

# BROOKWOOD HOUSE

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## HANDBOOK & GUIDE

Welcome to Brookwood House!

Please make yourself at home. Our space offers a variety of comforts, and we're nestled in a rich and vibrant community. We've assembled this guidebook for you to familiarize yourself with everything our space, and the broader community, have to offer during your visit.

We hope you make the best of your stay.

# | HOUSE INFORMATION |

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## INNKEEPER AVAILABILITY

There is a caretaker / innkeeper of the property who lives on-site in a studio apartment on the lower level with a separate exterior entrance. Her name is Natalie. While you most likely will not see her much during your stay, do contact her though if there is a house related emergency, like a burst pipe or a breaker trip. You will find her to be quite charming!

As Natalie is also our Guest Experience Manager, she can be reached prior to your arrival should you desire help with anything regarding your visit! Please email Natalie ([info@Brookwood.House](mailto:info@Brookwood.House)) in advance of your stay for assistance with arranging anything else you might want in addition to the amazing property itself.

## EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Local Police Station: (540) 562-3265 Non-Emergency, 911 Emergency

Innkeeper: (540) 759-1850

Poison Control: (800) 222-1222

## LOCATION OF FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

The fire extinguishers are located on each floor of the house:

- Top floor: upstairs bathroom closet
- Middle floor: under the grill in the kitchen
- Bottom floor: in the family room

We recommend familiarizing yourself and all of your guests with this information in case of emergency.

## WIRELESS INTERNET

In April of 2023 after a wait of 20 years, Brookwood House now has an exceptional Fibre internet signal and speed that you should find most acceptable for your needs while at Brookwood. You will also have the option to plug into a hardwired Ethernet in most rooms. We look forward to this new digital era at Brookwood House.

The innkeeper will provide the guest wi-fi information during your stay.

## LIONS AND TIGERS AND BEARS, OH MY!

We are located in a rural area, and there are a variety of creatures that coexist with us here. During your visit to Brookwood, there is a possibility that you'll see deer, racoons, and many other kinds of exciting wildlife. Also, because we are in the country, insects occasionally make it into the house. If you happen to see a bug in the house, we have these nifty gadgets called Bugzookas which can be used to safely remove them. Just compress the bellows at one end, point the other end at the insect, then press a button to

capture the spider, lady bug or whatever it is (unharmd, if you'd like to deposit it outside!). There are some naturalist books in the sitting room – bird identification, wildflower identification, snake identification, as well as books on local hiking trails) If you are concerned about running into a bear or venomous snake, we highly recommend researching the area so you have an in-depth understanding of what to expect. We love the wildlife here and it's one of our favorite parts of this location.<sup>1</sup>

## ENTERTAINMENT

There are endless activities (if you choose to do anything more than relax and unwind)!

We have board games under the bench in the window nook.

The stereo system and CD's are available to listen to, but please be respectful and put anything you use back where it came from.

We have a flat screen television in the living room of the lowest floor that has a Chromecast device. You can download the Chromecast app to your device (phone, laptop, tablet) and project whatever you're watching on the screen: Netflix, Hulu, Youtube, etc. We also have HDMI cables to connect with your device if you'd rather not use the app.

Feel free to read any of the books on the bookshelves.

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<sup>1</sup> Some of the wildlife we have seen at Brookwood in the 15 years we lived there. Deer, turkeys, coyote, skunks, squirrels, chipmunks, trout, great blue herons, egrets, bald eagle, geese, ducks, pileated woodpecker, downy woodpecker, racoons, foxes, possums, black snake (friend!) water snake (friend!) copperhead (walk away!), rattlesnake (definitely walk away!), river otter, beaver, snapping turtle, box turtle, and bears.

## GENERATOR | TRAIN

At 4:30pm every Tuesday, the generator does a test and auto run, which can be noisy—but no need to panic. It's standard quality control to make sure we are safe if we lose power. There's also a train that runs fairly regularly. It's loud enough to hear, but we haven't found it bothersome. We have provided earplugs for our guests to use if they choose.

## SOCIAL CONTRACT

We are committed to Tikkun Olam, the Jewish concept of repairing the world. There are many ways to do that. We do our part by supporting the rights of all our community members, always paying a fair wage, and donating to local, national and international charities every year. We avoid purchasing mass-market art because we know there are talented people working hard to bring us real, human-made works of art. It's important to us to support the makers.

We incorporate a variety of practices to decrease our environmental impact, including the use of solar panels, composting, recycling, and generally practicing responsible habits regarding water and electricity. We have some educational how-to's for composting as well as recycling in the area if you would like to take a look and help us with our commitment to minimal waste. We encourage our guests to be conscious of their habits during their stay.

## BUILDER'S NOTES

If any of our guests are interested in the building process, systems, and structure, we have included some information about the house itself. Elizabeth and Adam installed cool systems in Brookwood including:

- 8.4 Kilowatt Photovoltaic System
- Evacuated Tube Solar Thermal (Hot Water System)
  - Wood Fired Hot Water
  - On Demand Hot Water System
- Solar Powered Gravity Feed irrigation system
- 17 KW Propane Backup Generator
- Dual Fuel in Floor radiant heat (Propane or Wood)
  - High Efficiency Heat Pumps

## ARTWORK

At Brookwood House, we strongly support the arts. That is why nearly every piece in and around the home was created by an artist, many of them local. We hope that society will follow suit and appreciate those who share themselves with others, who heal others, and who inspire others.

# | HOUSE RULES |

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## FRAGRANCE-FREE

We recognize the hazards caused by scented products, so to keep a safe and healthy environment for all, we have a fragrance-free policy here at Brookwood. Fragrances in personal care products, air fresheners, candles, cleaning products, and laundry products (especially dryer sheets and ‘fabric softeners’) adversely affect human health. Scientific research links fragrance ingredients to a variety of serious health issues. We ask that all guests and visitors refrain from using scented laundry, personal care, and cleaning products. To assist you and encourage adherence to this policy, we will provide soaps and laundry detergent, etc. for your stay!

Our goal is to create a safe haven for those with sensitivities that prevent them from enjoying many other establishments. Try it, your body and mind will thank you!

Although we do our very best to require all guests and visitors adhere to our fragrance free policy, we cannot give a comprehensive guarantee that the environment will be completely free of irritants to those who have sensitivities. If you have a very severe allergy, please note that we can do our very best to ensure guidelines are followed. Unfortunately, we can't control the behavior of other guests, and therefore can't be held liable for any reactions you may experience.

## LAUNDRY

ATTENTION: Our washer & dryer is for fragrance-free laundry ONLY.

We accommodate guests with chemical sensitivities to fragrance. We provide unscented detergent. If your laundry has been previously washed with fragrant detergent, **DO NOT wash your clothing in our machines.**

We use a concentrated unscented detergent –

One solid squeeze ‘doses’ 1 tablespoon of detergent which is all you will need.

We recommend putting it in the washer first, then starting the cycle for 45 seconds to dilute the detergent before adding your clothing.

## PETS ON SITE

We currently have no pets living on site.

## PET POLICY

We only allow pets by special request.

We do charge extra for pets if we allow them (standard fee of \$250, non refundable).

If we allow your pets, we ask that you clean up after your pets.

For most dogs, Brookwood is a great play place with lots of water to play in. When we started renting Brookwood we replaced most of the furniture. Our concern is that dogs will play in the creek and come back into the house and get dog odor and wetness and mud, etc, on the furniture.



If we have allowed your pet to visit, we need you to assure us that you will not allow your dog to play in the creek. If your dog really likes water it may be hard. We had a beloved dog family member at Brookwood for years and she spent a lot of time playing in the creek. Before we pre-approve your pet request, realistically can you assure us you can keep the pup out of the creek. Thank you for your understanding.

### SWIMMING

There is no lifeguard on duty at any time, and swimming in both the pool and the creek are at your own risk. Please note that any swimming in the creek involves some additional risks. There are rocks both slick and sharp as well as all of nature's creatures with whom you will be sharing the space. Wearing protective shoes is highly recommended should you venture into the creek. That said, you will find the pool overlooking the creek to be one of the very nicest around!! (And it doesn't have quite as many hazards and restrictions to consider.)

### KEY PICKUP & DROPOFF

There are two options for the handoff of the key for your stay:

- Option #1 – No Contact Arrival – The door will be left unlocked and the key left for you on the dining room table.
- Option #2 – Greeted Arrival. Natalie will greet you when you arrive (you must give her an accurate time to meet you) and give you a tour and orientation of Brookwood.

## ON-SITE EVENTS

All parties and events require approval by the Owners. Anyone you bring to the property that's not listed in your booking also requires approval, unless they're part of an approved function.

## QUIET HOURS

Out of concern for our neighbors and our caretaker, we ask that quiet hours be respected between 11:00 pm and 7:00am

## PLEASE CLEAN UP AFTER YOURSELF

We expect a general level of basic cleanliness, which means that we expect things to be left as close as possible to the way you found them. It can be easy to get carried away in such an incredible kitchen, but please respect the space and clean up after your meals and never leave any food out overnight. Significant messes are subject to extra charges. (There is a placement chart posted on the fridge for the items available for your use in the kitchen area.)

## NO FIREARMS POLICY

Brookwood House is a respite designed for safety, comfort, and relaxation. We prohibit the presence of firearms on the property at all times and for any reason.

## LINENS AND BEDDING

We are dedicated to keeping Brookwood Covid-free. We will provide sheets and towels washed in hot water, and covers/comforters that have been sprayed with oxygenated bleach. If you would like to bring your own linens and bedding with you, please let Natalie know before you arrive.

## FIREPLACE

The fireplace at Brookwood House is controlled with the Proflame Modular Remote Control System. Please only use the remote to control the fireplace. Please keep the remote on the fireplace mantle. For your convenience, we're including a brief overview of the remote for you. (Full instructions can also be found by searching for "Proflame GTM Remote" or visiting [assets.regency-fire.com](https://assets.regency-fire.com))

The fireplace is remote controlled. The remote allows for both On/Off operation as well as Thermostatic Control.

To use the remote:

FIRST: Open the flue by reaching inside the fireplace and pulling the lever towards you. This opens the flue. When you are finished, please shut the flue by pushing the flue lever away from you.

- The "On/Off" key powers the system on and off
- The "Mode" key (bottom button) is used to control either temperature setting or flame height setting.
- There are six flame levels. Use the up and down arrows to control these.
- The remote

control can also act as a room thermostat. In order to use this function, press the “Thermostat” key. The LCD will show the thermostat is on. The set temperature will be displayed. Use the up and down arrow keys until desired temperature is displayed.

–The unit also has a Smart Thermostat function. This setting adjusts flame height in accordance to the difference between the set point temperature and the actual room temperature. To activate, press the “Thermostat” key until “Smart” is displayed on the LCD. Then press the up and down arrow keys until the desired temperature is displayed on the LCD.

NOTE: We turn off the gas to the fireplace in the summer season.

NOTE:

The remote also has a Key Lock function. Lock the keys to prevent unsupervised operation. To activate, press the bottom remote button (the “Mode” key) and the “Up” arrow button at the same time. To deactivate, repeat the same process.

NO SMOKING

SMOKING MUST BE DONE OUTSIDE, WE HAVE A STRICT NO SMOKING  
POLICY.

## BEFORE YOU GO. . .

We hope you have enjoyed your stay! Please be sure to follow the following guidelines before you go:

- Strip beds you have used of sheets and pillow cases, place them in trash bags, and leave them in the laundry room. Trash bags are in the laundry room.
- Leave blankets, quilts and covers in the bedrooms.
- Check the rooms you have used for your personal belongings.
- Place all trash in trash receptacles, and all recycling ( plastic, paper, cans) in the recycling bin that is located in the pantry.
- Fill and run the dishwasher with any remaining dishes, glasses, etc.
- Have a groovy day!

## | VICTUALS |

### DELICIOUS FOOD & DRINK

(PLEASE CALL AHEAD OR CHECK WEBSITES FOR ANY COVID-19-RELATED RESTRICTION) ★

[Scratch Biscuit Company](#) (\$) 18 min. drive, 1820 Memorial Ave SW, Roanoke,

Virginia 24015

★ [Benny Marconi's Pizza](#) (\$) 16 min. drive Downtown, pizza slices the size of your face

★ [Pop's](#) (\$) 18 min. Drive, Grandin Village, Ice cream, shakes, grilled cheeses and soups.

★ [Texas Tavern](#) (\$) 18 min. drive, Downtown, This Roanoke-famous 10-seat greasy spoon serves some mean hotdogs, burgers, and chili. If you ask for a straw or ketchup, be prepared for some sass. Open 24/7

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★ [Nawab](#) (\$\$) 16 min. downtown, Indian food.

★ [Local Roots](#) (\$\$\$) 18 min. drive, Grandin Village. Farm-to-table restaurant.

★ [Mill Mountain Coffee](#) 5 min. drive, Cave Spring

★ [Sweet Donkey Coffee](#) 17 min. drive, Downtown

★ [Deschutes Brewery](#) 18 min. drive, Downtown

★ [Parkway Brewing Company](#) 24 min. drive, Salem VA

# | ACTIVITIES |

(PLEASE CALL AHEAD OR CHECK WEBSITES FOR ANY RESTRICTIONS)

## HIKING

- ★ [McAfee's Knob](#) Parking Lot– 31 min. drive, 8.3 mile hike round trip, roughly 4 to 5 hours. The summit is one of the most photographed locations on the Appalachian trail!
- ★ [Dragon's Tooth Trail Head](#)– 34 min. drive, 5.7 mile hike round trip, roughly 2 to 4 hours. Some rock–scrambling involved. Huge rock the size of a dragon's tooth at the top!
- ★ [Tinkers Cliff](#), 43 min. drive.
- ★ [Explore Park](#) 19 min. drive – Lots of trails, buildings crafted using techniques from hundreds of years ago, ropes courses, hikes, mountain biking, etc.  
<https://www.roanokecountyparks.com/231/Explore-Park>
- ★ [Twin Falls/Bottom Creek Gorge/Bent Mountain Falls Hike](#) 32 min. drive, three different trails to choose from, varying lengths; roughly 2 to 4 hours round trip. All three trails end at the 2nd tallest waterfall in Virginia!

## ATTRACTIONS

- ★ [Grandin Theatre](#) 18 min. drive, Grandin village, independently owned movie theater.

- ★ [The Roanoke Star](#)/Mill Mountain Star, 17 min. drive, Largest free-standing, man-made illuminated star in the world.
- ★ [Black Dog Salvage](#), 20 min. drive, Black Dog Salvage is an architectural salvage business and Design Center located in Roanoke, VA Home to DIY Network's "Salvage Dawgs"
- ★ [Floyd, VA](#), 48 min. drive, Cute little one-stoplight town. Interesting art galleries, and a beautiful drive. Contra dancing every friday night at the Floyd General store (<https://www.floydcountrystore.com/music/jamboree>)
- ★ Market Street in Downtown Roanoke, 16 min. drive, Check this out on Saturdays for local artists, vendors, and craftspeople.
- ★ [Blue Ridge Parkway](#) – A very scenic drive with lots of overlooks. Closest on-ramp is a 5-minute drive away, off of Route 220. If you're walking or biking, you can just head to the bridge that crosses over Starlight Lane.
- ★ [Botanical Gardens at Virginia Western](#), 12 min. drive
- ★ [Taubman Art Gallery](#), 16 min. drive, downtown
- ★ [Roanoke Transportation Museum](#), 17 min. drive, downtown
- ★ [Center in the Square](#), 16 min drive, downtown. Aquarium, science museum, beautiful rooftop venue.
- ★ [Harvester Performance Center](#), 28 min. drive, Franklin County.

PARKING RECOMMENDATION FOR DOWNTOWN: Free parking is usually available behind the Taubman Museum of Art on Norfolk Ave SE. This is a short walk to most of the downtown recommendations.



## | RECYCLING |

We hope during your stay you can find our recycling easy to use. Bins are in the pantry. Please rinse out items first.

## | COMPOSTING |

We at Brookwood House also hope you will participate in our composting with us. The system is very simple, you will dispose of any food waste EXCEPT meat and cheese in the compost bin in the kitchen. If during your stay the bin becomes full please empty in the compost pile out back. Please also be aware that we are composting on a small scale so we cannot process compostable packaging such as cups, silverware, or plates. Thank you for helping us make our planet a greener place to live and enjoy!