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Cedar Creek and unincorporated Bastrop County vacation rental checklist

Bastrop County, Texas | Rules checked November 8, 2026

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Outside city limits in Bastrop County there's no rental permit, but stays owe 6% state plus 7% county hotel tax. Airbnb collects only the state tax, so you register with the county and file the 7% yourself.

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.

BASTROP COUNTY (UNINCORPORATED AREAS)

- [ ] **Check your deed restrictions**
  There's no county permit, but subdivision deed restrictions and HOA rules may limit rentals. Read yours before you list.

- [ ] **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 7% online through Localgov, monthly or quarterly, with $0 reports in empty periods. New accounts take 3 to 5 working days to review.
  Bastrop County hotel tax: https://www.bastropcounty.gov/page/ds.tourism_hot

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