

Welcome to Buck Bay on Grindstone Island

Rental Guide



We are glad you have chosen Buck Bay cottage on Grindstone Island for your vacation. The 1000 Islands are unique and offer a large variety of activities to enjoy in and around the water; from boating and fishing, to swimming, sailing, kayaking or just relaxing and watching the sunset. The secluded bay where the cottage is located offers the perfect jumping off point for your summer adventures.

If you have any questions about your stay at Buck Bay Cottage, please contact:

Fran Mallery at 802-272-2763
keepsakepearls@gmail.com

Topics covered in this Rental Guide:

1. Cottage location and boat access

a. Parking in Clayton

b. Groceries

c. Navigation

2. Arriving at Buck Bay

a. Pets

b. Neighbors

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1. Cottage location and boat access

Buck Bay cottage is located on the head of Grindstone Island and a short (~20 minute) boat ride from Clayton, NY. **A boat is required** to access Grindstone Island (there is no public transport available). You can either use your own boat, or rent a boat in Clayton. One option is **Clayton Marina**; see below details to contact them.

Clayton marina has many types and sizes of boats for rent, as well as a launching ramp and parking for your vehicle and trailer(s). Their rental period is based on a 1 calendar day rental so you need a boat for 8 days to cover Sunday - Sunday.

Clayton Marina

50 State Street

Clayton, New York 13624

Phone: 315-686-3378

Fax: 315-686-3522

Summer Hours:

Monday - Friday: 8am - 4:30pm

Saturday: 8am - 3pm

Sunday: 8am - Noon

A. Parking in Clayton, NY

There are several parking options in Clayton. One is the Antique Boat Museum (ABM). They have a parking lot on Riverside drive open to public use. It is safe and free. Sometimes the lot can be full depending on events at the museum. If you don't have a trailer it is easy to find an unmetered parking spot on one of the back streets if the ABM parking lot is full. Another option is French Creek Marina that provides off islanders with car and boat parking places as well as a launch ramp. Search for them online to get current rates.

B. Groceries

There are no stores on Grindstone Island so when you arrive in Clayton you will need to do your shopping for groceries and any other items you'd like to have while on the island. Groceries can be bought at:

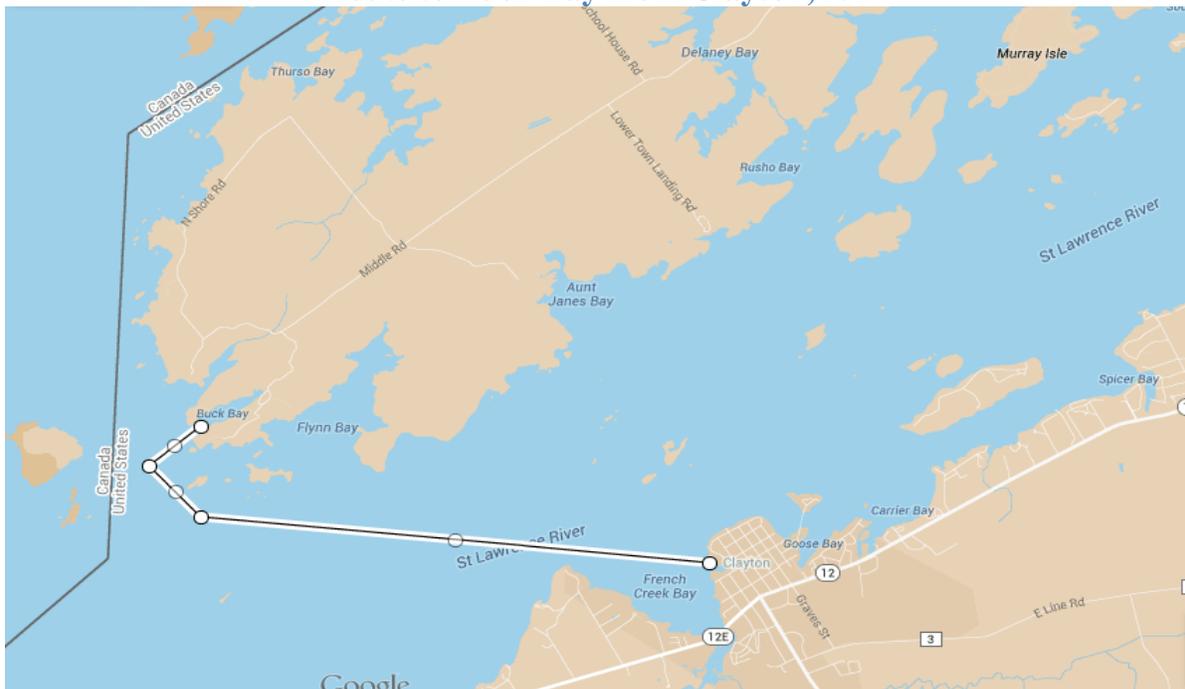
Shurefine Supermarket
503 State St.
Clayton, NY 13624
Phone: 315-686-3601

C. Navigation

Navigating the Islands is a wonderful experience but it can also be dangerous. Having GPS is very helpful as well as St Lawrence River Navigation Charts. It is best to only operate power boats during the daytime when you can see where you're going.

The international border is only a few hundred feet from Buck Bay. Cruising the Canadian waters is fine and very scenic. You are not allowed to fish or drop anchor until you check into customs in Gananoque, Ontario.

Route to Buck Bay from Clayton, NY



For detailed charts with depth indications and shoal markers go to the link below.

[Link to navigation chart of Grindstone Island area](http://www.charts.noaa.gov/OnLineViewer/14774.shtml)

<http://www.charts.noaa.gov/OnLineViewer/14774.shtml>

2. Arriving at Buck Bay

After finding our dock half way down the bay you can land on the outside or inside of the boathouse. You will find a garden way cart to carry your supplies a short distance to the house. It will be unlocked and ready for your arrival Saturday anytime after 3:00pm.

Please make sure to close all doors at night and do not leave food or bags of garbage outside as it will attract raccoons that become a nuisance and will rip screens to get into the house. Also lights left on at night with open doors will attract flying insects, so it's important to turn lights off if you are not in the room.

Pets

We are generally dog friendly but let us know what you have and we take it on a case by case basis. We require a \$250/dog security deposit which will be returned at the end of your visit. Buck Bay is actually a great place for dogs because it's easy for them to get in and out of the water from the lawn.

Two concerns we have about dogs; one is that they don't bark very much. We share the boathouse to access our cabin in the woods and barking dogs can be very disruptive. Also if they bark incessantly while you're gone it echoes around the bay and can be very unpleasant for the unseen neighbors. The other requirement is that the dog is well trained and stays off the furniture. It's best if you bring a crate or dog bed.

Neighbors

There are no other houses in Buck Bay; it is a lovely secluded and quiet place. There are neighbors, however and other docks. One is right inside the bay as you enter it, their house is on the point and hard to see in the woods. Another is an old farm at the base of the bay that has a little dock and a little gift store called Acorn Studio. It's only accessible by land so you can walk to it through the woods if you wish. We own 25 acres and have little cabins in the woods. We share the boathouse with our renters in order to access them.

Grindstone Roads

You can explore the rest of Grindstone by land. The hiking, biking and walking are wonderful on these dirt and grass roads. There are very few vehicles on Grindstone, mostly 4-wheelers. The roads are dirt and can be muddy. The road that connects Buck Bay to the rest of the island is small and underdeveloped (on purpose) and best used only for walking or biking. See below map of the island and its many walking/running/biking/exploring opportunities!

Map of Grindstone Island walking trails:



3. Amenities

- We provide linens, bath towels, appliances, coffee machine, cookware, flatware, and general household items.
- Cell phone service works well in Buck Bay (we use Verizon Wireless for both phone and Internet). **You must bring your own devices to connect to the internet, there are none provided.**
- BBQ - there is a propane grill with cooking utensils.
- There is a fire pit to enjoy an outdoor fire next to the boathouse.
- A raft provides wonderful swimming about 100' from the boathouse.

4. Things to Bring

Groceries, insect repellent, sun screen and sun hat. You must bring drinking water with you since the water in the house is pumped from the river. We use the water when boiled for cooking only. Otherwise, gallon containers from the store are easy to find and carry.

5. Garbage

Garbage and recycling has to be taken to Clayton. There is a dumpster on the Clayton Municipal Dock where non recyclables can go. There may be a charge. You can take recyclables to the Sure Fine Store in Clayton where they have machines. There is also a local transfer station see below for location and hours:

Solid Waste Transfer Site

County Route 4
(315) 686-2557

OPEN:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

6. Emergency/Medical

If for any reason you find yourself in need of medical attention. We have a basic first aid kit in the living room cabinet near the front door. For more serious needs you will have to go to the mainland.

Alexandria Bay is a 10 minute drive from the Clayton Marina where you can go to the River Hospital. The hospital also has docking if you happen to be in that area by boat.

River Hospital, Inc.

4 Fuller Street
Alexandria Bay, NY 13607

Main Switchboard Operator: 315-482-2511

Patient Accounting 315-482-1230

Administration: 315-482-4981

Patient Accounting: 315-482-5553

Main Switchboard Operator: 315-482-7153

Email: info@riverhospital.org

Watertown and Syracuse both have larger hospitals if necessary.