



Gulf Islands, Vancouver Island & Sunshine Coast Accommodation

What Makes A Property Rentable?

The Internet has changed the way in which people plan vacations and select their rental accommodation and renting vacation properties is a highly competitive business. A well-designed and informative web page can make all the difference between renting your property or not as is listing the website with a company that understands Internet marketing and promotion. Aside from that is what you have to offer and how you present your property to your clients. Ideally, you want to attract customers who will consider your rental property their own and who will want to return; therefore it is important that their first impression is a good one and that there are no unpleasant surprises.

REASONABLE RENT

When establishing the rent, the availability of various amenities should be considered. It is often more profitable to rent for less and get more bookings than to charge very high rents and be vacant. This is particularly true in the mid- to off-season (mid-September to mid-June). We at GIVR have a good understanding of what the market will bear and will assist you in this matter.

WATERFRONT

The most highly sought after properties are those on the ocean, particularly those that have an accessible beach.

VIEW

An oceanfront view is a big attraction, but a view of a valley or a lake is appealing, also.

PRIVACY

Vacationers usually come to the West Coast for seclusion and for peace and quiet.

CHILDREN

A child-friendly accommodation is a big draw for families, especially properties with large areas in which children can play. High bank waterfront is often unsuitable for young children, and it is important that the lay of the land be mentioned. (Some property owners do not permit children under a certain age, usually 8 or 10.)

PETS

Vacationing families often ask whether their pets, particularly dogs, are welcome. A property that is pet-friendly will often book even without waterfront or a view.

DECOR

An uncluttered, clean, easy-care house with comfortable furniture shows well on a website, is much easier to clean, and is less intimidating to families with young children.

FULLY EQUIPPED KITCHEN

A fully equipped kitchen includes a fridge, stove, coffee maker, toaster and microwave oven. An electric mixer, blender and food processor are welcome additions. There should be ample dishes, cutlery, glasses (including wine glasses) and food preparation essentials like knives, mixing bowls, measuring spoons and cups, salad bowls, and serving dishes and they should be in good conditions.

BBQ

A barbecue with appropriate tools is a necessity. If it is a propane bbq, an extra full tank is essential, especially where propane is not readily available.

HOT TUBS, SAUNAS, ETC.

While few people would choose a property solely because there is a hot tub, it is a great selling point if other aspects of the property are appealing. We receive many requests for hot tubs during the off-season.

FIREPLACE OR AIRTIGHT WOODSTOVE WITH WOOD

A fireplace is especially important for those off-season renters who are coming to the country to escape the city, and who want to curl up with a book or their partner and a beverage. A sufficient supply of paper, kindling, matches or lighter and wood should be easily accessible if the fireplace burns wood. If it is a gas fireplace, instructions for using it should be prominently displayed.

ENTERTAINMENT CENTRES

Satellite or cable television, VCRs, DVD and stereo systems are available in most vacation homes.

LINENS

Quality bedding, towels, and kitchen linens are a must. We recommend two complete sets of bedding so the cleaners can work more efficiently in the period of time that they have available. Most people specify that guests should bring their own beach blankets and towels; however, it is a good idea to have a supply of old towels and blankets for that purpose – just in case. And if dogs are allowed, you will want to supply towels for wiping Fido's dirty paws on a rainy day or after a romp at the beach.

GAMES

Both indoor and outdoor games are welcome additions. Board games, jigsaw puzzles and playing cards are popular indoor items while bocce, croquet, badminton and horseshoes are good outdoor games – provided, of course, that the property is suitable.

INTERNET ACCESS

If you have it, it's a definite plus for those few people who must have Internet access even on vacation.

PERSONALS

In order to ensure that the vacation renter's stay is as comfortable as possible, we recommend removing personal items such as family photographs and personal hygiene items to a locked closet.