



FOR OUR VISITORS

THE PLANNING OF GETTING TO DAUFUSKIE MIGHT SEEM A LITTLE DAUNTING. NO BRIDGE...NO PROBLEM! THE DRG TEAM IS READY TO ASSIST YOU AND YOUR FAMILY MAKE YOUR WAY OVER TO OUR BEAUTIFUL ISLAND. FROM GETTING ON THE PASSENGER ONLY FERRY TO ARRIVING AT THE STEPS OF YOUR BEAUTIFUL VACATION PROPERTY, THE INFORMATION BELOW SHOULD BE HELPFUL AS YOU PLAN YOUR TRIP.

BOTTOM LINE? – WE STRIVE TO MAKE THE PROCESS OF COMING TO DAUFUSKIE AS EFFORTLESS AS POSSIBLE FOR OUR GUESTS.

PLEASE NOTE A FEW THINGS TO REVIEW BEFORE BOOKING:

Daufuskie Rental Group makes a good faith effort to describe island amenities, including restaurants and pools. However, please note that we are not responsible for the rates and availability of amenities that we do not operate and that are beyond our control. Please contact the vendors directly for rates, days, and hours of operation.

Your rental agreement contract's cancellation policy states that we are not responsible for events that are beyond our control, such as weather related issues. We strongly encourage our guests to purchase travel insurance, and especially recommend "cancel for any reason" policies. (These must be purchased shortly after your reservation is made.) Full refunds will be given only if cancelled outside of 30 days from your arrival date.

Please note that because the Melrose Resort is in transition, our Melrose guests may notice a certain level of deterioration in the resort-owned buildings but will also see that renovation efforts are now underway. Our vacation cottages are in well-maintained areas and continue to be extremely popular.

BOAT SERVICE

There is no bridge to Daufuskie, so you will have to get here by boat. (Island motto? "No Bridge – No Problem!") Your car will stay on "the other side." The policy and rates for parking and luggage fees varies depending on what boat service you choose. You will leave your car in a parking lot maintained by your ferry or water taxi company. Note that there has been extra demand for these services lately, and you should call as soon as possible for reservations.

FROM HILTON HEAD/BLUFFTON AREA:

For those coming from the Hilton Head area, you will either be taking a ferry or a private water taxi service.

May River Excursions: Bluffton is the last town before Hilton Head. Flexible schedule; 25 minute ride to Daufuskie. Not a covered boat, so bringing a rain jacket.

Hilton Head Island Boat Charters: Captain Neil and Captain David.

Hilton Head by Boat: Goes out of Palmetto Bay Marina. Call Captain Jimmy for availability.

Sky Pirate Parasail: Goes out of Broad Creek Marina. Note: You may be parking a little ways from the dock, so drop off your bags first and then go park.

Daufuskie Island Ferry Company: Departs from Buckingham Landing dock off Highway 278 immediately before the bridge to Hilton Head.

Island Head: Goes out of Broad Creek Marina. Note: You may be parking a little ways from the dock, so drop off your bags first and then go park.

FROM SAVANNAH AREA:

Island Shuttle Boat Tours: Private water taxi by Captain Dan Foulds. Recommended for Savannah transport if available.

Bull River Marina: This service is located between Savannah and Tybee Island.

MAY WE COME OVER ON OUR BOAT?

Yes, assuming you can set up docking, which can be in a little bit of short supply during the busy seasons. Contact the Freeport Marina to inquire about docking policies and charges. If there is no availability, contact us directly for private dock options.

CAN WE BRING OUR CAR TO DAUFUSKIE ISLAND?

There is no car ferry to Daufuskie. Our vacation guests leave their cars parked at their boat service's parking location, and then use a golf cart to get around here. Most of the resort areas on Daufuskie restrict the use of regular vehicles for residents and guests.

WHAT ARE CHECK-IN & CHECK-OUT TIMES?

The check-in time for all DRG properties is 4:00 pm, and the check-out time is 10:00 am.

ONCE WE ARRIVE ON DAUFUSKIE, HOW DO WE GET TO OUR VACATION HOME?

Ground transportation companies on the island provide dock-to-vacation service. Extra charges will apply if the amount of your luggage necessitates an additional vehicle and driver, or for extra-large items such as bikes.

Daufuskie Transit

Can our golf cart be left at our arrival dock for transport to our vacation home? Most cart rental groups and DRG property owners do not drop off golf carts at the dock for vacation home guests. Golf carts are not designed for the wear and tear which results from the excessive weight of passengers, luggage, and coolers.

CAN OUR GOLF CART BE LEFT AT OUR ARRIVAL DOCK FOR TRANSPORT TO OUR VACATION HOME?

Most cart rental groups and DRG property owners do not drop-off golf carts at the dock for vacation home guests. Golf carts are not designed for the wear and tear which results from the excessive weight of passengers, luggage, and coolers.

HOW DO WE GET AROUND ON DAUFUSKIE?

GOLF CARTS

ISLAND ESSENTIALS- IS DRG'S EXCLUSIVE GOLF CART PROVIDER, AND THEY OFFER DISCOUNTED GOLF CART RATES FOR ALL DRG GUESTS.

All golf cart drivers on Daufuskie are expected to have a valid driver's license and to comply with South Carolina Rules of the Road. Driving on the beach is prohibited to protect the dunes and the wildlife, and especially to prevent destruction of Loggerhead Turtle nests. Children are NOT allowed to drive carts, the driver must always be sober, and no alcohol is allowed on the carts.

BIKES

Bikes are available for rent on the island. Reservations are recommended.

Sports Addition- Bikes

Fuskie Bikes- Electric Bikes

WALKING

Some folks choose to turn their vacation into a walking holiday. The island is (roughly) five miles by three miles, and its paved and dirt roads are well-suited for nice walks. There are several miles of walkable beaches, and endless small roads and paths throughout our wooded island.

IS THERE A GROCERY STORE ON DAUFUSKIE? HOW WILL WE GET OUR FOOD AND BEVERAGES OVER THERE?

There is no traditional grocery store on Daufuskie. Island residents and visitors must bring their groceries with them on the boat OR get help from a service that delivers groceries to your departure dock:

LOW COUNTRY GROCERY RUNNER

There are now two General Stores on the island, both of which offer basic food supplies. The [Freeport General Store](#) also has an arrangement with ABC Liquor and offers beer, wine, and hard spirits. In addition to basic groceries, [D'Fuskies](#), located at the county/public dock, offers deli selections and sandwiches, homemade pizza, some produce, eggs, milk, etc.

Also, [Wine and Woodworks](#) (located next to [Freeport Marina](#)) carries some nice wines, as does the [Bloody Point Lighthouse and Silver Dew Winery](#). You can buy premium regular and spiced rum, bourbon, and vodka at the [Daufuskie Island Rum Company](#) on Haig Point Road.

Most Saturdays, fresh shrimp and produce can be found at a stand located on Haig Point Road near the intersection of Church Road from about 11:00 am – 2:00 pm.

Tips for Bringing Groceries: You can minimize space and weight by using dry ice, freezer packs, and/or and frozen food instead of bags of ice, and by drinking tap water (it's very safe here!) instead of bringing bottled water. (This is also good for Daufuskie as we currently have no island-wide recycling program.)

ARE THERE RESTAURANTS ON THE ISLAND?

There are currently restaurants on the island, all of which you can reach by golf cart:

The [Old Daufuskie Crab Company](#) located at Freeport Marina

[D'Fuskie's](#) offers pizza and deli sandwiches. Casual dress is very much the norm.

Tip: Each restaurant has outdoor seating if you want your canine member of the family to accompany you.

There is also the wonderful [School Grounds Coffee Shop](#), located at 203 School Road in the former Mary Field School, and there are usually homemade cookies and muffins in the morning.

There are several local islanders who make delicious home-cooked meals and will deliver them to your vacation home. Contact us if you would like more information and to place an order prior to coming to the island.

HOW ABOUT SHOPPING OPPORTUNITIES?

Daufuskie boasts wonderful and unique artisan studios (especially [Daufuskie Blues](#), the [Iron Fish Art Gallery](#), and [Daufuskie Soap](#)), two eclectic General Stores, fun items at the [Daufuskie Rum Company](#) and [Wine & Woodworks](#), and more.

IS THERE A CHURCH ON THE ISLAND?

Aside from the historical Mt Carmel Baptist Church (now part of the Daufuskie Island Museum), Daufuskie has one non-denominational church, the historic First Union African Baptist Church, located at the intersection at Church Road and School Road. Services are at 10:00 am every Sunday, vacation wear is acceptable, and visitors are welcomed.

WHAT WILL WE FIND IN OUR DRG VACATION HOME?

YOUR DRG VACATION HOME INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:

- All linens, including sheets and towels
- A grill, either gas or charcoal (Charcoal not provided)
- Fully equipped kitchen
- Washer and Dryer
- Coffee Maker – Auto-drip unless otherwise indicated
- A starter supply of coffee and coffee supplies (enough for at least two pots), a roll of paper towels, trash bags, toilet paper, shampoo, conditioner, soap, laundry detergent, dishwasher and dish washing soap. Need additional items? Add on the Stock the House package offered by Island Ease and cut out the extra costs and hassle of transporting these items by boat.
- Hair dryers
- At least 4 beach chairs.
- Pack N Plays upon request, subject to availability. (Contact us prior to your trip)

WHAT SHOULD WE BRING WITH US?

DON'T FORGET TO BRING:

- Beach towels
- Bug spray
- Sunblock
- Rain Jacket
- (Recommended) Cold & Cough and Allergy medications, especially Benadryl for both adults and children for allergic reactions.
- One Flashlight per family

PACKING TIPS:

Most people end up packing more than they need. This is a very casual island, including the restaurants. Also, all our vacation homes include a washer and dryer.

We suggest that you avoid bringing big over-sized suitcases in lieu of regular-sized bags that are easier to handle by your boat crew and ground transport services. Use freezer packs, dry ice, or frozen food for your coolers instead of bags of heavy ice.

Worried about forgetting something?

Add on the **Stock the House** package offered by Island Ease and cut out the extra costs and hassle of transporting these items by boat.

WHAT ABOUT MEDICAL EMERGENCIES?

As isolated as our little island may seem, we do have access to immediate and efficient emergency services. Should you have need of medical services, call 911 and tell the operator you are on Daufuskie Island. They will notify the Daufuskie Island Fire Station where there is a team of firefighters and paramedics on call 24/7. When necessary, they will transport emergency patients to Hilton Head or Savannah by boat or helicopter.

Burke's Pharmacy, on Hilton Head, will deliver prescriptions to the boat docks servicing Daufuskie.

POWER OUTAGES

Power outages will happen on Daufuskie from time to time, so we try to keep flashlights on hand for guests to use. However, we recommend that you bring at least one flashlight per family just in case our supplies are limited, especially during high season.

IS THERE ENOUGH FOR MY CHILDREN TO DO ON THE ISLAND?

Kids LOVE Daufuskie! They especially enjoy riding in golf carts, the endless quiet beaches, the pools (ask if open), the Daufuskie Island Community Farm, horseback riding, and the casual and fun restaurants. It really is the perfect place for family vacations, and families often come back repeatedly.

Tour Daufuskie, offers a variety of outdoor activities including kayaking, paddle boarding, golf cart tours, etc. Tour Daufuskie also rents beach chairs and tents, and other beach items.

Horseback and pony rides are offered by the Haig Point Equestrian Center, now operating out of the Melrose Equestrian Center. The Marsh Tacky program offers rides and instructional talks about South Carolina's state horse, the endangered Marsh Tacky which used to run wild on Daufuskie.

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT DAUFUSKIE ISLAND?

Be sure to check out the other pages on our website. In addition, once you make a reservation for a Daufuskie Rental Group property, we will send you comprehensive information to help you plan your visit and will be available for questions and assistance.

Background reading prior or during your trip can help enhance your appreciation of the island and the area:

The Water is Wide was authored by Pat Conroy and based on his experiences as a teacher at Daufuskie's Mary Field School. (Now our island's community center.) The book was made into the movie "Conrack" starring Jon Voight.

[Daufuskie Island \(Images of America\)](#) was co-authored by two Daufuskie residents and offers a beautiful portrayal of Daufuskie's people from past times.

[Gullah Homecoming the Daufuskie Way](#) and [Cooking the Gullah Way, Morning Noon and Night](#) by Daufuskie resident Sallie Ann Robinson celebrates the culinary heritage of the native islander population.

[An Island Named Daufuskie](#) by Billie Burn provides a comprehensive history of Daufuskie.

The Freeport Marina General Store has two remarkably interesting CDs about the history of Daufuskie and narrated by the marina owner, Wick Scurry. Other books providing information on our island and the surrounding Low-Country area can be found at this store at the island's museum, and at the School Grounds Coffee Shop.



ENJOY YOUR STAY!