

VACATION TRENDS

RENTING A VACATION HOME IS POPULAR WITH TRAVELERS. RATHER THAN SQUEEZING INTO A HOTEL ROOM, VACATIONERS CAN ENJOY EXTRA SPACE, CONVENIENCE AND PRIVACY. BEFORE BOOKING, HOWEVER, CONSIDER FROM WHOM YOU'RE RENTING. HERE ARE FOUR THINGS TO THINK ABOUT: FIRST, UNDERSTAND YOUR OPTIONS. RENTALS DIFFER IN DESTINATION, SIZE AND STYLE. THEY ALSO DIFFER IN WHETHER THEY'RE RENTED OUT BY A PROFESSIONAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY OR INDIVIDUAL HOMEOWNERS. PROFESSIONAL MANAGERS ARE MORE LIKELY TO HAVE ESTABLISHED SERVICE AND QUALITY STANDARDS. IN FACT, A RECENT WYNDHAM VACATION RENTALS SURVEY FOUND THAT SEVENTY PERCENT OF THOSE WHO'VE RENTED BOTH WAYS PREFER THE MANAGED OPTION. NEXT, KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT. ASK THE HOMEOWNER OR MANAGER QUESTIONS, SUCH AS DISTANCE TO THE BEACH OR INCLUDED HOUSEWARES. KNOW WHOM TO CALL. IF THE HOT TUB BREAKS OR YOU'RE MISSING APPLIANCES, KNOW HOW TO GET TIMELY ASSISTANCE. HOMEOWNERS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE TO HELP DURING YOUR STAY. PROFESSIONAL MANAGERS CAN PROVIDE HELP DAY AND NIGHT. FINALLY, SEE HOW WELL MAINTAINED THE PROPERTY IS. FOR MORE ABOUT PROFESSIONALLY MANAGED VACATION RENTALS, VISIT VACATION-DIFFERENTLY--DOT--COM.