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## Guide to The Cottage

Dear Guests,

Welcome to The Vianden Cottage! I am pleased to host your visit and hope you enjoy the serenity of this peaceful property and enjoy a break from the everyday life. Take a deep breath of fresh forest air and relax.

I hope this guide will help you navigate The Cottage and to make your time here as comfortable as possible.

### **About The Vianden Cottage:**

The Cottage was originally built in 1965 and served as a holiday rental property. I bought The Cottage and completely rebuilt it in 2014 – 2015. Located directly on the Circular Walking Trail of Vianden and close to the lovely town of Vianden. The Cottage is perfectly poised to offer you an escape from the everyday but keep you close to attractions and conveniences.

### **Check In/Out:**

- Check In: Anytime after **3:00 PM**
- Check Out: By **11:00 AM**
- Lock box code: **1975** – I suggest leaving one key in the lock box as the door locks automatically, this will avoid you being locked out with both keys inside ☹️.

### **Cottage Rules:**

- No Smoking inside the cottage.
- Do not flush anything other than toilet paper down the toilet (i.e. cleaning wipes, baby wipes, hygiene products). This will cause an immediate blockage in the plumbing. A garbage bin is provided in the bathroom.
- No groups (i.e. more than your present company)
- Prior to check out:
  - Please leave the property tidy.
  - Please put your garbage and recycling in the bags provided and deposited in the bins located at the side of the cottage.
  - Please do not leave the dishwasher full of dirty dishes, please add detergent and run the clean cycle (no problem leaving clean dishes in the dishwasher!)
  - Remember to log out of your Netflix/Amazon Prime accounts!
- If visiting with your dog(s):
  - Please bring a doggy bed/blankets for him/her – as some guests have allergies to dog hair we have to remove area carpets for guests with dogs.
  - Prior to checking out, please use the cordless light-weight Rowenta vacuum located in the bathroom to clean up doggy hair.

### **Health and Safety:**

**Cleaning and Sanitization:** The cottage surfaces, equipment, and linens are fully cleaned and sanitized per the Booking.com and AirBnB *Enhanced Cleaning Protocols* established due to COVID-19. Cleaning supplies for your use can be found such as sanitization gel (at entrance), and other cleaning products under kitchen sink and in shelves in bathroom under the light switch. All linens have been properly cleaned and sanitized.

**Fire Extinguisher:** Located in the kitchen area at entrance to bathroom.

**Fire Alarm:** Located inside bedroom door on ceiling

**Emergency Kit:** Located on the white shelves between the kitchen and bedroom.

**Hospital:** The nearest hospital (pray you don't need it) is in Ettlebruk - CHdN – North Hospital Center Ettlebruck at 120 Avenue Lucien Salentiny, 9080 Ettelbruck.

**Emergency Numbers:** 112 – Emergency Services, 113 - Police

**Drinking Water:** The tap water is safe for consumption (potable) as it comes from the municipal water system.

### **IMPORANT NOTES:**

- **Toilet** - Please do NOT flush anything other than toilet paper (i.e. wipes, cleaning supplies, paper towel, etc.) down the toilet, this will cause an immediate blockage!!

- **Keys & Locks** – I suggest that you leave 1 set of keys in the lock box as the front door locks automatically. To avoid both sets of keys being locked inside, leaving 1 set in the lockbox will avoid this situation!
- **Fireplace** - Do NOT use fire accelerant in the fireplace! The fireplace is high efficiency and therefore use of accelerant will cause an internal explosion. The small fire starter cubes are ok but please do NOT use liquid accelerant! Also, CAUTION when opening the fireplace as due to the high efficiency vacuum created in the fireplace the flames will come out when you open the door, please stand back (I don't want you to go home without your eyebrows!).

**Electrical Panel:** In any case of power outage – the switch box for the cottage power is located on the left of the refrigerator behind the microwave. In the case of any outage, simply turn the corresponding switch to the upper position. The switch breakers ensure safety shut off/on for any electrical issue.

**Bug Zapper** – There are 2 bug “zappers” in the cottage. One is located above the cupboards in the kitchen and can be turned on/off at your convenience, the on/off switch is on the front of the device at the top. The second is a hand bug zapper (looks like a small tennis racket) located under the kitchen sink. PLEASE keep out of hands of children as it uses electrical shock to kill bugs and will shock children too, alternately children can shock parents! Note that bug spray is kept in the white shelves in the bathroom away from reach of children as is poisonous.

**CCTV** – There is a security camera at the front entrance. This is a dummy camera (i.e. runs on AA batteries) and is simply a “decoy”. There are no real cameras in respect of your privacy.

#### Amenities:

**Kitchen:** I am happy to provide you a fully equipped kitchen. Core appliances are built in refrigerator/freezer, oven, cook top, microwave and dishwasher.

Whatever contents you find in the cabinets and drawers are available for your use, all have been thoroughly cleaned and sanitized so please help yourselves.

Unfortunately, due to current health and safety restrictions our sharing possibilities are less than usual, however we do our best to ensure that your coffee/tea service is set up for you and that you have essential condiments on hand.

The kitchen contains the following:

- Cutlery
- Plates and dishes
- Mixing bowls and food preparation equipment (i.e. cutting boards, prep trays)
- Cooking pots and pans
- Baking dishes
- Cooking knives and other equipment (peelers, scrapers, lifters, etc.)
- Electric Fondue Pot
- Coffee Maker (Senseo) – coffee pods provided
- Electric Kettle

**Garbage and Recycling:** There is a garbage bin with lid in the kitchen as well as 3 large exterior bins along the side of the cottage for you to deposit your garbage and recycling. Please deposit your garbage and recycling to these bins, we will take care of its removal upon your check out. Each bin contains appropriate size garbage bags, more bags are left for your convenience under the sink and by the bins at the side of the cottage.

### Living Room:

**Wifi:** located on the back of the white internet router located on the living room side table/dining table.

**AppleTV** with large flat screen Samsung SmartTV connected to Yamaha sound system. Input for TV to Sound System is "TV". You can also connect your own device via the headphone aux input on the front of the Yamaha amplifier, if Apple you will need an AUX-Apple connector.

**JBL Bluetooth Speakers** – located on the shelf between the fireplace and the front window. Simply press and hold the Bluetooth button on the top of the speakers until the blue light flashes and then connect your device to "JBL Charge".

**Sofa bed** – simply pull out the lower platform of the large brown leather sofa and you have your bed! Linens for the sofa bed need to be requested in advance and will be found stored in the cabinet beside the sofa and the duvet are stored in the sofa – lift the long end up to access that storage.

**Energy Efficient Fireplace** – we have left you a complimentary package of kindling and firewood if you would like to enjoy the fireplace. We do our best to set up the fire for you in advance, however, following is our tips for getting a good fire going:

*Tip for lighting the Fireplace:*

- Crumple paper, place in centre of fireplace
- Arrange small wood pieces over paper intermingled with fire starter cubes
- Light corners of paper
- As fire grows add heavier wood
- PS: ***Depending on the climate, open the front door of The Cottage if necessary, for additional air drat and smoke escape.***

### Electric Heating:

You will find a number of electric heaters in the property. Feel free to locate them where most comfortable for you.

**Fold-Out Dining Table:** Just lift the side up and move the arm underneath in position to hold it. This provides a table for up to 3 people, chairs to be found in the corner of the bedroom. If you need more dining space, you can move the table out from the wall and rotate to open both sides to seat up to 6. The exterior table on the veranda is a simple version of the same, 3 for breakfast! The wooden outside side tables on the veranda can also be used as seating benches if extra seating required. – There are **4 folding chairs** in the corner of the bedroom nearest the window.

**Demystifying the Wooden Chest in Living Room** - Not as exciting as some may think, this is just a storage for my personal items, clothing and linens that I use when we use The Cottage myself 😊.

### Bathroom:

**Electric Heater** – plug in and set timer

**Hot water heater:** This has been left high for you so no worries. The hot water heater is located over the toilet. Given the cottage is fully winterized and that Luxembourg does not allow direct flow-through water heaters you have a large but very effective water heater tank. You will have approximately 20 minutes of warm/hot water for showers. The water is continually reheated but after 20 minutes you may need to wait approx. 10 minutes for the full tank to reheat for the next shower.

**Washing machine:** If you need the washing machine:

1. Connect the water hose to the inlet under the sink, this is the water input. If you need to tighten the water input hose, there is a wrench in the white storage cabinet under the light switch. Do not over tighten.
2. Place the water bucket in the shower and put the drainage hose from the washing machine over the edge of the bucket so that the machine can drain into the bucket – the hose has to be higher than the floor otherwise a sensor will shut down the machine.
3. Plug the power bar located in the white storage cabinet under the light switch into the electrical outlet by the sink. Plug the washing machine's power cable into the power bar.
4. Turn on the washing machine.
5. Turn the cold water on using the blue button/knob under the sink.
6. Follow the operating instructions of the washing machine (located in the white storage cabinet under the light switch) to set your required settings.
7. To dry your clothes, there is a small clothes rack located in the bedroom.

Of course, I can set this up for you in advance if preferred. I leave it as it is to avoid having the water hose running across the floor during your stay.

#### **Bedroom:**

The bedroom is made up for you, please feel free to use the wardrobe space, it has been cleaned and disinfected completely as is the case with the side tables.

Behind the white shelves you will find a **clothes rack** for drying clothes.

#### **Outdoors:**

**Charcoal BBQ** on Veranda – I have left you charcoal and starter fluid/cubes so please enjoy. There are also fire starter cubes left near the fireplace. You can light the BBQ by either putting forming tubes of newspaper in the lower column and lighting from below, or using small wood, fire starters and charcoal directly from above. **Please move the bbq away from the wall before use.**

**Firepit** – I have left you some wood to enjoy in the in this area and in the grey box (best attempt made to keep it dry, otherwise wood from inside works fine!) in the little garden space, enjoy!

**Bird Feeder** – Please feel free to feed the birds, they are lovely and appreciate the attention! ... Bird food provided for you located on the lower shelf of the white shelves in the kitchen between the bedroom and the bathroom doors.

### Local Conveniences:

**Q8 Vianden** – 10 minutes drive - gas station with convenience market – most of the basics including beer, wine, drinks and fresh bread.

**Matos Market** – 5 minutes drive - a small Portuguese market just at the edge of the Vianden centre square – some fresh produce, frozen food, canned food, and beer, wine, drinks.

**Cactus Full Supermarket** – 15 – 20 minutes drive , located in Ingeldorf beside Diekirch. This is a full scale supermarket.

**Edeka Small Supermarket** – 10 minute drive, located in Germany in Koperich just across the Lux-DE border.

**Cora/Smatch Supermarket** – 15 – 20 minutes drive - located in Diekirch Centre. This is a mid-size supermarket located in the Diekirch town centre. While there you may like to enjoy the little town square with some cafes, bars, and restaurants. There is also an interesting museum by the church.

**Electric Car Charging Station:** 6 minutes drive – located at Parking Victor Hugo at the edge of the Our River in the center of Vianden. You can charge while you eat & drink 😊 ... Specifically provides:

- 2 connectors with 22kW and Type 2 connector
- 1 available connectors
- 1 occupied connectors

Reference (Chargy): <https://chargy.lu/en/#home-find-terminal>

**Pharmacies** – There is a small pharmacy in the main street of Vianden, located between the Q8 Gas and the bridge. Limited hours. Alternatively in Ingeldorf (beside Diekirch) there is a full scale pharmacy Pharmacie Nordstad at 8 Route d'Ettelbruck, 9160 Ingeldorf” in the same complex as Cactus Ingeldorf.

**Hospital** – The nearest hospital (pray you don't need it) is in Ettelbruck - CHdN – North Hospital Center Ettelbruck at 120 Avenue Lucien Salentiny, 9080 Ettelbruck.

### Local Wildlife:

Welcome to the great outdoors! Unlike in my native Canada here you will not find anything fearful at the door 😊. You will however see plenty of Finches, Green Wood Peckers (you will hear them knocking on the trees), small hawks, ducks, storks, red-tufted squirrels, fox, and lovely deer. There are a lot of owls in this region which you will hear a night. The region also hosts plenty of wild boar however they are not found in the local forest and prefer the flat fields (careful when driving at night as they pose a serious danger when crossing the road).

**Local Attractions (also please see my website <http://www.theviandencottage.com>) :**

### In/Near Vianden:

**State Park** - Located at the end of the Imp. Homerict where The Cottage is situated. This is a beautiful walk that leads you into the centre of Vianden. Enjoy the winding walk and the views along the ancient walls of the city. There are some picnic tables as well if you would like to make a picnic.

**Trinity Church** (just above the main square beside Hotel Heinz on the main street): One of the most beautiful Gothic buildings in Luxembourg is the Trinitarian Church of Vianden, built in 1248. The main altar is in the choir room added in 1644. This Rococo altar dates from 1758 and is the work of Michel Weiler. Next to the church is the former Trinitarian monastery with a cloister. The grave figure of Marie de Spannheim († 1400) commemorates the last descendant of the Count von Vianden. - go behind the church to the little garden for some real historic pieces

**St. Peter's Church** (Roth an der Our), this is a little church on a hill located just as you leave Vianden in the direction to Bitburg. Drive past the Q8 and take the road leading up the hill, first right and it's just about 100m down the road, history: Part of the former Johanniter coming, Romanesque, originally three-aisled basilica on a trapezoidal floor plan, third third of the 12th century, northern side choir with apse probably from the 11th century, arching shortly after 1466, probably at the same time conversion to the stair hall; Window changes and fittings baroque; in the churchyard wall five grave cross fragments from 1636, so-called plague cross, sandstone, allegedly from 1632; Well shaft maybe still medieval, fountain houses younger.

**Hiking:** Trail Maps found here: <https://www.outdooractive.com/en/walking-routes/vianden/hiking-in-vianden/1425121/>

**Dining in Vianden:** (you can also find this information and links on my webpage under "Local Attractions")

**Cafe Cine Ancienne (our No. 1 Choice)** - in the main street of Vianden, really cool cafe made from an old movie theatre, still plays cartoons all day :-). Great service, great cheesecake, great service. – Cash only. Also hosts live music on select weekends.

**Petry Hotel Pizzeria & Restaurant** – Serves excellent wood oven pizzas as well as a full menu. You can eat inside the rustic restaurant/bar or outside on their terrace.

**Chalet Hot Stone Steak House** – Rustic chalet setting, great steak! Situated at the base of the Vianden Chair Lift.

**Café du Pont** – Very friendly, huge menu with lots of "comfort food", nice view of the river.

### Nearby Towns and Attractions:

**Echternach - Echternach** is approximately a 30-minute drive away, lovely place with very historical buildings, a large town square and a nice place to take lunch/coffee/ice cream. Description: The historical and cultural center of the Mullerthal Region - Luxembourg's Little Switzerland as well as the oldest city of Luxembourg has retained its medieval ambience: labyrinthine streets, remains and towers of the ancient city wall and a marketplace with a Gothic town house take the visitor back in time.

In the center there is a museum of prehistory and at the lake there are the remains of the largest Roman villa north of the Alps, along with a visitor center and a permanent exhibition.

The city of Echternach also has a wide cultural offer with a large calendar of events during the summer months: concerts such as Echterlive in July, concerts in September, folklore festivals and flea markets

provide a lively atmosphere. The Trifolion is a generously designed cultural and congress center with a sophisticated program.

A large recreational area with lake, bike and hike trails and an adventure playground make a visit here worthwhile.

Echternach Link: <https://www.visitluxembourg.com/en/mullerthal/echternach>

**Clervaux - Clervaux** is another nice town approx. 30 minutes from Vianden, has a nice square, a small castle and a really lovely Abbey just outside the town which is also a nice drive. I believe the Abbey make their own cider. Official Description: A locality situated in a deep and narrow valley beside the river Clerve in the inmidst of the Ardennes. The Benedictine Abbey of St. Maurice and St. Maur, built in 1910 in romanesque-burgundian style, dominates the valley. Various historical monuments. In the neighbourhood are some churches (Munshausen, Hachiville, etc.) which have most interesting architecture, furnishings and frescoes.

In the "Cité de l'Image", the traditional garden is extended and transformed into an open-air exhibition. Several freely accessible sites offer opportunities to encounter contemporary photography, as well as for contemplation and exchanges.

link: <https://www.visitluxembourg.com/en/ardennes/clervaux>

**Brandenbourg Castle (Burgruine Brandenbourg)** - Brandenbourg Castle, now a ruin, is located on a promontory some 70 metres above the village of Brandenbourg in north-eastern Luxembourg. It has a history going back to the 9th and 10th centuries when there was a wooden fort on the site. Worth a visit and a nice walk, only approximately 10 minutes' drive from The Cottage.

I am available at all times to assist you during your stay. Please feel free to contact me anytime at +352 621 463 873.

Enjoy your stay!

*Glen Cain*

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