LICENSEDRENTAL.COM

Cartersville vacation rental checklist

Bartow County, Georgia | Rules checked November 6, 2026

Scan for the latest version

We found no short-term rental permit or rules in Cartersville's code. Stays owe 7% sales tax + 8% hotel-motel tax + $5/night; Airbnb collects these on its bookings.

> We searched the city code in November 2026 and found no short-term rental permit. Many lake homes with Cartersville addresses are in unincorporated Bartow County, under county standards. Confirm with the City of Cartersville before you list.

Licensing steps

STATE OF GEORGIA

- [ ] **Know what the platform collects**
  Airbnb collects state and local sales tax, the $5-a-night state hotel-motel fee, and the local hotel-motel tax on its Georgia bookings. Ask any other platform what it collects, and keep records either way.
- [ ] **Register for direct bookings**
  If guests book and pay you directly, register for sales tax with the Georgia Tax Center and file the local hotel-motel tax with your city or county. If your city or county requires a business license or occupation tax for the rental, the DOR treats you as an innkeeper and you also owe the $5 state fee on direct bookings.
  Georgia Tax Center: https://gtc.dor.ga.gov/
- [ ] **Check your city or county**
  Most of the rules are local: short-term rental permits, business licenses (occupation tax), zoning limits, and caps. Some cities ban rentals in residential zones. Pick your area.

BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA

- [ ] **Then your city or area**
  Inside a city, the city's own hotel-motel tax normally applies instead of the county's; ask your city to confirm. Pick your area.

CITY OF CARTERSVILLE

- [ ] **Taxes on each stay**
  Stays here owe 7% sales tax, the local hotel-motel tax, and the $5-a-night state fee. Airbnb collects all three on its bookings. For direct bookings, file sales tax (and the $5 fee, if you need a local license) with the Georgia Tax Center. The city's hotel-motel tax covers short-term rentals, and marketplace operators register with the city clerk; for direct bookings, file the City of Cartersville's 8% tax with the city.
- [ ] **Ask about zoning and a business license**
  Ask the City of Cartersville whether zoning allows a short-term rental at your address and whether you need a business license (occupation tax certificate). Check your HOA rules too.

Official sources

Airbnb: Occupancy tax collection and remittance by Airbnb in Georgia. https://www.airbnb.com/help/article/2745

Georgia Department of Revenue: Rule 560-13-2-.01 amendment notice (2025)-
. https://dor.georgia.gov/document/document/notice-fet-2025-01-rule-560-13-2-01-state-hotel-motel-feepdf/download

Georgia Department of Community Affairs: Hotel/motel excise tax rates and revenue report-
. https://dca.georgia.gov/document/document/hotel-motel-tax-revenue-report/download

City of Cartersville (Municode): Code section.
https://library.municode.com/ga/cartersville/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=COOR_CH10LITAMIBURE_ARTIIIHOTAVTRPATA_S10-46REOPMAOPFOCO