Outer Banks Vacation Planning Guide

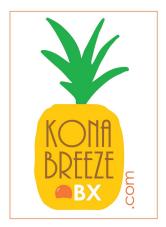
Kona Breeze OBX

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ARRIVAL INFORMATION

Welcome to our OBX retreat, Kona Breeze, our home away from home in the Hatteras Island village of Avon, NC. You want to have a wonderful stay, and we want that for you too. We hope that when you are there Kona Breeze is your home for however long you are staying and that you will be relaxed, comfortable and happy.

CHECK-IN TIME

Check-in time is 4PM. Our home will be thoroughly cleaned for your arrival with fresh linens and towels sets for each bedroom. The beds will be made. Please let us know if these preparations are not provided to your expectations within 24 hours of arrival.

DRIVING DIRECTIONS

Please use the address on the front page of this booklet in your mapping app. Kona Breeze is located in a quiet residential area in Avon. Please be careful driving through the neighborhood as children and pets can be on the roads as there are no sidewalks once you turn off of Rt. 12.

INVENTORY CHECK

There will be a welcome bag upon arrival from our housekeeper that will include a few rolls of toilet paper, a roll of paper towels and a couple trash bags to get you started. We have a large trashcan in the kitchen that we provide the bags for. I have included a packing list at the end of this booklet to help you prepare for your stay at Kona Breeze.

PARKING

Covered parking is under the home for 2 vehicles with additional parking in the driveway. PLEASE do not park on or drive on the grass as the septic system could be damaged.

DEPARTURE INFORMATION

CHECK-OUT TIME

Check-out time is strictly 10AM. We typically have guests coming in after your stay, and allowing time for the cleaning service to be completed before their arrival requires this schedule.

When you leave, please ensure the following simple tasks are done:

- Leave beds that were occupied un-made. Please DO NOT strip beds.
- Remove all food from the refrigerator and cabinets and wipe out refrigerator.
- Put dishes in dishwasher and start on NORMAL cycle before leaving.
- Wipe down all counter tops and table tops.
- Remove all trash from bedrooms, bathrooms, and kitchen and leave in the trashcan under the home.
- PLEASE do not leave any trash (e.g. cans, cups) on the decks, yard or pier.
- Sweep, mop, or vacuum if there is <u>excessive</u> sand on the floors and decks. This is not required if not excessive.
- Set the air conditioner temperature to $78^{\circ}F$ in the summer, and the heat to $60^{\circ}F$ in the winter.
- PLEASE check for personal items (i.e. cell phone chargers).
- Lock all doors including the sliding glass doors, laundry room door and kitchen door
- Close and lock all windows

CLEANING

On departure it is helpful if you could leave the house (particularly kitchen and BBQ/grill) cleaned up, refrigerator empty, dishwasher started and house tidy when you leave. No need for you to perform a full clean! We pay a housekeeping service to have the house prepared for our next guest as it was prepared for you.

LEFTOVER SUPPLIES

If you have leftover unopened non-perishable food/goods, you can leave anything that you don't want to take home with you at our local food bank. It is just down the street at the St. John's United Methodist Church.

AREA INFORMATION

Kayaking/Paddle-boarding/Kite-boarding/Windsurfing is wonderful at this location. You can launch directly from our private dock. Swimming is possible near the dock but it isn't very deep, typically about 2 to 4 feet deep. The depth will vary depending on the winds. **Be sure to wear protective foot wear as there can be issues with shells/crabs/fishing tackle, etc.** The dock has a ladder for climbing in/out of the water. It is also just a great area to float around on rafts/tubes, etc.

For beach access, you can drive/bike/walk to the Avon Fishing Pier (about 1 mile). Parking is available with access to the beach. They have outdoor showers for rinsing before you leave. There are also restrooms, food and drinks (beer!) available in their store. Sightseeing at the Avon Pier is \$1 for an all day pass. Fishing is ~\$12 per day or ~\$30 for three days. Check out their Facebook page to see the latest catches: www.avonfishingpier.com

Alternately, there are beach access lots to the north and south of Avon. If you have 4-wheel drive, you can purchase a permit to drive on the beach in certain areas. More information here:

www.nps.gov/caha/planyourvisit/permitsandreservations.htm

You can fish off the dock at the house. A 10-day NC fishing license is ~\$10 for ages 16 and older. Fishing license information:

www.outerbanks.org/things-to-do/on-water/fishing/fishing-license-information/

If you need to rent beach equipment, Ocean Atlantic Rentals is right down the road and they will deliver to the house. They have bikes, kayaks, paddleboards, beach chairs, beach towels, beach umbrellas, baby gear, etc.

www.oceanatlanticrentals.com

OTHER DETAILS

AIR CONDITIONING

Our home has central air conditioning. You will find a panel on the wall living room. Please ensure that all windows and outside doors are closed while the AC is running to ensure it operate to maximum efficiency. We ask not to set the temperature below 72F, which we find keeps the place as cool as the weather allows. Setting it lower risks the unit freezing up. We also find that keeping the living room curtains closed when the sun is really blazing during the late afternoon also helps with the temperature (don't forget the curtains in the upstairs bedroom, too), especially if you will be away from the home during the day. Just make sure to pull them open so you can enjoy the evening sunset!

CEILING FANS

Our home is equipped with ceiling fans in the living/dining area to help keep you cool. Each fan is operated via a switch on the wall and pull chain on the fan. The fan in the master bedroom has a remote control on the switch-plate. The remote allow you to change the setting while in bed. Please return the remote to the switch-plate on your departure.

TV

A vacation home's TV remote always seems to require a bit of a learning curve. By each TV there is a card describing how to navigate. We provide a streaming TV channel service (40+ channels). If ever prompted for a sign in, please text me at 252-621-5662 for the password.

BREAKAGES

We understand that sometimes accidents happen! Should you break anything please let us know immediately - if it's minor we most likely won't charge. If it's a larger issue (e.g. the TV screen!) we would like to agree the cost with you before you leave to avoid any issues later. Thank you!

ENJOYING YOUR VACATION

BEACH/WATERSPORTS EQUIPMENT

We don't provide beach and watersports equipment with the rental to keep the price as affordable as possible. Beach and watersports equipment can be rented from a few local places in the area. We like to use Ocean Atlantic Rentals for our needs. They can supply kayaks, paddleboards, beach chairs, umbrellas, bikes, etc. They will deliver to the home and pick up at the end of your stay.

CHAIRS / TABLES

There are tables and chairs on the upper and lower decks. Chairs may be moved around for your convenience but we ask that they be returned to where you found them before you leave. There should be 4 Adirondack chairs on the upper deck. There should be a couple of light white plastic chairs for use on the lower deck and yard with some wooden chairs and weathered table.

GRILL / BBQ

There is a park grill available for your use. If you use the grill, please try to clean out the ashes before you leave.

TENNIS

Hatteras Realty in Avon (41156 Rt12) allows public use of their *Club Hatteras* tennis courts.

GYM

For those who can't stay away from the gym, just down the street at the traffic light for Rt12 is Raise The Bar Fitness and Gym. Open 24 hours and offer short-term membership arrangements for island visitors. The gym doesn't have a web site, but contact info for pricing can be found on Facebook @raisethebaravon.

LOCAL ACTIVITY LINKS

NORTH OF HATTERAS ISLAND

Wright Brother's National Memorial: www.nps.gov/wrbr/index.htm

Jockey's Ridge State Park: www.ncparks.gov/jockeys-ridge-state-park

The North Carolina Aquarium: www.ncaquariums.com/roanoke-island

The Lost Colony Outdoor Drama: www.thelostcolony.org

The Bodie Island Lighthouse: www.nps.gov/caha/planyourvisit/bils.htm

HATTERAS ISLAND

(Rodanthe, Waves, Salvo, Avon, Buxton, Frisco and Hatteras Village)

Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge: www.fws.gov/refuge/pea_island/

The Chicamacomico Life Saving Station: www.chicamacomico.org

Cape Hatteras Light Station: www.nps.gov/caha/planyourvisit/chls.htm
This lighthouse is about 10 minutes south of Avon. There is a nice visitor center and museum. You can also climb the lighthouse. If it is hot, I recommend doing this activity earlier in the day.

Ocracoke Car Ferry: You can take the ferry (it is FREE) with your car from Hatteras Village to Ocracoke. We do this occasionally (lunch or dinner and ice cream). There are shops and restaurants on Ocracoke. Allow at least 4-6 hours (or more) depending on how long you want to stay. Be aware that the wait for the ferry can be long especially if you return from Ocracoke in the evening after dinner. If you go, take some popcorn or bread to throw to the seagulls that follow the ferry. www.outerbanks.com/hatteras-ocracoke-ferry.html

Ocracoke Passenger Ferry: www.visitocracokenc.com/plan-your-trip/how-to-get-here/ocracoke-express-passenger-ferry/

The Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum: www.graveyardoftheatlantic.com

Please check websites to see dates and hours of the listed activities. Some will not open until the summer season.

LOCAL RESTAURANTS

AVON

Gidgets: www.pizzagidget.com

Oceania's Bistro: www.oceanasbistro.com
Pangea Tavern: www.pangeatavern.com
The Mad Crabber: www.themadcrabber.com

Bro's Sandwich Shack: www.brossandwichshack.com

RODANTHE, WAVES and **SALVO**: About 15-20 minutes north of Avon

Watermen's Bar and Grill, Waves NC: www.watermensbarandgrill.com They have live music a couple times a week. This is next to REAL Sports. They specialize in kite boarding, paddle boarding and surfing lessons.

HATTERAS: About 20-30 minutes south of Avon

Dinky's: www.villagemarinahatteras.com

Hatteras Sol: <u>www.hatterassol.com</u>. They get great reviews. Reservations are recommended.

Keep in mind, most restaurants do not take reservations so we find it easier to go a little earlier in the evening (5-6PM) for a shorter wait time, especially if you have a larger group, or later in the evening.

If you like to prepare your own seafood for dinner at Kona Breeze, we recommend **Sunrise Seafood Market** at the corner of Rt. 12 and Harbor Road (a bike ride away :). There is a charcoal grill at the house. Grills are not allowed on Kona Breeze decks. www.sunriseseafood.net

If you are an online community person, there is a active message board that can give you a lot of information: www.obxconnection.com/

PACKING FOR YOUR OBX VACATION

We've rented vacation homes in the OBX for years, and one of our lessons learned is to know what is provided with your vacation rental, and what you need to pack or be prepared to buy locally.

With "Kona Breeze", we provide: All bedding, bath towels, hand towels, wash clothes and dish towels. Our housekeeping company, *Shore Details*, provides a fresh "starter" package of toilet paper and paper towels to allow you to get thru the first day or so before shopping locally.

Below is a recommended packing list. Most of this is pretty obvious but hopefully makes clearer what will be waiting for you. Fortunately, Avon has a big **Food Lion** grocery store that has everything you need to stock your refrigerator, pantry, and bathroom for your days on vacation.

Recommended Packing/Shopping List:

Garbage bags	Toilet paper	Plastic wraps
Dish detergent	Paper towels	Shampoo
Staple items (salt, pepper, sugar, etc.)	Condiments	Paper towels
Napkins	Laundry detergent	Cooler Ice
Bath soap	Coffee/filters/K-Cups	Tea

Some recommended "Beach" items to pack:

Sunscreen	Cooler	Beach toys
Lip Balm	Beach towels	Beach chairs
Beach umbrella	Rafts/boogie boards	Fishing gear
Insect repellent	Beverage Koozies	Sunglasses

We usually rent beach and water-sport items from *Ocean Atlantic Rentals:* www.oceanatlanticrentals.com

We've rented kayaks, paddleboards, chairs, beach umbrellas and bikes (and they offer delivery).

There is a **pharmacy**, **Dollar Tree** and **Ace Hardware** in the same shopping center as the **Food Lion**.

For adult beverages, we use the *Food Lion* for a wide selection of beer and wine, and the *ABC Store* in Buxton (village south of Avon) for liquor.