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Elgin vacation rental checklist

Bastrop County, Texas | Rules checked November 8, 2026

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Elgin has a vacation rental market, but couldn't confirm its short-term rental rules online. Stays owe 6% state + 7% city + 0.75% county hotel tax. Ask the city before you list.

> We didn't research Elgin's rules in November 2026. Ask the city.

Licensing steps

STATE OF TEXAS

- [ ] **Know who pays the hotel tax**
  Airbnb collects and pays the 6% state hotel tax on its bookings. If guests pay you directly or through a site that doesn't collect, register with the Comptroller and file the state tax yourself.
  Texas hotel occupancy tax: https://comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/hotel/
- [ ] **Register for local hotel tax**
  Your city (and in some places your county) charges its own hotel tax, filed with that city or county, not the state. Airbnb pays it only in the places on its list; everywhere else you register and file it yourself, even for Airbnb bookings.
- [ ] **Check your city's rules**
  Many Texas cities require a short-term rental permit or registration, and some require an inspection, a local contact, or posted rules. Outside city limits there's usually no permit, but deed restrictions and HOA rules often limit rentals. Pick your area for the local rules.

BASTROP COUNTY, TEXAS

- [ ] **Then your city**
  Texas counties can't zone, so rental rules come from the city your home is in. Outside city limits there's usually no permit, but deed restrictions and HOA rules may limit rentals. Pick your city.
- [ ] **Hotel taxes on each stay**
  Stays of 29 nights or less owe the 6% state hotel tax, which Airbnb collects on its bookings. If guests pay you directly, file it with the Texas Comptroller. Register with Bastrop County and file its hotel tax online through Localgov: 7% outside city limits and ETJs, 0.75% inside them. Airbnb doesn't collect it.

CITY OF ELGIN

- [ ] **Ask the city about a permit**
  Ask the City of Elgin whether a short-term rental needs a permit, registration, or inspection at your address, and whether zoning limits where they're allowed. Check your deed restrictions and HOA rules too.
- [ ] **Hotel taxes on each stay**
  Stays of 29 nights or less owe the 6% state hotel tax, which Airbnb collects on its bookings. If guests pay you directly, file it with the Texas Comptroller. Elgin's 7% hotel tax isn't on Airbnb's collection list, so register with the city and file it yourself, Airbnb bookings included. Bastrop County's 0.75% is filed with the county.

Who to contact

County hotel tax: 512-581-4236
County hotel tax email: amberley.palmer@co.bastrop.tx.us

Official sources

Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts: Hotel Occupancy Tax FAQs: Airbnb. https://comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/hotel/airbnb-faq.php
Airbnb: Occupancy tax collection and remittance by Airbnb in Texas. https://www.airbnb.com/help/article/2331
Texas Legislature: County zoning authority (Local Government Code ch. 231). https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/LG/htm/LG.231.htm
Bastrop County: Tourism & Economic Development: Hotel Occupancy Tax. https://www.bastropcounty.gov/page/ds.tourism_hot
Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts (data.texas.gov): Local Hotel Occupancy Tax Reporting 2025. https://data.texas.gov/d/er34-v24h