

Victoria Beach, Manitoba Questions & Answers

(204) 475-7567
armadilloquartet@hotmail.com

When do we book?

Summer rentals are booked starting in January 1st. Previous year's renters are given first opportunity to rebook cottage.

Minimum Booking Durations?

During the High Season (July & August), there is a minimum booking duration of 1 week.

How do we book the cottage?

Contact us via email at armadilloquartet@hotmail.com or by telephone at **(204) 475-7567** or cell **(204) 226-4065**. We will begin by verifying the availability and rental rate, take some personal information and request that you print off a Booking Application form. (Located on this web site through the "LINKS" page. At this time we will also review the payment process.

Fees & Payments?

The cottage rates are quoted in Canadian dollars. Payment is in Canadian funds only via check, money order.

What is the Security Deposit?

A \$250.⁰⁰ per week non-refundable security deposit is required in order to secure your vacation dates. This is due within 7 business days of the booking date. Please send this deposit along with your booking application form (within 7 days of declaring your chosen dates of occupancy if declared by phone). The security deposit is a partial payment put toward the weekly rental fee. The security deposit rate is:

- \$ 250.⁰⁰ / 1 week of cottage rental
- \$ 500.⁰⁰ / 2 weeks of cottage rental
- \$ 750.⁰⁰ / 3 weeks of cottage rental
- \$1000.⁰⁰ / 4 weeks of cottage rental

What is the Damage Deposit?

A refundable damage deposit of \$250.⁰⁰ is taken to ensure that the cottage is left in the same condition as found, including cleanliness. The damage deposit will be entirely refunded upon owners careful survey of the cottage after you check out. If cleaning is required, this expense will be deducted from the damage deposit. This deposit (and the balance owing on the rental) is due 2 weeks prior to occupancy.

How do I get the keys and find the cottage?

Once we have received and processed your initial security deposit and booking form, we will forward a RENTER'S GUIDE which will contain:

- A **Booking Confirmation**, showing balance owing, dates and time of check in and check out.
- A **Cottage Information Sheet** - with a detailed list of what is provided and what is not provided.
- A **Map** - showing the route/directions from the nearest major community.
- A set of **Cottage Instructions** - these are the owners instructions and notes on using the various cottage amenities. Please review carefully, prior to going to the cottage and call if you have any questions.

PLEASE PUT THE RENTER'S GUIDE IN A SAFE PLACE - THIS IS THE ONLY TRAVEL PACKAGE/INFORMATION YOU RECEIVE FOR YOUR BOOKING AND IT WILL BE SENT OUT WITHIN TEN DAYS OF OUR RECEIPT OF YOUR BOOKING FORM AND DEPOSIT.

Keys

A time should be arranged via email [armadilloquartet@hotmail.com] or phone **(204) 475-7567** or cell **(204) 226-4065**, whereby we, the owners will either meet you at the cottage or make other arrangements to get you the keys.

What time of day do we check in and check out?

The check in time is **SUNDAY at 3:00 pm.**

The check out time is **SUNDAY at 11:00 am.**

"High season" i.e. summer bookings, start and end on Sunday - to allow the owners an opportunity to check the cottage between bookings. The owners need those four hours between bookings in order to cut grass, make a damage check and do any more thorough cleaning or repairs etc.

IT IS IMPORTANT - that you leave by the check out time - and not arrive earlier than the check in time unless specially arranged with the owners. Failure to depart on time means the owners are rushed in their work and the next people checking in are delayed. We do thank you for your consideration.

Do I have to clean the cottage?

The short answer is YES! In most areas of Cottage Country, it is difficult to arrange cleaning services on a consistent basis. Therefore, the only system that works consistently is to require renters to clean the cottage prior to leaving - basically leave the cottage in the same condition as you found it - and everyone will be happy. Cleaning supplies and equipment are always left at the cottage. As noted elsewhere, the owners will check the cottage between rentals to ensure that the cottage is in appropriate condition for your arrival but renters are responsible as noted above. Please refer to the Cottage Instructions.

What do I need to bring?

Please check the cottage information sheet provided to you at the time of booking for a list of cottage facilities and amenities. Pillows and blankets are provided, but sheets and pillow cases are not provided unless specially arranged at an additional cost. Bedding linen is available for an additional cost of \$25.00 per bed. These additional services must be confirmed with the cottage owner at the time of booking. Tea towels and dish clothes in the kitchen are provided but bath and beach towels are not provided.

Are there bikes for us to use?

Yes, there are numerous assorted older bikes available at the cottage. In addition we do have a chariot for your use. Please ensure that they remain locked when not in use. They are there for you to use and enjoy. We provide locks & key locks for these bikes. Although there is an assortment of bikes, many people are more comfortable bringing and using their own bikes. We do have a bike pump available at the cottage and there is also a bike pump at the main parking lot.

What's up with the Victoria Beach Club Membership & the V.B.Herald?

You may purchase **Victoria Beach Club Membership** via the Library. Please pick up a **Victoria Beach Herald** for more information (Available at the bakery and Moonlight Inn). Membership allows you to take part in many organized V.B. activities and offers you discounts on things like swimming lessons, sailing lessons, movie nights at the Clubhouse, as well as many free organized children's activities. We should have a V.B.Club Activity calendar posted somewhere in the cottage.

If you have pet allergies...

The cottage is pet free. No pets are allowed for a variety of reasons. Allergies and potential damage to the cottage itself, are the main reasons.

But why can't I bring FIDO?

Many adults and children have allergies to pets and their dander. Even with a thorough cleaning, an individual's vacation might be ruined due to an allergic reaction to the previous week's pets so PLEASE observe the restriction. NO PETS - means no pets - inside or outside the cottage - and the same goes for any of your guests who might have pets. Thank you for your consideration.

Can I have guests?

For many families, entertaining is part of cottage life. Guests are certainly allowed as long as the maximum occupancy is respected. This cottage can safely and comfortably accommodate 4 adults and 4 children. We, the owners are concerned about the number of people at the cottage with respect to the wear and tear on the cottage system, which is much more sensitive than city dwellings.

Is there a phone at the cottage?

Yes, there is a phone at the cottage. **(204) 756-2403**. Free long distance calls anytime within Canada and the US.

Can I use my cell/mobile phone?

Yes, your cell phone will work throughout the Victoria Beach Restricted Zone. MTS has a strong signal and good service in the area.

Can I hook up my laptop?

As of yet, there is no high speed DSL internet service at the cottage. However, there is wireless internet access from Saffies General Store at the Albert Beach turn off, off Hwy #59. See 'LINKS' to Saffies on this web site. You may be able to use a very slow dial connection through the standard phone line at the cottage if you have the appropriate connectors and MTS dial up numbers and info that you need.

Can I drink the water at the cottage?

Yes, the water is drinkable. The cottage is hooked up to the seasonal water supply during summer months. If you wish, you may bring your own bottled water. The cottage has a water cooler which accommodates a 5 gallon jug. If desired, please bring your own water supply for the duration of your stay. In addition, water jugs are available for purchase at Saffies General Store. They also have an exchange program.

What happens if the barbeque runs out of propane?

One full tank of propane is provided for your stay, however, in the unlikely event that the tank for the BBQ runs out of propane, there is a gas station on Hwy #59 at the Travers Bay turn off. (aprox. a 5 minute drive). There are nearby gas stations and stores that will refill tanks.

What do we do with our garbage & recycling?

Everything you bring up to the cottage has to be disposed of including garbage.

Household garbage needs to be deposited in the bear proof cage located at the Fire Hall parking lot on Hwy #59 (toward the main parking lot and entrance of Victoria Beach).

Recycling bins are located right at the main gates of Victoria Beach across from the main parking lot on Hwy #59.

- Directions from the cottage: Turn right on Pine Rd. Then turn left on Ateah Road all the way to Hwy #59. Turn left on Hwy #59 and on your immediate right you will see the Fire Hall. In that lot you will see a bear proof garbage cage for household garbage ONLY. Continue down Hwy #59 to get to the entrance gate where the recycling bins are located.

NEVER leave garbage outside. If you can't get to the bear proof garbage disposal site on your last day - please take your garbage with you.

What about wild-life in the area?

Black bears do visit the Victoria beach vicinity so garbage must be disposed of properly. See above for proper household garbage disposal in special bear proof cages.

It is important to observe some rules when vacationing in cottage country....for example - don't leave food out on the kitchen counters - or anywhere else - ants and mice love your leftovers. Don't leave patio doors open - chipmunks and squirrels are brazen little things - not to mention mice - and will enter at the slightest invitation. Lights at night will attract moths - and other types of flying insects, some small enough to penetrate screens...

Mother nature, seasonal temperature variations, life cycles etc., can all create unexpected visitations... all part of cottage life. Check your RENTER'S GUIDE for any notes we may have made about visiting wildlife. If you have questions or concerns, please call us!

Firewood

We provide a limited supply of firewood for the outdoor campfire pit. If more wood is needed, there are gas stations and stores in the vicinity to purchase more wood. No tree on the property should be cut down or removed for the purpose of firewood or for any other reason.

Is there television or satellite TV reception ?

NO. There is no television reception during summer months. The cottage does have a satellite dish, however there is no service provided. The satellite dish is generally used by winter tenants. In summer, the television itself is mainly for use with the DVD player. Please bring your own DVD's for a rainy day or late night entertainment. DVD's are available for rent at the Victoria Beach store, next to the bakery.

Is smoking allowed in the cottage?

NO. Absolutely no smoking allowed in the cottage, please.

Where can I park my car while I'm at the cottage?

Upon your arrival you can purchase a parking pass at the main entrance parking lot of Victoria Beach. 2007 rates were as follows: Daily: \$3.⁵⁰; 1 week: \$9.⁵⁰; 2 weeks: \$17.⁰⁰. You can get a taxi from the parking lot to take you & your things to the cottage.

Is there a bank machine in the area?

The Bakery in the restricted zone of Victoria Beach has an ATM (2007 rates: \$1.⁵⁰ surcharge). The store takes VISA

What do I do if I have a question while I'm at the cottage?

If you have a question or concerns while you're at the cottage you can contact us at (204) 475-7567, or cell (204) 226-4065. If you cannot contact us, please leave a message leaving your contact cell number (if you have one) and we'll get back to you ASAP.