

## Airbnb Type Accommodations

International Travel Health & Safety (ITHS) at DU strongly advises against the use of Airbnb, Vacation Rentals by Owner (VRBO), couchsurfing.com, or any similar commercial or social applications to find and book lodging for DU-related travel and stresses individuals should only do so with the highest caution for their safety and security. Further, DU employees should not book Airbnb on behalf of another traveler because one cannot accept the risk on another traveler's behalf, and any individual who chooses to use such services, does so at their own risk.

Although rare, there have been incidents of violent crimes associated with their use, and verifying adequate safety (e.g., locks on doors, smoke detectors, an inability of others to enter the premise) is complicated at best. The fact that you may be in an unfamiliar city and culture can put you at greater risk.

### When searching for temporary lodging options

- x Remember that lodging arrangements identified through the above-described services may not be licensed and may not comply with city code, safety, or other requirements. If you are unable to verify, through trusted local contacts or personally, that security (locks on all doors that can only be controlled by the occupant, bedrooms, entrance, windows, etc.), fire (smoke alarms, multiple points of egress, extinguishers, etc.), health (clean surfaces, no black mold, CO2 detectors, etc.) and other such

- x ~~Once you have arrived at the apartment or lodging, look~~ ~~around with safety and security in mind~~ ~~look~~ in the closets and adjoining rooms. ~~Make a quick mental note of how you might exit if there is a need.~~ ~~Be sure there is an internal lock on your bedroom~~ ~~door that cannot be opened with a key from the outside (ideally, it has a chain or bolt~~ ~~lock – better rental apartments or homes are modified with bedroom locks to provide exactly this sort of peace of mind~~
- x If you are not satisfied with the circumstances ~~you~~-0.001