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Chappell Hill and unincorporated Washington County vacation rental checklist

Washington County, Texas | Rules checked November 8, 2026

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Outside city limits in Washington County there's no rental permit, but stays owe 6% state plus 7% county hotel tax. Airbnb doesn't collect the county tax, so you file it quarterly with the county.

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.

WASHINGTON 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.

WASHINGTON COUNTY (UNINCORPORATED AREAS)

- [ ] **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. File Washington County's 7% every quarter on the county's report form or online through MUNIrevs. Airbnb doesn't collect it.
  Washington County hotel tax: https://newtools.cira.state.tx.us/page/washington.HotelOccupancyTaxInfo

Who to contact

County hotel tax: 979-277-6224
County hotel tax email: cmoore@washingtoncountytx.gov

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

Washington County: Hotel Occupancy Tax Information. https://newtools.cira.state.tx.us/page/washington.HotelOccupancyTaxInfo