



pcoolbreeze
Siesta Key, Florida



Reviewed 4 weeks ago

No Privacy and Extremely Rude Owner

I'd give this clean and charming place a 5 if not for the rude encounter at almost 11PM by the owner. Earlier that evening, after a hard days bike ride, we put our bikes under the front porch cover as it looked like rain. Enjoying the comfy bed after we showered, there came a sharp knock on the door, it was the owner. When I answered, he barked at me demanding to know why there were bikes parked on "HIS" front porch, as I tried to explain, he rudely interrupted asking if I'd read 2 pages of rules that we were suppose to be given at check in. He further stated that if I had read the rules that I would understand that parking bikes on the front porch is prohibited. He next started to interrogate me about his employee's check in procedures and said that he was having a problem with his employee not following his check in procedures to the letter because the employee clearly did not stress the importance of memorizing the rules. Then he accused us having sunscreen on and threatened to fine us for staining the sheets because this is clearly another rule in his rules. I explained that we would not be using sunscreen at 11 PM inside the room. I offered to move the bikes but he persisted his accusatory inquisition. The incident ruined our stay and made us very uncomfortable.

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Room Tip: We had a cottage which provided more privacy. The rooms in the house do not offer much privacy.

[See more room tips](#)

Stayed: July 2018, traveled as a couple



Value

Sleep Quality



Service

Excellent, you got "clean" and "charming" correct. We appreciate how aware you were you know, of your surroundings ...seeing the "clean" and seeing the "charm" and such (more on your above average sense of awareness below).

And heeeeeeeeeere we go, SMH ???

-- Email after confirmation lists Frequently Asked Questions / Policies, it states, "Please No Bikes On Porches or in Rooms. Please Use The Provided Bike Rack"

-- During check in process, as we walk folks around the property, we physically show each person the provided bike rack and verbally state, "Please No Bikes On Porches or in Rooms. Please Use The Provided Bike Rack"

-- Next to EVERY cottage door, at eye level 8 inches by 8 inches in full color with bold red letters are signs that say, "Please No Bikes On Porches or in Rooms. Please Use The Provided Bike Rack"

-- On a laminated, double-sided 8x14 piece of paper in each room are bulleted Frequently Asked Questions, and in a bolded, 12 point font and it clearly asks (apparently we need to start begging?) "Please No Bikes On Porches or in Rooms. Please Use The Provided Bike Rack"

-- In a color coordinated binder in each of our 11 rooms there is, AGAIN a bulleted Frequently Asked Questions section, in a bolded, 12 point font and it clearly asks "Please No Bikes On Porches or in Rooms. Please Use The Provided Bike Rack"

-- And finally, when you used our pool, at the pool gate is also the entrance to our wheelchair ramp. On the ramp entrance is a sign that says, (wait for it) "Please No Bikes On Porches or in Rooms. Please Use The Provided Bike Rack"

SIX the number between five and seven is how many reasonable ways and times we attempted to communicate to you that we'd really, really, super reeeeeally prefer can you guess? All together now, 1.....23 "Please No Bikes On Porches or in Rooms. Please Use The Provided Bike Rack"

We congenially ask each guest, verbally, in writing and on signs to not put bikes on our porches or in our rooms SIX different times, places and ways and apparently it wasn't enough for you?

Can I send you pictures of the lovely vines (my wife's favorites) growing on our porch railings that you crushed with your bikes? Can I send you pictures of the fresh scratches and a gouge to the railing that your bike peddles and chains left and we now have to repaint?

Here's a great big HELLO SIRwhy would anyone take such the time and effort to ensure bikes didn't get chained to porches or go in rooms? Would it be because bikes and chains equal repainting and damage to our flower gardens and railings surrounding our cottage porches? Could it be that bikes fall over in rooms and put holes in drywall as well as leave black marks on our very nice tile floors? Could it be that bikes here, primarily ridden on the Pinellas Bike Trail, ride through the most dog walked place in the entire city (feces) and have ZERO business being in anyone's room/house anyway especially someone who invited you to their home? Do you think we haven't dealt with all this many times and therefore created the policy?

As well, and I pointed it out when I talked with you (and my most major concern) your bikes created a HUGE safety issue as where you chained them did not allow anyone to pass, completely blocking the porch. I had to step on and over a porch chair to knock on your door. You all literally barricaded yourselves in ...endangering yourself and others (why wouldn't I knock on your door regardless of what time it was?). I couldn't remove the safety issue, the bikes were chained to your porch railing so you can highlight "11 PM" all you want (your lights were fully on). Sunscreen ??? I have no idea what you are even talking about? Were you all drinking that night? Seriously ??? Did you have a dream about sunscreen? Did I maybe mention other things on the bulleted, laminated, double-sided, 8x14 piece of paper in each room, that have the Frequently Asked Questions listed one of them being, "Please Do Not Spray Sunscreen In Your Room or on Porches As We Cannot Get It Off The Tile Or Synthetic Deck Planks?" Why would you or I be the least bit concerned about sunscreen at 11 PM? If I did mention sunscreen, it was only to highlight that it was something else on the laminated sheet pertaining to things we simply ask you to respect. A strange deflection Sir, and a big miss, but nice try let's get back to the good stuff now.

BRILLIANT, "Earlier that evening, after a hard days bike ride, we put our bikes under the front porch cover as it looked like rain" You trying to soften the audience up, get that sympathy vote?LOL, it's like "we were so tired after our (hard days) ride that we just didn't have the energy to put the bikes where our gracious host asked us to SIX TIMES and since it might rain, well " What? SMH ???

Not sure what your favorite part of the conversation was but mine was absolutely when I asked you, "Why aren't your bikes in the bike rack?" And of course mentioned all the different places, ways and times we ask and your reply was, "I thought putting them in the bike rack was optional." OPTIONAL ??? What? Did I start "interrogating" you before or after your ridiculous reply of "optional?" Pretty reasonable that your "Average Joe" would take your reply of "optional" and feel a bit disrespected and perhaps change their tone?

Little birdie told me you are into properties ...vacation rentals, home sales types of things? HHhhhhmmmmmm? That "Glass Houses" stuff, waaaay back in kindergarten. Do you smile and hand out Snickers Bars when you have to deal with rental damage or folks that just come in, rent and do what they want to your place? Unfair sirunfair.

By The Way 10 minutes after our lovely conversation, I went to ensure everything was locked up and found a couple smoking on the porch of our main building. Maybe it was the moon that night as the whole "This Is A Non-Smoking Property, Entire Property" is emphasized THREE TIMES more than the bike stuff you disregarded? Sorry, only second place for you that weekend.

No worries, we see your types occasionally. Folks that it's "all about them"instead of ensuring that you leave places and things better than you found them, you consume, you use ...you leave that footprint, gougecrushed vegetation for others because, well it's all about you. You got to enjoy our "clean" and our "charming" but leaving it that way for those who follow is beyond you.

Look Beyond The Wall is not for everyone. We didn't create BTW to be treated so disrespectfully, at our HOME. Right on the home page of our website, it clearly states, "There is a difference between treating people badly, and treating people accordingly." So many other places, so many choices. We absolutely don't want you to be uncomfortable or have a stay ruined. We promise to not ruin your next stay ...LOL and I think we both know how we can ensure that (wink).

ADMIN NOTE: pcoolbreeze came to breakfast the next morning and asked my wife why we didn't have "Lox." We couldn't stop laughing. It's like, "OK Thurston Howell III we'll get right on that." Lox is basically smoked salmon. WOW, we are absolutely NOT the right place for this cat and hopefully he got Lovey back to their yacht club for lunch.