study. The Teen Zone has a big-screen TV, computers and a video arcade. It is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. and on Wednesday, 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. Teens plan their own activities like air hockey, pool and foosball tournaments, parties and dances, outdoor recreational trips, bowling, teen night at the gym, and movies and videos. The Teen Center also offers educational classes and field trips for its members. Call (707) 424-3131 for more information or a schedule of activities.

The center recently opened a Boys and Girls Club at Travis. Teens 13 to 18 can take part in special activities as part of the five core programs mandated by the Boys and Girls Club of America: character and leadership development, education and career development, health and life skills, the arts and sports, and fitness and recreation. For more information, call the Youth Center at (707) 424-5392.

FAITH INTEREST

For some families, a common concern is that it will be difficult to find a church that is as comfortable as the one that is left behind. Many families feel unsure about where or how to find another church. You might have created close friendships with former church members and leaving often creates feelings of anxiety and a sense of loss.

It is very important to many to find a church in the area you are moving to as soon as possible. Just as your former church family was a source of support and encouragement to you in your previous home, keep in mind that a new church family can be a great source of comfort and help as you adjust to your new environment.

There are two chapels on base that offer a variety of religious services including worship services, counseling, weddings and youth ministries. For more information call Twin Peaks Chapel at (707) 424-3217 or the First Street Chapel at (707) 424-2651.

Ordained religious professionals offer confidential counseling for relational, spiritual, work-related, and other personal issues or concerns. Marriage and family counseling offers short-term counseling for those experiencing challenges in communication, conflict management, separation issues, parenting, and other marriage or family concerns is available. Pre-marital counseling helps couples develop their relationship and understand the challenges and opportunities of marriage. If being married by a Chaplain, couples meet to discuss communication, conflict resolution, marriage, improving and enriching their relationship, relationship with families of origin, finances, and other appropriate topics. Weddings are by appointment at base chapels. To get married in a Travis AFB Chapel, the bride or groom must have a valid military ID card. In order to obtain a more detailed explanation of eligibility, scheduling, counseling, clergy requirements, and prohibitions, please contact the staff at First Street Chapel at (707) 424-2651.

Both our Protestant and Catholic faith groups offer adult and children's religious education, youth groups/activities and a variety of Bible studies.

The chapel also sponsors an outreach ministry with and for dorm residents focused on addressing their spiritual, moral, and morale concerns. The Chapel offers periodical day and event trips for E-4 and below, and manages "The Peak," a cyber café and lounge that is open each evening from 6 p.m. through 10 p.m. "The Peak" offers free coffee, computer use, food, games and much more in Building 1348 of the dorm complex.

Finding a Church

If you are fortunate enough to have friends or family living in the area, ask them where they attend church or if they know of any in the area that meet your needs. If you have to look for a church, explore the local telephone book or online. If you have access to the Internet, visit <http://www.usachurch.com>. This site provides a comprehensive list of churches by denominations.

You can also contact your previous church to see if they have any information on the same denominational services in your new area. Your former church's leaders might also be able to make inquiries and point you in the right direction.

Becoming a Member

Becoming a member of a church is a very personal decision and should not be rushed. When you start your search keep the following in mind:

- It's not always best to select a church based on a few details, like size of membership, or proximity to your home. Sometimes you can find that the closest church, or the church that has the most members, just isn't the church that you were hoping to find.
- It's a good idea to attend services at several different churches, before you finally settle on one. Getting a preview of how each different service is run, and having the opportunity to meet members will help you make a decision.
- Make a list of all the things that you want to find in a church. Friendly people, shared faith, programs for children, women's Bible studies etc...
- Ask questions. Find out what's going on in the churches you attend. Are there special programs or services that you think you would enjoy? Is the congregation excited, motivated and spiritually alive? Are there members of the church with similar interests and hobbies? Are there other families with children? Does the church have a youth group? ...