

City & Borough of Juneau Assembly Finance Committee Meeting March 1, 2023

SHORT TERM RENTAL UPDATE



Overview of STR Data

577	STR Active & Intermittent Listings in Juneau	
12	STR Listings added in the past 30 days	
34	STR Listings added in the past 90 days	
302	STR Listings added in the past 365 days	
486	Entire Home STR Listings	
91	Shared-Home STR Listings	
50,595	Booked Days for Active Listings in 2022	
\$361.52	Average Nightly Rate	
\$190.00	Median Nightly Rate	



Nightly Rates by Property Type

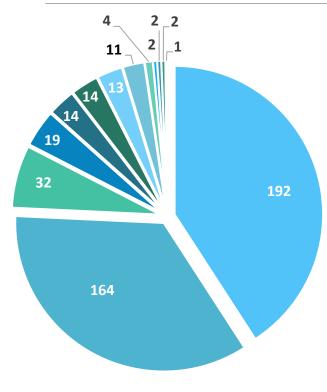
for active listings with bookings in the next 6 months



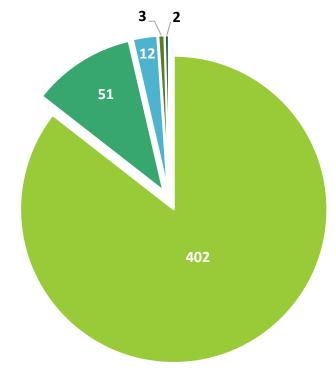
Data from 02.20.2023 Excludes Duplicate Listings

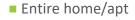


Inventory by Property and Room Type



- Apartment
- House
- Room
- Condo
- Public Campground
- Bed & Breakfast
- Townhouse
- Camper/RV
- Hotel
- Tiny House
- Campsite
- Boat
- Hostel



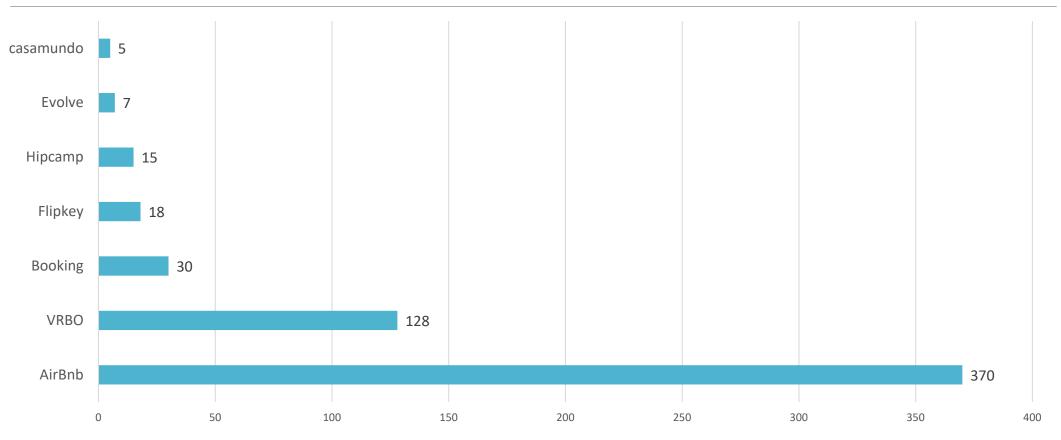


- Private room
- Public Cabin
- Campsite
- Shared room

Data from 02.20.2023 Excludes Duplicate Listings



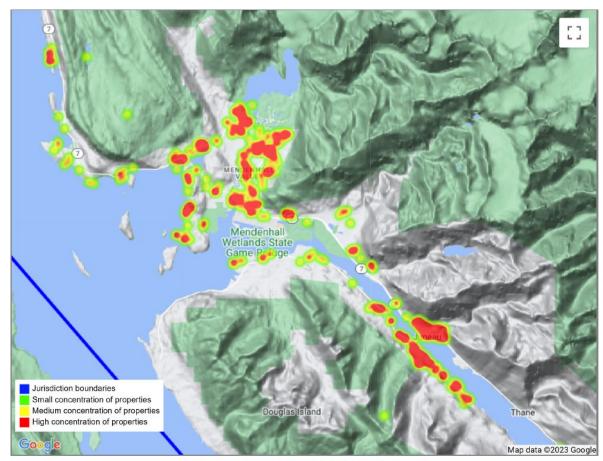
Listings by Platform



Data from 02.20.2023 Includes Duplicate Listings



STR Heat Map

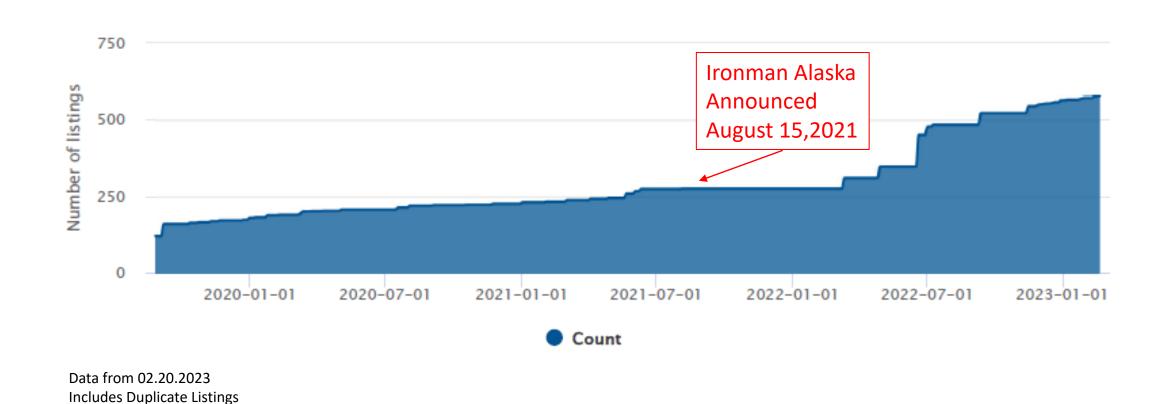


Data from 02.20.2023 Includes Duplicate Listings

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Number of Listings Over Time





Challenges Dynamic Data

- Listings come and go
- New listings show up regularly
- Some operators may pull their listings down during certain periods in an attempt to avoid detection by regulating authorities
- It's difficult to get accurate data from inactive or intermittent listings
- Contractor currently has 353 "Inactive" listings in their database that don't get accounted for at all in our metrics



Challenges Duplicate Listings

- At least 173 listings are duplicate
- Reflects 66 unique properties
- Another 65 presumed duplicate listings are currently unconfirmed
- Duplicates can appear across multiple platforms or the same platform
- Duplicates may have the same listing title or different titles to appeal to different travelers
- Difficult for the contractor to differentiate multiple units on the same property
 - e.g. multiple condos in the same complex
 - We kicked back 54 identified duplicates as not true duplicates



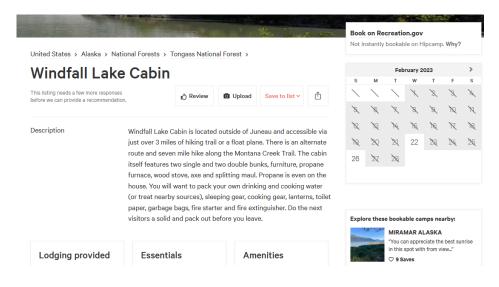
Challenges Duplicate Listings

- One property manager in town operates four properties, each with multiple units comprised of a mix of apartments and private rooms, with each unit as well as the entire house listed multiple times across several platforms
- 58 listings reflecting
 - 4 entire properties (11 listings)
 - 7 private rooms (21 listings)
 - 8 apartments (26 listings)



Challenges Filtering out Non-STRs

- Listings with 30-day minimum stays
 - Not considered an STR under CBJ sales tax code
- Some hotels have listings on STR sites
- Campgrounds and Forest Service cabins are listed on Hipcamp





Challenges

Inconsistent Property & Room Identification

- Not all sites have consistent identification, for example:
 - Airbnb calls out Private Room vs. Entire House/Apt
 - VRBO does not, but does call out Property Type
- Where not specifically called out, contractor derives from the listing title and/or description as best they can
- Hosts also inconsistently identify number of bedrooms/bathrooms
- Leads to inconsistent data
 - Raw data from contractor identifies 38 different property types
 - How to categorize: e.g. house, home, cottage, cabin, guesthouse, farmhouse

Airbnb Listing

<text>

Private room in bed and breakfast hosted by Renda 8 guests · 1 bedroom · 1 bed · 1 private bath



\$575 night ★ 5.0 · <u>3 reviews</u>

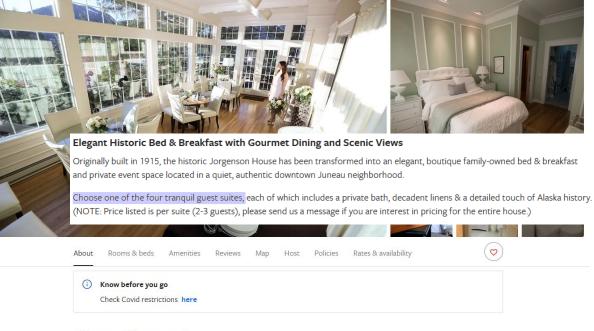
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☆ Share ♡ Save

VRBO Listing

Suite in Luxury Downtown Juneau Retreat





About this rental

Bed & breakfast	4 bedrooms	5 bathrooms	Spaces
	6 beds - Sleeps 3	4 full baths + 1 half bath	Kitchen · Deck/Patio · Dining Area



Challenges

Sales Tax Compliance

- CBJ provided contractor with a list of active sales tax accounts known to be STRs that was used to match up to listings
- Staff mailed 103 in first round of letters to STRs identified as not being registered
- Properties may be misidentified
- Merchants do not always provide property address of STRs
- Merchants may operate STRs on more than one property
- Merchants may have more than one line of business and their sales tax account may not be attached to a code that identifies it as an STR in the database

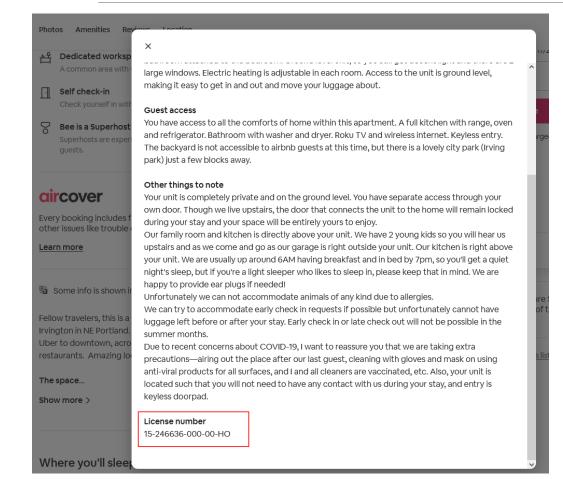


Challenges Sales Tax Compliance

- "Super Hosts" may operate dozens of listings across multiple platforms
 - They may not always use a consistent name or business name
 - They may or may not own all of the properties they are managing
- "Active" listings may have all dates blocked and are ghosting
- New STR operators don't always understand the sales tax code
 - Frequently hear that a new operator thought Airbnb was collecting/remitting sales tax
- There are at three known companies operating in Juneau that manage listings and rentals on behalf of numerous owners



STR Permitting Other Jurisdictions are Doing it

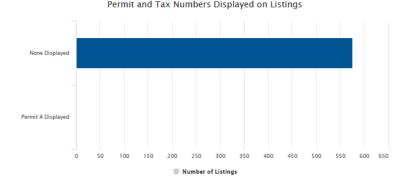


- STR registration is common in other jurisdictions
- Increasingly jurisdictions require listings to display an STR permit number
- Sales tax account numbers are also sometimes required to be displayed
 - CBJ cannot require the display of Sales Tax Account numbers because those are used by merchants to log into the online filing portal



STR Permitting What Does it Get Us

- Quality inventory of STRs including
 - Property Type
 - Room Type
 - # of Bedrooms
 - Location



- Permits can easily be tied to Sales Tax Accounts to ensure compliance
- Able to better match up listings to parcels/owners and Sales Tax Accounts, giving us more reliable metrics
- Requiring the display of permit numbers in listings allows easier compliance monitoring



STR Permitting What Does it Get Us

- Potential ability to monitor STRs for housing/zoning code violations
- Ensure owners are aware of the STRs
 - We had at least one identified STR being operated by renters without the knowledge of their landlord
- Easier to identify and respond to frequent noise or other complaints or party houses in a neighborhood tied to an STR



Questions?