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Miami Beach vacation rental checklist

Miami-Dade County, Florida | Rules checked November 4, 2026

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Miami Beach bans short-term rentals (under six months and one day) in all single-family homes and in many apartment and condo buildings. They're allowed only in listed zoning districts and buildings, with a city short-term rental business tax receipt and a resort tax account; you file the 4% resort tax yourself, including on Airbnb bookings. Every ad must show both numbers.

> Resiliency Code 7.5.4.13(d)(E) and 7.5.4.11(a). Miami Beach has some of the strictest enforcement in Florida; the city didn't publish its current fine amounts, so ask Code Compliance.

Licensing steps

STATE OF FLORIDA

- [ ] **Get the DBPR vacation rental license**
  Apply online to the Division of Hotels and Restaurants as a Vacation Rental – Condominium or Vacation Rental – Dwelling, listing every unit address. Approval usually takes one to two business days and the license is emailed. There is no inspection before it's issued, but DBPR can inspect afterward. Post the license (or a copy) in the unit.
  DBPR vacation rental licensing guide: https://www2.myfloridalicense.com/hotels-restaurants/licensing/vrtsp-guide/

- [ ] **Renew every year by your district's date**
  Licenses renew on a set date for each DBPR district. Brevard, Volusia, Indian River, St. Lucie, Orange, Osceola, Lake, and Seminole (District 4) renew April 1, with the half-year rate from October 1. Duval, Nassau, Clay, Flagler, St. Johns, Levy, Alachua, Marion, and the rest of District 5 renew June 1, with the half-year rate from December 1. Bay, Walton, Okaloosa, Escambia, Santa Rosa, Gulf, Franklin, and the rest of District 6 also renew June 1. Martin, Palm Beach, and Broward (District 2) renew December 1, with the half-year rate from June 1. Miami-Dade and Monroe (District 1) renew October 1, with the half-year rate from April 1. Collier, Lee, Sarasota, Charlotte, Manatee, and the rest of District 7 renew December 1, with the half-year rate from June 1. Pinellas, Hillsborough, Pasco, Polk, Hernando, Citrus, and the rest of District 3 renew February 1, with the half-year rate from August 1. If you won't rent until after the next renewal date, waiting to apply can save paying twice.

- [ ] **Register for Florida sales tax if you collect rent yourself**
  Whoever receives the rent collects and pays the tax. Airbnb and VRBO collect Florida's 6% tax and the county surtax on bookings made through them, so if every booking goes through them you don't need your own sales tax account. If you take direct bookings, or a property manager collects rent for you, you or the manager register with the Department of Revenue and file. You stay responsible if a platform or manager doesn't pay it.
  Florida Department of Revenue: https://floridarevenue.com/

- [ ] **Meet the state fire safety rule**
  Florida Administrative Code 69A-43.018 asks rental homes for smoke alarms powered by the house wiring plus one in every bedroom, NFPA 10 extinguishers, one hour of battery emergency lighting to the main exit, a posted floor diagram showing the primary and secondary exits, and fire safety information for guests.
  Florida rental fire safety checklist (FireEscapePlan.com)-
  : https://fireescapeplan.com/guides/florida-vacation-rental-fire-safety-requirements

- [ ] **Balcony inspection for taller buildings**
  Buildings three or more stories tall must file a Certificate of Balcony Inspection with DBPR every three years. Condo units are exempt when the balconies and stairs are common elements and you give DBPR proof.

- [ ] **Keep up the state operating rules**
  Keep the unit clean, safe, and free of pests; change sheets and pillowcases between guests or weekly; use cribs that meet federal safety standards; and sanitize dishes between guests or post DBPR's exception notice.
- [ ] **Then the county and town**
  Most rules that affect day-to-day operation, like registration, inspections, occupancy, and parking, are set by the county and the town. Pick your town for its full checklist.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

- [ ] **Register for the tourist taxes if you take direct bookings**
  Hotels and rental living accommodations collect the county's tourist and convention development taxes. If guests pay you directly, register with the Tax Collector and file a return every month, even if you collected nothing. Taxes are due the 1st of the next month and late if not postmarked by the 20th. The collection allowance applies only to returns filed online through TouristExpress.
  Miami-Dade tourist taxes: https://www.miamidade.gov/taxcollector/tourist-taxes.asp
- [ ] **Check which taxes apply to your city**
  Airbnb collects the county's 2% tourist development, 1% sports facility, and 3% convention development taxes, but not in Surfside or Bal Harbour, and only the 3% convention tax in Miami Beach. Those three cities collect their own resort taxes; see your city's page.
- [ ] **Then your city**
  Miami-Dade has 34 cities with very different rules, from outright bans to no rules at all. Outside the cities, the county requires its own certificate of use. Pick your city for its checklist.

CITY OF MIAMI BEACH

- [ ] **Check that your address is allowed**
  Look up the address on the city's Practice Safe Renting tool and the short-term rental zoning map. Single-family homes never qualify. In a condo, you also need a letter from the association confirming transient rentals are allowed at your address.
  Practice Safe Renting address check: https://apps.miamibeachfl.gov/practicesaferenting
- [ ] **Get the state license and county tax account**
  Every Florida vacation rental needs the DBPR license. If you take any direct bookings, you also file Miami-Dade's tourist taxes with the county Tax Collector (or your city's resort tax in Miami Beach, Surfside, and Bal Harbour). See the Florida and Miami-Dade County pages.
- [ ] **Get the short-term rental business tax receipt and resort tax account**
  Register an account on the city's self-service portal and register the property as a business. Only unit owners can get a transient rental business tax receipt, not tenants.
  Miami Beach self-service portal: https://energovcss.miamibeachfl.gov/energovprod/selfservice#/register
- [ ] **File the resort tax every month**
  The 4% resort tax is due by the 20th for the prior month, even when you owe nothing ($50 late filing fee). Include sales made through Airbnb and other platforms. Late returns lose the 2% collection allowance and owe a 10% monthly penalty plus 1% interest. The county's 3% convention development tax also applies in Miami Beach.
  File and pay resort tax online: https://resorttax.miamibeachfl.gov/app
- [ ] **Show both numbers in every ad**
  Display your city business tax receipt number and resort tax certificate number in every listing.

Who to contact

Customer Service Center: 305-673-7420
Email: mbhelp@miamibeachfl.gov
Code Compliance: 305-673-7555
Tax Collector (tourist taxes): 311

Official sources

Florida DBPR, Division of Hotels and Restaurants: Vacation rental and timeshare project licensing guide-. https://www2.myfloridalicense.com/hotels-restaurants/licensing/vrtsp-guide/

Florida Department of Revenue (Florida Administrative Code): Rule 12A-1.061, sales tax on transient rentals (registration in part (9)). https://www.flrules.org/gateway/ruleNo.asp?id=12A-1.061

State Fire Marshal (Florida Administrative Code): Rule 69A-43.018, fire safety for one- and two-family homes licensed as public lodging. https://www.flrules.org/gateway/ruleNo.asp?id=69A-43.018

Florida DBPR: Certificate of Balcony Inspection (DBPR HR 7020)-. https://www2.myfloridalicense.com/hr/forms/documents/dbpr_hr_7020_certificate_of_balcony_inspection.pdf

Miami-Dade County Tax Collector: Tourist and restaurant taxes. https://www.miamidade.gov/taxcollector/tourist-taxes.asp

Airbnb: Occupancy tax collection and remittance in Florida. https://www.airbnb.com/help/article/2301

City of Miami Beach: Vacation and short-term rentals. https://www.miamibeachfl.gov/business/vacation-short-term-rentals/

City of Miami Beach: File and pay resort tax. https://miamibeachfl.gov/city-hall/finance/filepay-resort-tax

City of Miami Beach: Apartment buildings authorized for short-term rental-. https://www.miamibeachfl.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/CMB-Apartment-Buildings-Authorized-for-Short-Term-Rental-List.pdf

City of Miami Beach: Short-term rental zoning map. https://www.miamibeachfl.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Short-Term-Rentals-3.pdf