

Vacation Ideas

What You Need To Know About The Next Way To Stay

(NAPSA)—Vacation rentals have become an increasingly popular lodging option for leisure travelers, representing a \$22 billion industry and growing. With an abundance of property listings now available online and a diverse selection of vacation rentals to choose from, such as villas, condos, houseboats, private homes and castles, more Americans are discovering the benefits of vacation rentals.

Among the most popular benefits cited by experienced vacation-rental guests are value for the price, having a kitchen and more space, according to a recent PhoCusWright survey. Still, some vacationers may be hesitant to try a rental because it is unfamiliar. Interestingly, the same study found that 86 percent of those who have not tried a vacation rental would be more likely to do so if the rental were backed by a major, trusted hotel brand.

If you are considering a vacation rental for the first time, here's what you need to know:

1. Explore in Advance: Safeguard your vacation by gathering as much information about the rental unit and the destination as possible—distance to the beach, the living room view, items of interest in the surrounding area. Professionally managed vacation rental companies work on your behalf to ensure that you have updated and accurate pictures and descriptions so you can feel fully comfortable and confident with your selection.

2. Book with Confidence: If booking directly with the owner through a listing service site, be sure to verify his or her credentials and use a secure payment



It can be easier and less expensive than many people realize to find a home away from home while on vacation.

method. An alternative is to opt for a professionally managed vacation rental service that acts on behalf of a vacation rental's owner. It can help take care of many aspects of vacation planning, including confirming the availability of accommodations and authorizing online payment in real time through a reliable method.

3. Enjoy Vacation Security: Many vacationers find added security by using Wyndham Vacation Rentals, the only such provider backed by a major hotel brand. Working with a renowned hospitality brand that has established quality and service standards and 24/7 customer service support before, during and after your stay can give you the peace of mind of knowing that your vacation is in the hands of a company you can trust.

In an effort to educate consumers on the emerging vacation rental industry, Wyndham Vacation Rentals has developed a Vacation Rental Bill of Rights that already addresses many of these considerations.