JOIN (/en_US/rewards/join.html)



ACCOUNT

<u>(/en_US.html)</u> Privacy Policy

Related

Terms of Use (/en_US/legal/terms-of-use.html)

Best Western Rewards® Terms & Conditions (/en_US/legal/bwr-terms-conditions.html)

SMS Messaging Terms of Use (/en_US/legal/sms-messaging-terms-of-use.html)

BEST WESTERN INTERNATIONAL, INC. CONSUMER PRIVACY POLICY

Updated and Effective April 2023

This policy describes how Best Western International, Inc. and its subsidiaries including SureStay, Inc. ("BWI," "we," or "us"), collect, use, and share personal information. Please note that Best Western[®] branded hotels and properties ("Licensed Hotels") are independently owned and operated and are not owned, managed, or controlled by BWI. In addition, outside of the United States, companies that are not owned by BWI are sometimes permitted to license the Best Western[®] brands. Although these companies are referred to by BWI as "Affiliates" they are not under our ownership or control. When you provide information to a Licensed Hotel or to an Affiliate, those companies may have their own privacy practices and policies.

If you are visually impaired, you may access this notice through your web browser's audio readers.

You can select among various topics by clicking on the following options below:

Use and Processing of the Information We Collect

Sharing of Information

Choices

How We Protect Personal Information

How Long We Retain Information

Countries Used for Processing

Third Party Applications, Websites, and Social Media

Changes to this Privacy Policy

Additional Information for California Residents

Contact Information

Use And Processing Of The Information We Collect

The following chart provides examples of the type of information that we collect from you in a variety of contexts and how we use that information.

Context

Types of Information

Primary Purpose for Collection and Use of Information

Room Reservations

We collect your contact information, payment information, reservation information, and accommodation preferences. That information is collected directly from you when you make a room reservation. In a small number of cases we collect information about a guest's health. For example, a guest may voluntarily choose to provide information about a disability as part of a request for an accommodation preference. You are required to provide this information in order to complete a reservation. If you choose not to provide this information, we may be unable to complete your request.

We use your information in order to perform our contractual obligations, fulfill your requests for a reservation, and to take steps in anticipation of those obligations. In some jurisdictions we also need your information to comply with legal obligations to collect and maintain information about quests. We also have a legitimate interest in analyzing trends and patterns among guests. In the rare circumstances in which we collect information about a quest's health, that information is collected only for the purpose of accommodating a quest's needs and is used for no other purpose.

Best Western Rewards[®] ("BWR")

BWR is Best Western's loyalty rewards program. We collect your contact information, communication preferences, reservation history, redemption details, and partner loyalty program elections. Information is collected when you register for BWR, redeem reward points, make a hotel reservation, update your BWR account, or link your BWR account to a partner loyalty program. You are required to provide this information in order to participate in BWR. If you choose not to provide this information, we may be unable to provide you with BWR functionality.

We use your information in order to perform our contractual obligations to you. For example, we use the information to allow you to earn and redeem rewards, points, or credits in connection with loyalty programs. We also have a legitimate interest in marketing to you and analyzing trends and patterns among our rewards members. Per your express election and consent, store payment-related information for future reservations. View complete <u>BWR program</u> terms and conditions (/en US/legal/bwr-termsconditions.html).

Best Western Travel Card®

We collect your contact information and payment information when you purchase a Best Western Travel Card[®]. You are required to provide this information in order to complete a reservation. If you choose not to provide this information, we may be unable to complete your request.

We use your information in order to perform our contractual obligations to you. We also have a legitimate interest in marketing to you and analyzing trends and patterns among our Best Western Travel Card holders. View the complete Best Western Travel Card terms and conditions (/en US/offers/travel-card.html).

Cookies and First Party Tracking

We use cookies and clear GIFs. "Cookies" are small pieces of information that a website sends to a computer's hard drive while a website is viewed. In most cases, you are required to provide this information. If you choose to turn off first party cookies, the website may not function correctly.

We have a legitimate interest in making our website operate efficiently and analyzing trends and patterns among our website visitors.

Cookies and Third Party Tracking

We participate in behavior-based advertising. This means that a third party uses technology (e.g., a cookie) to collect information about your use of our website so that it can provide advertising about products and services tailored to your interests on our website or on other websites. The provision of this information is voluntary. You may choose to opt out of third party tracking through our Cookie Preferences Center (https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US.html#otsdk-btn).

We base the use of third party tracking, including behavioral advertising, on consent where required by law.

Email Interconnectivity

If you receive email from us, we use certain tools to capture data related to when you open our message, click on any links or banners it contains, or make reservations. The provision of this information is voluntary.

We have a legitimate interest in understanding how you interact with reservation confirmations. We base other email tracking on consent where required by law.

Customer Care

If you contact us with an issue we will collect your name and e-mail address, as well as any other content that you send to us in order to reply. If you choose not to provide this information, we may be unable to assist with your issue or question.

We have a legitimate interest in receiving and acting upon the information that you provide to us concerning issues that you raise.

Communications List

When you opt-in or sign up to receive communications, we collect your email address, postal address, or phone number for text messaging. If you choose not to provide this information, we may be unable to send you the requested communications.

We share information about our products and services or the products and services of other companies, if you consent to receive that information. We also have a legitimate interest in sharing information with you about our services and those of our partners.

Mobile Devices

We collect information from your mobile device such as unique identifying information broadcast from your device when visiting our websites or applications. In most cases, you are required to provide this information. If you choose not to provide this information the mobile website and app may not function correctly.

We have a legitimate interest in identifying unique visitors and in understanding how users interact with us on their mobile devices.

Partner Promotion

We collect information that you provide as part of co-branded promotions with other companies. For example, we collect information if you apply for a Best Western cobranded credit card. The provision of this information is voluntary, but please note that we may be unable to provide you with certain products or services if you choose not to provide this information.

We have a legitimate interest in fulfilling our promotions. That interest includes sharing your information with our partners to, among other things, determine your eligibility for a promotion.

Surveys

When you participate in a survey we collect information that you provide through the survey. The provision of this information is voluntary.

We have a legitimate interest in understanding your opinions and collecting information relevant to our organization to improve our services.

Sweepstakes, Promotions or Contests

When you participate in a sweepstakes, promotions, or a contest we collect information about you that includes contact information to notify you if you are selected. The provision of this information is voluntary.

We have a legitimate interest in operating sweepstakes. In some contexts we are also required by law to collect information about those that enter into our sweepstakes, and we have a legitimate interest in complying with those laws.

Text Messages to Licensed Hotels

Some Licensed Hotels may provide guests with the ability to communicate by text message or through a text-message-based automated platform concerning a guest's hotel stay. The provision of this information is voluntary. If you choose not to provide this information, the Licensed Hotel may not be able to communicate through text message. Licensed Hotels that provide quests with the ability to communicate by text message or through a text-messagebased automated platform concerning a quest's hotel stay request consent from the quest before communicating with quests about their stays and responding to guestinitiated text communications. Guests can ask the Licensed Hotel about its specific privacy practices.

Website Interactions

We use technology to monitor how you interact with our website. This may include the links you click on or information that you type into our online forms. The provision of this information is voluntary. You may choose to opt out of third party tracking through our Cookie Preferences Center (https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US.html#otsdk-btn).

We have a legitimate interest in understanding how you interact with our website to better improve it and to understand your preferences and interests in order to select offerings that you might find most useful.

Web Logs

We collect information, including your browser type, operating system, Internet Protocol (IP) address (a number that is automatically assigned to a computer when the Internet is used), domain name, click-activity, referring website, and/or a date/time stamp for visitors. In most cases, you are required to provide this information. If you choose not to provide this information the website may not function correctly.

We have a legitimate interest in monitoring our networks and the visitors to our websites. Among other things, it helps us understand which of our services is the most popular.

WiFi Access

Although we do not provide WiFi networks at Licensed Hotels, we do provide access to WiFi at BWI offices (e.g., our headquarters). We collect information about individuals that access those WiFi networks. If you choose to access the WiFi networks, the provision of this information is required.

We have a legitimate interest in providing WiFi networks and in collecting information for fraud and security purposes.

Employment Candidates

If you apply to work for us, we collect information necessary to evaluate your application. If you choose not to provide us with the requested information, we may be unable to process your application for employment.

We use information about prospective employees in connection with our legal obligations and our legitimate interest in evaluating candidates.

In addition to the information that we collect from you directly, we may also receive information about you from other sources, including business partners, BWR partners, Licensed Hotels, Affiliates, Travel Agents, Online Travel Websites, or publicly available sources. For example, if you make a reservation at one of our Licensed Hotels, that hotel transmits information to us as part of our legitimate interest in, among other things, maintaining a global reservation system and providing for customer service and support.

In addition to the purposes and uses described above, we use information in the following ways:

- For internal administrative purposes as well as to manage our relationships
- To conduct analytics.
- To identify you when you visit our websites or Licensed Hotels.
- To provide service to you and to improve our services and product offerings.
- To respond to inquiries related to support, employment opportunities, or other requests.
- To send marketing and promotional materials, including information relating to our products, services, sales, or promotions.
- To streamline the reservation or checkout process.
- To debug, identify and repair errors that impair existing intended functionality of our website and services.
- To detect and protect against malicious, deceptive, fraudulent, or illegal activity, including violation of our policies and terms and conditions, security incidents, and harm to the rights, property, or safety of our company and our users, employees, or others.
- To comply with our legal or regulatory obligations, to establish or exercise our rights, and to defend against a legal claim.
- For the safety and security of guests, staff, and other visitors.

Although the sections above describe our primary purpose in collecting your information, in many situations we have more than one purpose. For example, if you make a room reservation we collect your information so that we, or so that a Licensed Hotel, can perform a contract with you, but we also collect your information as we have a legitimate interest in maintaining your information after your transaction is complete so that we can quickly and easily respond to any questions about your stay. As a result, our collection and processing of your information may be based upon our need to perform a contract, our obligations under law, our legitimate interest in conducting our business, and/or your consent.

To the extent we maintain and use personal information in a deidentified form, we will not attempt to reidentify the information, except for the purpose of determining whether our deidentification processes satisfy our legal obligations.

Sharing Of Information

In addition to the specific situations discussed elsewhere in this policy, we disclose information in the following situations:

- Licensed Hotels and Affiliates. We share your information with the Licensed Hotels that will be fulfilling a reservation. We also share your information with Affiliates in the geographic area of a Licensed Hotel in which you have stayed or you intend to stay. Depending upon the context, Licensed Hotels and Affiliates use your information for a variety of purposes, including preparing for your stay, providing you with accommodations, marketing, or redeeming rewards points.
- **BWR Partners**. We share information with independent companies that we have partnered with or that are participants in our BWR program to allow you to earn and redeem rewards, points, or credits in connection with your BWR membership and in accordance with your chosen earning and spending preferences. For example, you may decide to select a particular airline partner through which you can earn BWR points. We also share information with independent companies if you have selected that you would like to receive promotions and marketing material from Best Western's third party-business partners.
- Partner Marketing and Promotions. We share information with independent companies if you have selected that you would like to receive promotions or marketing material from Best Western's third party-business partners. We also offer contests, sweepstakes, or other promotions with third party partners. If you decide to enter a contest, sweepstakes, or promotion that is sponsored by a third party partner, the information that you provide will be shared with us and with them. Their use

of your information is not governed by this privacy policy.

- **Travel Agents and Online Travel Websites**. We share your information with travel agents, and/or online travel websites that you use in order to process your reservation request and to comply with any requirements or needs of those entities.
- **Service Providers**. We share your information with service providers. Among other things, service providers help us to administer our databases, websites, marketing, communications, and surveys; service providers provide us with technical and logistical support; service providers process payments on our behalf; and service providers assist in the fulfillment of reservations and orders.
- **Public**. Some of our websites may provide the opportunity to post comments or reviews in a public forum. If you decide to submit information on these pages, that information may be publicly available.
- Other Disclosures without Your Consent. We may disclose information in response to subpoenas, warrants, or court orders, or in connection with any legal process, or to comply with relevant laws or for national security requirements within the United States or the other jurisdictions in which we operate. We may also share your information in order to establish or exercise our rights, to defend against a legal claim, to investigate, prevent, or take action regarding possible illegal activities, suspected fraud, safety of person or property, or a violation of our policies, or to comply with your request for the shipment of products to or the provision of services by a third party intermediary. We also may share information with our corporate affiliates (e.g., subsidiaries, joint ventures, or other companies under common ownership or control). In addition, if another company acquires or plans to acquire our company, business, or our assets, we will also share information with that company, including at the negotiation stage.
- Other Disclosures with Your Consent. We may ask if you would like us to share your information with other unaffiliated third parties who are not described elsewhere in this policy.

Choices

You can make the following choices regarding your personal information:

- **Promotional Emails**. You can stop receiving promotional emails by following the unsubscribe instructions in e-mails that you receive. If you decide not to receive promotional emails, we may still send you service related communications.
- **Promotional Mailings.** If at any time you do not want to receive offers and/or circulars from us you can remove yourself from our mailing lists by emailing us (our contact information is below) with "NO SNAIL MAIL" in the subject line along with your name, address and zip code. Please note that our mailings are prepared in advance of their being sent. Although we will remove your name from our mailing list after receiving your request, you may still receive mailings from us that had been initiated prior to your name being removed.
- **Promotional Text Messages.** If you receive a text message from us that contains promotional information you can opt-out of receiving future text messages by replying "STOP."
- Access to Your Personal Information. You can request access to your personal information by completing and submitting a Request Form (/en_US/legal/privacy-form.html). If required by law, upon request, we will grant you access to the personal information that we have about you.
- Changes to Your Personal Information. We rely on you to update and correct your personal information. Most of our websites allow you to modify or delete your account profile. Note that we may keep historical information in our backup files as permitted by law. If our website does not permit you to update or correct certain information you can request that your information be changed by completing and submitting a Request Form (/en US/legal/privacy-form.html). If required by law, upon request, we will grant your request.
- **Deletion of Your Personal Information**. You can request information about how long we keep a specific type of information by contacting us at the address described below. You can request that your information be deleted by completing and submitting a <u>Request Form (/en_US/legal/privacy-form.html)</u>. If required by law we will delete your personal information after such a request is made.

You should note that there are some situations in which we may decline to delete your information. For example, we may keep your personal information as needed to comply with our legal obligations, resolve disputes, and/or enforce any of our agreements.

- **Opt-out of Targeted Advertising.** You may opt-out of online tracking based targeted advertising (e.g., cookies) by clicking the cookie settings link here or the "Do Not Share" link on our homepage. Please note that if you change browsers or computers, or if you clear your browser's cache, you may need to click the link again to apply your preference. You may also opt-out of other forms of targeted advertising by submitting a <u>Request Form (/en US/legal/privacy-form.html).</u>
- **Revoking Consent or Objecting to Processing**. You can revoke consent to processing (where such processing is based upon consent) or object to our processing by completing and submitting a Request Form (/en US/legal/privacy-form.html). If you revoke consent or object to further processing we may no longer be able to provide you services.
- **Online Tracking.** We do not currently recognize automated browser signals regarding tracking mechanisms, which may include "Do Not Track" instructions.

Please note, not all of the rights described above are absolute, and they do not apply in all circumstances. In some cases, we may limit or deny your request if the law permits or requires us to do so, or if we are unable to adequately verify your identity. We will not discriminate against individuals who exercise their privacy rights under applicable law.

Submitting Requests

If you do not want to submit a request through our online web portal <u>Request Form (/en_US/legal/privacy-form.html)</u>, please address written requests and questions about your rights to <u>privacy@bestwestern.com</u> (<u>mailto:privacy@bestwestern.com</u>) or call us at 1-800-528-1238. An authorized agent submitting a request on behalf of an individual must submit a request through our Request Form. If you are a former employee of BWI please use the email address or telephone number listed above.

Note that if you submit a request, we will, as required by law, require you to prove your identity. We will verify your identity by comparing the information you provide when submitting your request with the information in our database. Depending on your request, we may ask for additional information such as the email address you used to create your BWR account, the phone number you used to book your room reservation, and your past stay history. We may also ask you to provide a signed declaration confirming your identity.

In some circumstances, you may designate an authorized agent to submit requests to exercise certain privacy rights on your behalf. In order to confirm that you have indeed authorized an agent to make the request on your behalf, we will require verification that you provided the authorized agent permission to make a request on your behalf, including a copy of the signed permission you have given to the authorized agent and verification of your own identity directly with us. If you are an authorized agent submitting a request on behalf of an individual you must submit a request through our Request Form (/en US/legal/privacy-form/privacy-form-ca-representative.html) and affirm that you are an authorized representative of the requesting party. After receiving your request, we will contact you by e-mail with respect to the documentation and verification we require for submitting a request on behalf of someone else.

If you disagree with how we handled a request, you may appeal our decision by emailing us with the subject line "Appeal."

How We Protect Personal Information

No method of transmission over the Internet or of electronic storage is fully secure. While we use reasonable efforts to protect your personal information from unauthorized access, use, or disclosure, we cannot guarantee the security of your personal information. In the event that we are required by law to

inform you of any breach to your personal information we may notify you electronically, in writing, or by telephone, if permitted to do so by law.

Some of our websites permit you to create an account. When you do you will be prompted to create a password. You are responsible for maintaining the confidentiality of your password, and you are responsible for any access to or use of your account by someone else that has obtained your password, whether or not such access or use has been authorized by you. You should notify us of any unauthorized use of your password or account.

How Long We Retain Information

We retain your personal information for the period necessary to fulfill the purposes outlined in this policy, including for the purposes of satisfying any legal, accounting, or reporting requirements, unless a longer retention period is required or permitted by law. For example, we retain BWR information for as long as an individual remains a BWR member because BWR points do not expire and the information is needed in order to allow the individual to redeem their rewards. We retain information in our reservation system, in full or in summary form, for three years following a guest's departure in order to process your reservation, provide post-reservation customer support, and provide invoicing and recordkeeping. We typically retain information in our customer care complaint system for three years after receipt, unless the information is needed for an ongoing purpose such as to address an open issue.

Countries Used For Processing

BWI operates from the United States in accordance with the laws of the United States. Individuals that provide information to BWI or visit BWI's website should be aware that the laws of the United States may differ from those of your country of residence. For example, there may be situations in which we are required to share your information with United States law enforcement personnel. The following provides additional information for data received by BWI from other countries or transmitted by BWI to other countries:

• Transmission of Information from the European Union or United Kingdom. If BWI transmits your information to a processor outside of the EEA or United Kingdom, BWI will take steps to ensure that the processor complies with the substantive principles of the GDPR. If you would like more information concerning the protections applied for a particular onward transfer you can contact us using the information below. If you feel that BWI has mishandled your personal information, please contact BWI using the contact information below with a written description of your complaint. After receiving such written description, a representative from BWI's Customer Care Department will contact you to set up a time and manner to discuss your complaint. BWI is dedicated to addressing all legitimate complaints about its treatment of your personal information and will make a good faith effort to engage in communications to address such complaints.

BWI generally attempts to utilize the Standard Contractual Clauses approved by the European Commission or the International Data Transfer Agreement approved by the Information Commissioner's Office for the transfer of personal information from the EEA or UK, as applicable, to countries that have not adopted similar data privacy laws. If you are located in the EEA, you may request a copy of any Standard Contractual Clauses we use for the transfer of your data outside of the EEA, which includes the categories of information transferred by contacting us using the contact information below. If Standard Contractual Clauses or an International Data Transfer Agreement has not been adopted, or has been found insufficient, BWI transfers personal information outside of Europe and the UK, as applicable, based upon the following:

- **Reservations made with BWI.** By booking a reservation, or providing your information to BWI, you are transferring information directly to BWI in the United States, which is a form of processing that you are choosing to undergo, and you recognize that the United States may not offer the same level of privacy protections as your home country.
- **Reservations made with Affiliates.** Transferring personal information from an Affiliate in Europe or the UK to BWI in the United States (and onward to the location of your

reservation) is necessary for the conclusion or performance of your contractual relationship with a Licensed Hotel.

• Transmission of Information to Other Countries. In addition to having your information transferred to the United States where BWI is located, if you are making a reservation at a Licensed Hotel in a foreign country your information will be sent to that hotel, as well as to any Affiliate associated with that hotel. In addition, we may send your information to a vendor or partner in a foreign country for purposes of administering our BWR program and marketing efforts.

Third Party Applications, Websites, and Social Media

For your convenience, we may provide links to websites and other third-party content or services that we do not own or operate. The websites and third-party content to which we link may have separate privacy notices or policies. We have no control over the privacy practices of websites or applications that we do not own. Our websites or our communications may also contain plug-ins and other features that integrate third party social media platforms. If you interact with these, the third parties who operate these platforms may be able to identify you, determine how you use our website, and link and store this information with your social media profile. We encourage you to review the privacy policies of any third-party website or application for details about such third party's privacy practices.

Changes to This Privacy Policy.

We may change our privacy policy and practices over time. When we make changes to the policy, we will change the "Updated and Effective" date at the beginning of this policy, and we will provide any other form of notice as may be required by law. All changes shall be effective from the date we post the revised policy.

Information for California Residents.

California law requires us to disclose additional information related to our privacy practices. If you are a California resident, please click https://en_us/legal/privacy-policy/ccpa.html) to learn more about how we use and process your personal information.

Contact Information

We will attempt to respond to any questions, comments, or complaints concerning our privacy practices. Please feel free to contact us using the following information.

<u>Custserv@CS.Bestwestern.com (mailto:Custserv@CS.Bestwestern.com)</u>

1-800-528-1238

Best Western International, Inc.

Customer Care Department

P.O. Box 10203

Phoenix, Arizona 85064

Attn: Customer Care

Best Western International, Inc.

Antareslaan 11

2132 JE Hoofddorp

The Netherlands

Attn: Legal Department

(BWI representative in the EU)

Please note that e-mail communications will not necessarily be secure; accordingly you should not include Payment Information or Sensitive Information in e-mail correspondence to us.

If you are not satisfied with our response, and are in the European Union or the United Kingdom, you may have a right to lodge a complaint with your local supervisory authority.

Discover

Offers & Discounts (/en_US/offers/hotel-discounts.html)

Worldwide Destinations (/en US/hotels/destinations.html)

Group Reservations
(/en US/reservations/groups.html)

Low Rate Guarantee (/en US/hotels/discover-best-western/low-rate-guarantee.html)

<u>Best Western Gift Card (/en_US/offers/travel-card.html)</u>

<u>Travel Professionals (/en_US/travel-professionals.html)</u>

<u>Affiliate Program (/en_US/about/affiliate-program.html)</u>

Rewards

Join (/en_US/rewards/join.html)

Earn (/en_US/best-western-rewards/earn-

<u>rewards.html)</u>

Redeem (/en US/rewards/redeem-

points.html)

Credit Card (/en_US/offers/hotel-

discounts/best-western-rewards-

mastercard.html)

Best Western Business Advantage

(/en_US/best-western-rewards/business-

advantage.html)

About

<u>Our Brands (/en_US/hotels/discover-bestwestern/brands.html)</u>

About BWH Hotels (/en_US/about.html)

<u>Hotel Developers</u>

(https://www.bestwesterndevelopers.com)

Press & Media (/en US/about/press-media.htm

Corporate Careers (/en_US/about/careers.html)

Hotel Jobs

(https://bestwesternhoteljobs.recruiting.com/)

Earth, People, Community

(https://www.bwhhotelgroup.com/content/bwh

hotelgroup/en_US/about/earth-people-

community.html)

BW To Go® App

Download Today

(/en US/hotels/discov

bestwestern/mobileapps.html)

<u>Privacy Policy (/en_US/popup/policy.popups.html)</u> | <u>Terms of Use (/en_US/popup/terms-of-use.popups.html)</u> | <u>Web_Accessibility (/en_US/popup/web-accessibility.popups.html)</u> | <u>Cookie Settings</u>

Each Best Western® branded hotel is independently owned and operated. © 2002–2023 Best Western International, Inc. All rights reserved.
†Numbers are approximate, may fluctuate and include hotels currently in the development pipeline.

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