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Georgetown vacation rental checklist

Williamson County, Texas | Rules checked November 8, 2026

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Since November 1, 2024, every short-term rental in Georgetown city limits needs a yearly city permit ($100, then $50 to renew). You give the city a 24/7 local contact, a good-neighbor brochure, and notice to neighbors within 200 feet. Stays owe 6% state plus 7% city hotel tax, which you file monthly 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.

WILLIAMSON 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. Outside city limits, only the state tax applies. Airbnb doesn't collect any city hotel tax in Williamson County.

CITY OF GEORGETOWN

- [ ] **Check you're in city limits**
  The permit applies inside Georgetown city limits, including garage apartments and backyard cottages. Use the city limits map.
- [ ] **Apply online**
  Apply on the city's portal with owner, operator, and 24/7 local contact details, a good-neighbor brochure, proof you've notified neighbors within 200 feet, your listing links, and proof you're paying hotel tax.
  Georgetown STR permit portal: https://georgetowntx-self.govplatform.com
- [ ] **Renew every year**
  The permit ends on the last day of the month a year after it's issued. Apply to renew at least 30 days before. A new owner must apply again.

- [ ] **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. Georgetown's 7% hotel tax isn't on Airbnb's collection list, so register with the city and file it yourself, Airbnb bookings included. File monthly by the 20th on the same portal.

Fees

$100 the first year, $50 a year after

Permit application	**$100**
Annual renewal	**$50**

Who to contact

Lodging / STR permits: 512-930-3545
Lodging email: lodging@georgetowntexas.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

City of Georgetown: Short-Term Rental Permit (Ask Georgetown). https://georgetowntexas.qscend.com/askgtx/knowledgebase/article/1016

Community Impact: Georgetown City Council approves short-term rental ordinance (September 12, 2024). https://communityimpact.com/austin/georgetown/government/2024/09/12/georgetown-city-council-approves-short-term-rental-ordinance-effective-nov-1