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LaGrange vacation rental checklist

Troup County, Georgia | Rules checked November 6, 2026

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LaGrange allows short-term rentals by right only in its mixed-use districts and by special use permit in single-family zones, with a 1,000-foot spacing rule. Since 2026 the city issues no more than five new permits a year, and each rental needs a $75 inspection, a $250 yearly permit, and $500,000 in liability insurance.

> Fines are up to $250, $500, then $1,000 with an 18-month revocation for violations in a 12-month period. Permits don't transfer with a sale.

> Post a notice inside the front door with the owner and local contact, nearest hospital, occupancy and vehicle limits, trash day, and quiet hours.

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.

TROUP COUNTY, GEORGIA

- [ ] **Then your city or area**
  Each city and the county set their own rules. Pick your area.

CITY OF LAGRANGE

- [ ] **Check zoning and spacing**
  Rentals must be at least 1,000 feet from another short-term rental (property line to property line), except in the downtown DT-MX district. In ES-R, SU-R, and TN-R you need a special use permit from the mayor and council.
- [ ] **Pass the inspection**
  Ask the city building official for an inspection ($75, nonrefundable) before you apply. It repeats every five years.
- [ ] **Apply for the permit**
  Apply to Community Development with ownership details, a local contact (25 or older), bedrooms and maximum occupancy, maximum vehicles (one per bedroom), proof of $500,000 liability insurance, and a sworn form confirming the posted notice and a letter to owners within 500 feet. The fee is $250, then $250 a year; renew by January 1 (late fees after April 1).

- [ ] **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. File LaGrange's 8% hotel-motel tax with the City of LaGrange for direct bookings.

Inspection checklist

- [ ] **Two means of egress from every bedroom, including an operable 5.7 sq ft window or exterior door.**
- [ ] **Interconnected smoke detectors in every bedroom, adjoining hallway, and common area.**
- [ ] **Carbon monoxide detector outside each bedroom if the home has natural gas.**
- [ ] **Charged fire extinguisher on each floor.**
- [ ] **One three-quarter bathroom for every two bedrooms.**
- [ ] **Exterior cameras at each entry, with 30 days of footage.**
- [ ] **House number visible from the street.**

House rules for guests

Quiet hours: 10 p.m. to 7 a.m.

Parking: 1 vehicle per bedroom, garage or paved only

Renter: A responsible renter 25 or older

Local contact: Responds within 1 hour, 24/7

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

City of LaGrange (Municode): Unified Development Ordinance §25B-30-8(b): short-term rentals.
https://library.municode.com/ga/lagrange/codes/unified_development_ordinance?nodeId=TIT25LAUNDEOR_TIT25BLAUSZO_CH25B-30SUUSST_S25B-30-8

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

LaGrange Daily News: LaGrange approves updated short-term rental ordinance (November 15, 2024). https://lagrangenews.com/?p=157191