



HOLLY BLUFF
RESORT MARINA



Houseboat Vacations

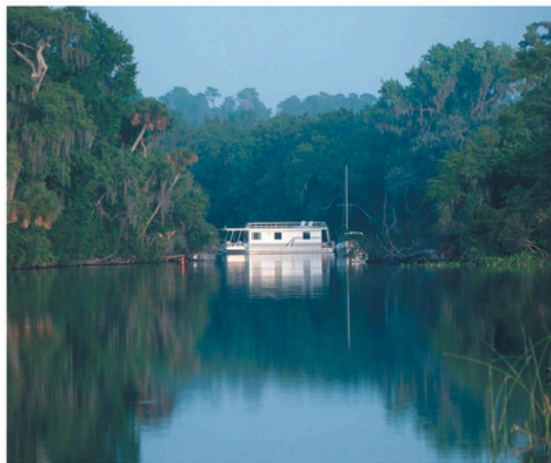
Know before you go!

Houseboat Handbook & Cruising Guide

Please review our Houseboat Handbook and Cruising Guide prior to arrival. This booklet, which **you will receive a hard copy of at check-in**, contains valuable information about the houseboat, navigating the St. Johns River, local wildlife you may encounter and various points of interest.

You can also explore destinations and refer to our new interactive map here: <https://hollybluff.com/river-destinations>

**HOLLYBLUFF
MARINA**



**Cruising Guide &
Houseboat Handbook**



Orientation General Information

When you arrive at the marina, we will review several informative documents one-on-one prior to boarding. Read in advance:

SERVICE CALLS

If mechanical problems arise during your stay please call TowBoat U.S. at 352-348-8697 or radio channel 16 first, then inform Holly Bluff Resort Marina at 386-822-9992 that you've contacted TowBoat with a mechanical issue.

Please reference your boat name when calling. You can reach the marina between the hours of 8:30AM-5:00PM – 7 days a week. Holly Bluff Resort Marina provides a free 1 year TowBoat US membership for the main operator of the houseboat rental, covering **only** the labor rate for Tow Boat US. If you knock one or more blades off the prop the boat will shake and not maneuver properly. Call Tow Boat US ASAP to have the prop replaced. **Any damage to houseboats/property caused by the renter is not covered by this membership or the marina.**

STOPPING UP THE MARINE TOILET

You must only use the tissue provided for you on the boat. You must only put a small amount of tissue in the marine toilet and be sure to clear the line completely by holding the button down for at least 10 seconds. Other than small amounts of the marine toilet paper we provide, **do not** put anything into the “head” unless you have eaten it first. Foreign objects can clog a marine toilet, to avoid this, leave the lid down when not in use. If there is a toilet issue, you must return to our dock for repair.

CLOGGING THE WATER INTAKES

Engine and generator intakes can become clogged when operating the boat in shallow water, running aground and/or if grass or debris clogs the intakes, which may result in mechanical failure. If this occurs we recommend contacting Tow Boat US who can instruct the renter on how to proceed.

RUNNING AGROUND

Your boat will draft about 3 feet. **Do not run in less than 4 feet of water.** To avoid running aground keep an eye on the depth finder and pay close attention to the channel markers and the maps provided in your houseboat handbook.

FUEL

The houseboat engines use an average of 2 and ½ gallons of fuel per running hour at normal cruising speed. The generator uses about 1 and ½ gallons of fuel per running hour. Please watch your fuel gauge and fill up when necessary. The fuel at our marina is a high octane non-ethanol marine grade gasoline. Try to avoid fueling at other marinas as using inferior fuel can possibly damage the engine and/or generator. **If you are running low on fuel please contact our marina and we will recommend the best place to refuel in the area you are in.** Our engines are gasoline, **not diesel**, so do not put diesel fuel in the fuel tanks. At the end of your cruise please return the boat to our fuel dock and we will fill up the fuel tanks. You are responsible for the fuel **used** upon check-out.

FIRST AID KITS

If you do not have a first aid kit, we have some available at the marina that you can take on the boat. If you open the kit, it becomes yours and there will be a \$45 charge.

WATER

Fresh potable water is available at the dock and your water holding tank will be filled prior to your arrival. Bottled water is available for purchase in our marina store. Your boat has a limited amount of water. **BE CONSERVATIVE!**

SMOKING

Smoking is allowed only on exterior decks. **Smoking inside the boat will result in a \$250 cleaning fee!**

CHECKING OUT

Your return time and date are clearly outlined. Please **return no later than 4pm for check-out**, as this gives us the required time needed to refuel the boat and complete check-out procedures. Please wash all dishes before your departure and return houseboat in the same condition in which it was received. **A \$100 cleaning charge will be applied to boats returned excessively dirty.**

Silver Glen

Silver Glen Spring is our northern cruising boundary. Most service calls and damages come from this area. If you are planning to visit Silver Glen, please read this:

We have an **ENTER AT YOUR OWN RISK** policy for Silver Glen Springs and the surrounding area of Lake George. You are responsible for any private property damage and/or personal injury.

Most service calls and damage occur in the Silver Glen area. To help avoid additional costs for service calls and/or damage to private property our advice is to stay within a reasonable range from Holly Bluff, meaning south of Astor Bridge and north of the Wekiva River.

- **DO NOT TIE UP TO TREES OR IN ANY WAY SECURE THE BOAT FROM THE SHORELINE AT SILVER GLEN. DO NOT TIE UP TO BUOYS.**
- **DO NOT DISTURB EEL GRASS PLANTINGS.**
- **ALCOHOL IS NOT PERMITTED AT SILVER GLEN.**
- **ENJOY WILDLIFE FROM A DISTANCE. NEVER APPROACH, TOUCH OR FEED WILDLIFE.**
- **NEVER CROSS LAKE GEORGE DURING PERIODS OF HIGH WIND.**

Silver Glen is the most popular destination on the St. Johns River. Unfortunately, the spring has a shallow entrance and run. Plants and sand are abundant and can cause damage to the engine and the generator if sucked up into the intakes. Propellers are easily damaged in shallow water. Damage could also include repairs to the stern drive, and repairs to the engine and generator due to over-heating. **You are responsible for paying for damage to the prop, engine and generator when you run the boat in shallow water.**

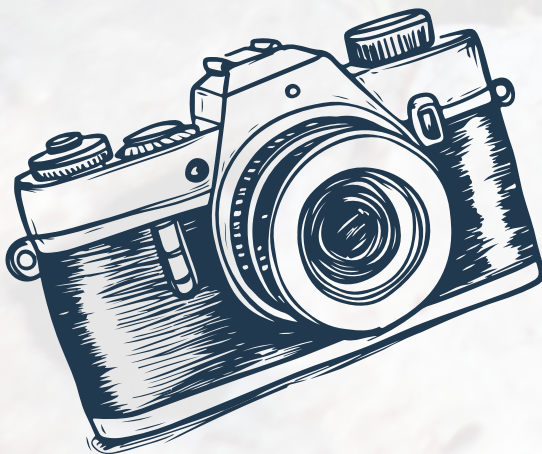
It can be challenging to properly anchor a large boat in this narrow, shallow spring. For every 1 foot of water, you should have at least 7 feet of line out. For example, if you are in 5 feet of water, you should have a minimum of 35 feet of line out. **You should not be anchored or have anchor lines within the navigation area of the spring run.**

For service calls, Tow Boat U.S. Lake George (352-348-8697) is available to assist you on a first-come-first-serve basis, weather and lake conditions permitting.

Don't Forget List

Recommended items for your houseboat vacation.

- Beach Chairs
- Beach Towels
- Snorkeling Equipment / Floats
- Binoculars
- Bottled Water and Insulated Water Bottles
- Cameras / GoPros
- DVD Movies / Cards / Games
- First Aid Supplies
- Fishing Equipment / License / Bait
- Flashlight
- Insect Repellent / Citronella Candles
- Disposable Plates, Cups and Utensils
- Personal Toiletries (shampoo, t-brush, etc.)
- Portable CD Player or Bluetooth Speaker
- Salt & Pepper / Cream & Sugar
- Search Light (12V adapter at helm)
- Sunblock
- Work Gloves (for anchor handling)
- Storage Bags & Foil
- Bath Soap / Hand Soap



Fishing

We have fishing poles and tackle boxes for rent. We do not sell live bait. For information on how to purchase a fishing license, please visit:

[Freshwater Fishing Licenses](#)

Towing Policy

Holly Bluff Marina allows boats 18' or under to be towed behind our houseboats.

Customer is responsible for providing their own tow line and securing the small boat to the houseboat. Tow lines should only be tied to a corner cleat. On houseboats with no aft cleat a tow line can be securely tied to the base of a hand rail. Under no circumstances should a tow line be tied to a hand rail above the area where the hand rail is welded to the deck. Customer is fully liable for any damage to the houseboat, small boat and any/all damage to private property related to towing a boat from our houseboats.

Frequently Asked Questions

View here: <https://hollybluff.com/faqs-holly-bluff-resort-marina>



Hop aboard!



See you soon in
📍 *Old Florida*