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# Salado vacation rental checklist

Bell County, Texas | Rules checked November 8, 2026

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Salado requires a short-term rental permit inside the village and its extraterritorial jurisdiction: $200 the first year with a life safety inspection, then $100 a year. Stays owe 6% state, 7% village, and 2% county hotel tax.

## 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.

### BELL 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. Bell County reports a 2% hotel tax; Airbnb doesn't collect it. Around Lake Belton and Stillhouse Hollow outside city limits, ask the county how to file.

### VILLAGE OF SALADO

- [ ] **Apply for a permit**
  Download the village's registration application, then schedule the life safety inspection. Homes in the ETJ outside village limits need a permit too.
  Salado STR page: https://www.saladotx.gov/node/4920

- [ ] **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. Salado's 7% hotel tax isn't on Airbnb's collection list, so register with the city and file it yourself, Airbnb bookings included.

## Fees

$200 the first year, $100 a year after

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| Initial permit (incl. inspection) | **$200** |
| Annual renewal | **$100** |
| Re-inspection | **$100** |

## 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

Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts (data.texas.gov): Local Hotel Occupancy Tax Reporting 2025. https://data.texas.gov/d/er34-v24h

Village of Salado: Short-Term Rentals (STRs). https://www.saladotx.gov/node/4920