

Things To Know About Renting A Place To Stay In Jo Daviess County

Where can I find a place to stay?

The easy answer is lots of places, Galena and Jo Daviess County have some of the best overnight accommodations Illinois has to offer. We suggest you start your search by going to the Galena Country website: www.visitgalena.org. There are also third party online booking sites that can be found with a simple internet search.

What types of accommodations can I find?

Again, there are lots of options on places to stay overnight. Resorts, brand name hotels; smaller, locally operated motels; Bed & Breakfast's; rental homes & condos to name a few.

Can I rent my house (short term) to someone if it's in Jo Daviess County?

Yes, however please take note that certain licenses and approvals maybe required depending on how you plan to rent your house. If your home is located in an unincorporated area of Jo Daviess County you must first apply for and receive a Guest Accommodations (rental) license from the Planning & Development Department. If you are considering a Bed & Breakfast, that usually requires a more involved approval process. The Planning & Development Department and Environmental Health Department can help you. If you enter into a long term lease in excess of one month (30 days), no license or approval is required.

What fees and taxes will I need to pay?

Depending on how you rent your property, this will vary. There are fees in the required applications for Guest Accommodations (rental) and Bed & Breakfast (zoning process). The license fee for Guest Accommodations is annually recurring. Don't forget to collect the required Hotel/Motel Tax from guests.

What is the Hotel/Motel Tax?

The Hotel/Motel Tax in Jo Daviess County is 5% on the gross lodging charge for all overnight stays (total hotel tax is 11% total including the State of Illinois rate). It is the responsibility of the owner of the rental unit to collect the Hotel/Motel Tax from their guests. This includes: a hotel room, Guest Accommodations location, motel room, and Bed & Breakfast. The Treasurers' Office can help you determine if Hotel/Motel Tax needs to be paid for your rental.

Does the Hotel/Motel Tax apply if I rent within a municipality in the County?

Yes. If your property is located in a municipality in Jo Daviess County (other than the City of Galena) and you rent your property out on a short term basis, 30 days at a time or less, you are required to pay Hotel/Motel Tax of 5% of gross lodging receipts to Jo Daviess County and 6% to the State of Illinois. Please note other approvals may be required by the individual municipalities. If you enter into a long term lease in excess of one month (30 days), the Hotel/Motel tax does not apply.

Where do I get more information?

Start with the Jo Daviess County website – www.jodaviess.org. You can find information on Guest Accommodations licensing, Bed & Breakfast applications, and Hotel/Motel Tax payment by clicking the Applications and Forms button on the home page.

Can I call and talk to someone with questions instead?

Yes. For questions regarding the Hotel/Motel Tax reach out to the Jo Daviess County Treasurers' Office at 815-777-0355. For questions on Guest Accommodations (and Bed & Breakfast if starting from scratch) call the Jo Daviess County Planning & Development Department at 815-591-3810. For Bed & Breakfast requirements check with the Jo Daviess County Environmental Health Department at 815-777-0263.