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Steamboat Springs vacation rental checklist

Routt County, Colorado | Rules checked November 8, 2026

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Steamboat Springs requires a $350 yearly license. Zone A is open, Zone B has small caps, and Zone C allows no new whole-home rentals (hosted rentals are allowed everywhere). Applications include a parking and snow storage plan and a self-inspection affidavit. Stays owe 18.4% in taxes, including a voter-approved 9% STR tax, or 20.4% inside the marketing district.

Licensing steps

STATE OF COLORADO

- [ ] **Get a state sales tax license**
  If you rent rooms or a home for stays under 30 days, Colorado requires a sales tax license from the Department of Revenue. Platforms like Airbnb collect the state and state-administered taxes on their bookings; you file for anything booked directly.
  MyBiz Colorado: https://mybiz.colorado.gov/

- [ ] **Check for home-rule city taxes**
  Many cities and mountain towns collect their own sales and lodging taxes. Platforms aren't required by the state to collect these, so you may need a separate city tax license and returns.

- [ ] **Get your county or city rental license**
  Most Colorado mountain counties and towns, and Denver, require a short-term rental license or permit, often with an inspection, an occupancy limit, posted information, and a local responder. Pick your area for the rules.

ROUTT COUNTY, COLORADO

- [ ] **Then your town or area**
  Each town licenses its own short-term rentals and collects its own taxes; outside town limits the county's rules apply. Pick your area.

CITY OF STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

- [ ] **Check your zone**
  Use the city's interactive map (Zoning Districts layer). Zone A has no cap; Zone B is capped by subzone; Zone C allows no new short-term rentals. Hosted and temporary rentals are allowed in every zone.

- [ ] **Draw the parking and snow storage plan**
  Show where guests park and where snow goes. No more than six vehicles outside a garage overnight, on an all-weather surface, never in the street right-of-way.

- [ ] **Apply in CityView**
  Submit the application, acknowledgement form, self-inspection checklist affidavit, and parking plan through the CityView portal and pay $350. Name a local responsible party who answers complaints within an hour.
  Steamboat STR licensing: https://steamboatsprings.net/1360/Licensing

- [ ] **Post the license and rules notice**
  Post the license and a notice with the responsible party's 24-hour contact, maximum guests and vehicles, parking locations, and trash, camping, and noise rules. The city has a fillable form.

- [ ] **Taxes on each stay**
  Stays under 30 days owe 18.4%: 2.9% state, 1% county, and the city's 4.5% sales, 1% accommodations, and 9% STR taxes (plus 2% inside the Local Marketing District). Airbnb and other platforms collect the state and state-administered taxes on their bookings; for direct bookings, file with the Colorado Department of Revenue. Steamboat collects its own taxes; file city returns through Xpress Bill Pay, and ask the city whether Airbnb collects them for you.

Fees

$350 a year

Short-term rental license or renewal	**$350**

Inspection checklist

- [ ] **Self-inspection checklist affidavit.** At application and each renewal.

Who to contact

Steamboat STR technician: 970-871-8278
STR email: pross@steamboatsprings.net
Sales tax: salestax@steamboatsprings.net

Steamboat Springs asks for drawings with your application.
Make the site sketch, floor plans, and evacuation maps to scale from your measurements at FireEscapePlan.com.

Official sources

Colorado Department of Revenue: Sales & Use Tax Topics: Rooms & Accommodations-
. https://tax.colorado.gov/sales-use-tax-topics-rooms-accommodations

Colorado Department of Revenue: Sales Tax Guide and Colorado Sales/Use Tax Rates (DR 1002)-
. https://tax.colorado.gov/sites/tax/files/Sales%2011.pdf

City of Steamboat Springs: Rules and Regulations. https://www.steamboatsprings.net/1361/Rules-Regulations

City of Steamboat Springs: Licensing. https://steamboatsprings.net/1360/Licensing

City of Steamboat Springs: Municipal Tax. https://steamboatsprings.net/119/Municipal-Tax