

NOTICE TO TOURIST ACCOMMODATION

PROVIDERS

SHARING ECONOMY LEVY

On June 11, 2018 a mini-budget was laid in Parliament by the Government of Barbados in which the new administration reiterated an urgent need to stabilize the country's economy by implementing a series of fiscal measures. These measures are intended to assist with the improvement of the national infrastructure in order to maintain Barbados' competitiveness as a tourist destination for the benefit of all partners and stakeholders. All Barbadians, those who love Barbados, and those who are key partners in the country's development have been called upon to play a part in this social and economic restoration.

Effective August 1, 2018, a mandatory "Sharing Economy Levy" will be applied on all fees charged at the following rate:

- 10% on all sharing economy platform rentals such as Airbnb, HomeAway and Vacation Rentals By Owners (VRBO). The Tourist Accommodation Provider is required to collect the "Sharing Economy Levy" on each rental.

Payment of the "Sharing Economy Levy" is to be made to the Barbados Revenue Authority (BRA). The Ministry of Tourism and International Transport is therefore advising Tourist Accommodation Providers that are not yet registered or classified to contact the Barbados Tourism Product Authority (BTPA) in this regard. Failure to comply with the payment of this Levy will result in penalties as prescribed in the governing legislation.

For further queries, please contact the Product Quality Unit of the Barbados Tourism Product Authority (BTPA) at 246-535-3700 or email pq@visitbarbados.org Monday to Friday 8:15am – 4:30 pm.

Tourist Accommodation Providers that are currently receiving rental bookings via a "Sharing Economy Platform" and are already collecting the Room Rate Levy on those rentals, will not be required to collect the 10% "Sharing Economy Levy".

Ministry of Tourism and International Transport

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