

# Hello from Ebel's!

Our 2022 season is ahead of us, and we have a few new policies and reminders that we would like to make our guests aware of. Please read and share this with your party prior to arrival to make any plans that may affect your vacation.

## Reminders:

### OVERNIGHT PERMITS

Please be sure to have your overnight permits purchased the check in process. We will need to place them on the houseboat for you. If you have not purchased them visit <http://recreation.gov>.

### PET POLICY

Ebel's is 100% pet friendly! We have a \$100.00 per pet charge for the stay and have a two pet maximum per houseboat. You will need to pay this at check-in.

### EXTRA RENTALS

A small boat is included with your houseboat, you may bring your own boat or your own motor for our small boat. You can also rent from us. You must have a boat and motor in tow.

### PILLOWS/BLANKETS

There are no pillows or blankets provided on ANY houseboat. Please bring your own.

## Policies:

### CPAP BATTERY RENTALS DISCOUNTUED

We are experiencing difficulties with CPAP battery setups. Machines have changed and our setups are not able to handle new technology. Therefore, we are going to discontinue rental of battery packs and ask that you make arrangements with your health provider for battery use. Remember that generators ARE NOT ALLOWED to run at night! Your provider or Amazon sell battery set ups!

### CREDIT/DEBIT CARDS

We will add a 3% surcharge for all credit/debit card use. Alternate forms of payment can be check or cash.

Thank you and see you soon!

Justin & Heather Ebel

# Ebel's Houseboat Planning Guide

## Welcome Aboard!



Don't forget your fishing pole!

Thank you for reserving your houseboat vacation with Ebel's Voyageur Houseboats! The Ebel's and staff would like to prepare you for your upcoming voyage in beautiful Voyageurs National Park. We have prepared this "houseboat planning guide" to assist you in planning your houseboat vacation and be sure that you are aware of the procedures that need to be done to make this an unforgettable vacation. Please take the time to read this entire planner and be sure to share with all members of your "crew".

### Special Points of Interest

- Kettle Falls Hotel
- Ellsworth Rock Gardens
- Namakan Narrows Pictographs
- Hiking trails
- Wildlife watching

Justin & Heather Ebel



## Houseboat Overnight Permit

All houseboats are required to get a permit to stay overnight in the park. Fees will apply. Visitors may name a reservation by visiting [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) or by calling the national call center at 877-444-6777.

Escape to the wilderness without leaving anything behind!

## Passenger Manifest

A passenger manifest will be sent to you electronically to fill out and sign. You will notice that rental houseboats are NOT allowed to have more than 12 passengers. This includes children. This is a U.S. Coast Guard regulation and is a result of the Passenger Vessel Act of 1993. Fines are in the thousands of dollars and are your responsibility.

## Charter Agreement

A charter agreement will also be sent to you electronically to sign. This is the agreement between you and Ebel's for the rental of the houseboat. You will not be allowed to board the houseboat until the signed agreement has been returned.

## Extra Rental Equipment

Please let us know in advance if you will be needing any extra rental equipment. This may include small boats (one is included, no motor), small motors, generators, canoes, kayaks, etc.



## What to expect upon arrival.....

1. Plan on arriving AFTER 1:00 PM and PRIOR to 4:00 PM.
2. Check in with office. Bring your signed overnight permit with you!
3. Pay for your houseboat and any "extra" rental equipment.
4. Your houseboat will be assigned to you.
5. An Ebel's crew member will accompany you to your houseboat.
6. Inspect your houseboat with a crew member.
7. A "crew" member will help you load your belongings.
8. Put your own boats in the water on our boat ramp.
9. Ask your crew member where to park. This is very important, as we have limited parking and need to make good use of the parking area that we have. You may be asked to disconnect your trailer. This trailer will need to be marked by our crew.
10. Order ice, bait, firewood and any items that you may want to purchase from Ebel's. A running tab will be held for you and will be paid at the end of your trip for payment with the fuel that you used.
11. When all the above items have been done, your instructions will begin.
12. Please be sure to LISTEN to all instructions. SAVE your questions until the instructions are done.
13. Once your crew instructor is sure that you fully understand the instructions you will set sail!
14. Our crew member will accompany you for a short cruise (they will tow a boat to return to our base) and you will be on your own to venture in our beautiful National Park.
15. Please have fun!

# Policies

- In the 2022 season, we will be sending out all documents pertaining to rentals via HelloSign. Please follow the instructions within the email and return to us prior to arrival. This includes the Passenger Manifest, Charter Agreement, Optional Insurance waiver, Pet Policy. You will need to purchase your Overnight Permit and bring a signed copy with you for check-in. If you are unsure of how to do any of this, please email us [info@ebels.com](mailto:info@ebels.com). We will be happy to assist.
- Payment must be made prior to boarding. 6.875% state tax, .05% county tax and a 3% service charge will apply to all houseboat rentals. Extra rental equipment will be taxed 7.37%.
- Any damages to the houseboat and its parts will be your responsibility. We offer optional damage insurance for \$30.00/day.
- Check in time is between 1:00-4:00 pm. Check out time is 9:00 am.
- All deposits are non-refundable. Payment in full 45 days in advance is required on the Vista and 65's Series.
- Fishing licenses should be obtained prior to your arrival. They can be purchased online via <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/licenses/fishing/index.html>
- We will assign one staff member to assist in loading your houseboat, parking your vehicle and questions prior to instructions.
- Payment must be made prior to boarding. 6.875% state tax, .05% county tax and a 3% service charge will apply to all houseboat rentals. Extra rental equipment will be taxed 7.37%.

- Any damages to the houseboat and its parts will be your responsibility. We offer optional damage insurance for \$30.00/day.
- Check in time is between 1:00-4:00 pm. Check out time is 9:00 am.
- All deposits are non-refundable. Payment in full 45 days in advance is required on the Vista and 65's Series.
- We are 100% pet friendly. No more than two pets will be allowed on a houseboat. ***New!*** \$100.00 per pet charge will be added.
- A boat and motor in tow is required. You may bring your own. We will provide a 14' rental boat (no oars) as part of your houseboat rental that you may bring or rent a motor for. The provided boat is rated for up to a short shaft 20HP.
- Linens are provided on the Vistas and 65' Series at no additional charge. This includes sheet and towels. The Voyageur and Voyageur Plus Series require you to bring your own linens. ***There are no pillows or blankets provided on ANY houseboat.***
- All houseboats will be thoroughly cleaned as they have been, with the addition of paying particular attention to frequently touched surfaces such as tables, doorknobs, light switches, remote controls, countertops, handles, toilets, faucets, sinks and other nonporous surfaces. Bleach and disinfectants will be used for normal cleaning.
- We will have contact with you via marine radio or cell phone. Please know your location prior to calling us if assistance is needed. Plan on stocking up on all your ice, bait and firewood prior to departure. Mechanical assistance will be available if needed.
- Plan on coming into the office to pay remaining balance. Ice, bait, wood and fuel will be tallied at the end of your trip.
- We have the right to refuse or terminate any trip if determined.

We want to provide the safest possible trip you can have during these unprecedented times. By helping Ebel's with these policies, we will continue to provide you with trouble-free houseboat vacations like we have for 50 years! Please do not come to our area or take your vacation if you are symptomatic. Our area currently has very few cases of Covid. We hope you and yours are healthy and remain healthy, and for the speedy recovery of our nation.

Thank you and be well!

Justin & Heather Ebel & the Ebel's Crew







## ***CHARTER AGREEMENT***

This charter party at Ebel's Voyageur Houseboats, Inc., Ash River Trail, St. Louis County, Minnesota, on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ between Ebel's Voyageur Houseboats, Inc., owner of the houseboats, Party of the First Part, hereinafter referred to as the Owner, and \_\_\_\_\_ Party of the Second Part, hereinafter referred to as the Charterer.

### **WITNESSETH**

1. The Owner agrees to let, and the Charterer agrees to hire the houseboat number \_\_\_\_\_ on the following basis.
2. The Charterer shall pay in advance to the owner as and for the exclusive use of the vessel, a daily or weekly rental to be agreed upon between the parties hereto; there will be no refund to the Charterer of the rental paid in advance.
3. The Charterer shall furnish all of his own food, rations, provisions and personal equipment for the rental period, or in the alter-native, the Charterer shall pay the Owner for such food, rations, provisions and personal equipment as is supplied by the Owner.
4. The vessel shall only be used for the pleasure purposes of the Charterer, his family and guests and the Charterer shall not engage in the transportation of merchandise or carrying of passengers for hire or engage in any trade in violation of the laws of the United States, Canada or any political subdivision of either.
5. During the period of this agreement the Charterer shall have the full and exclusive command, control, use, possession and navigation of the vessel. It is understood that the Owner upon delivering possession of the vessel to the Charterer shall retain no control of its use, possession or navigation, the same being wholly vested in the Charterer for the duration of this agreement.
6. Qualified guides are usually available to the Charterer, which he may hire at his own discretion. Any guide so hired by the Charterer shall be an employee of the Charterer and not that of the Owner.
7. The Owner shall not in any way be held liable for any claim for damages made by any third party arising out of the operation of the vessel by the Charterer. It being understood that the Charterer shall be solely responsible for his operation, navigation and use of the vessel and the Charterer will hold the owner harmless against any and all such claims. Charterer is solely responsible for his/her operation and use of the houseboat vessel and for the control thereof when not in use. Charterer is, therefore, responsible for any claims which may arise out of the operation and use of the houseboat vessel by any person, whether or not authorized by Charterer to operate such houseboat vessel.
8. The Charterer will be liable for any damage to the vessel and will be fully responsible for any lost or damaged equipment and service calls. This provision is not applicable to any service calls which are required because of breakdown of equipment.
9. We reserve the right to inspect any and all boats. If a boat is returned in a dirty condition a \$200.00 cleaning fee will be billed to the Charterer and to be paid before leaving base.
10. Vessels are to be returned to the base not later than 9:00 a.m. on the agreed date. An additional charter rate penalty of one-half day will be assessed against the Charterer for late return. If you plan to return to the base before your scheduled return, please call. Charterer agrees to allow St. Louis Sheriff, Minnesota DNR or Canadian law enforcement officials to board the vessel upon their request. Vessels must be tied up 90 minutes prior to sunset.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, both the Owner and the Charterer have executed this Agreement this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_

EBEL'S VOYAGEUR HOUSEBOATS, INC.

Owner \_\_\_\_\_  
(An Officer)

Charterer \_\_\_\_\_





### **LIMITED WAIVER OF RIGHTS OF RECOVERY**

In consideration of payment of \$\_\_\_\_\_, Ebel's Voyageur Houseboats, Inc. ("Ebel's") hereby waives its right to recover damages against \_\_\_\_\_ ("Charterer") for part of the deductible portion of Ebel's physical damage insurance ("Hull Insurance") for Houseboat Number \_\_\_\_\_ for damage to such houseboat under the following specific terms and conditions:

1. The Charterer is responsible for the following damages to such houseboat:
  - The first **\$200.00** of damage, per incident.
  - All damage from **\$5,000.00** to **\$10,000.00** per incident.
  - Ebel's insurance company may sue the Charterer under its subrogation rights for any damages to such houseboat in excess of the deductible under Ebel's Hull Insurance policy which deductible is currently \$10,000.00 per incident.
  - The amount of damage to such houseboat shall be determined by Ebel's and shall be Ebel's purchase price for expedited delivery of replacement parts plus the number of hours necessarily incurred by Ebel's in repairing the damage with the labor to be calculated at Ebel's "shop rate".
2. This waiver does not apply to damage to fishing boats and their motors; fish-n-ski boats and their motors; hot tub covers, houseboat furniture and/or propellers on the motors on said fishing boats, fish-n-ski boats and/or such houseboat.
3. Ebel's is not acting as an insurer.
4. In the event the Charterer or its guests breach the terms of the Charter Agreement for the afore-described houseboat and such breach directly or indirectly causes the damage to the houseboat then, and in that event, this Agreement is void.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, both Ebel's and the Charterer have executed this Agreement this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

EBEL'S VOYAGEUR HOUSEBOATS, INC.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Its \_\_\_\_\_

Charterer: \_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

PASSENGER MANIFEST

The Passenger Safety Vessel Act of 1993 – prohibits carrying more than 12 passengers (adults, children and infants) on your rented houseboat. If your rented houseboat has more than 12 passengers you will be in violation of The Passenger Safety Vessel Act and subject to penalties enforced by the United States Coast Guard. It is your responsibility to comply with this requirement. Children 12 years old and under must wear a life vest at all times while on any vessel rented by Ebel's.

PASSENGER LIST

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name ( ☐ Check here is this is a child under age 12)

Street Address City State Zip Code

Phone Number Email Address

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name ( ☐ Check here is this is a child under age 12)

Street Address City State Zip Code

Phone Number Email Address

3. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name ( ☐ Check here is this is a child under age 12)

Street Address City State Zip Code

Phone Number Email Address

4. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name ( ☐ Check here is this is a child under age 12)

Street Address City State Zip Code

Phone Number Email Address

5. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name ( ☐ Check here is this is a child under age 12)

Street Address City State Zip Code

Phone Number Email Address

6. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name ( ☐ Check here is this is a child under age 12)

Street Address City State Zip Code

Phone Number Email Address

7. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name ( ☐ Check here is this is a child under age 12)

Street Address City State Zip Code

Phone Number Email Address

8. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name ( ☐ Check here is this is a child under age 12)

Street Address City State Zip Code

Phone Number Email Address

9. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name ( ☐ Check here is this is a child under age 12)

Street Address City State Zip Code

Phone Number Email Address

10. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name ( ☐ Check here is this is a child under age 12)

Street Address City State Zip Code

Phone Number Email Address

11. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name ( ☐ Check here is this is a child under age 12)

Street Address City State Zip Code

Phone Number Email Address

12. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name ( ☐ Check here is this is a child under age 12)

Street Address City State Zip Code

Phone Number Email Address

Please ask Ebel's staff for assistance if you have any questions.

READ AND UNDERSTOOD BY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRINT NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

PLEASE HAVE MANIFEST COMPLETED PRIOR TO DEPARTURE

EBEL'S EMPLOYEE INITIALS: \_\_\_\_\_



## ***PET POLICY***

Ebel's is pet friendly and currently charges \$100 per pet with a maximum of two per houseboat. We do ask that you take responsibility for the cleanliness of the houseboat regarding your pet.

1. Please do not allow your pet on the furniture and beds!
2. Please do not leave your pet unattended in the houseboat.
3. Clean your pet's paws when entering the houseboat from the beach.
4. Immediately report any damage that your pet may have caused.
5. Follow the National Park pet policy.

Heavy shedding pets are the housekeeper's worst enemy. Please clean up after your pets! Ebel's reserves the right to charge a minimum fee in the amount of \$250.00 for houseboats that require extra cleaning due to pets. This includes the replacement of blankets and shampooing of the carpet.

Please be respectful of the guests that follow you! We hope that you and your pet have a wonderful vacation!



Guest Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_