

Living on a Lake in the Country: Touring Fishhawk Lake

By Gayle Rich-Boxman

While sending directions right to my home, I often will include little tidbits as to what to wear, etc. and thought I would compile a list for buyers and their family and/or friends coming to look at lakefront property for sale at Fishhawk Lake. The first time that buyers come to tour, I suggest that it will take about two hours to see the properties, as well as the sights for activities, the clubhouse and surrounding area.

1. Layer and peel—often our weather at Fishhawk Lake can be 6-12 degrees cooler than where you are coming from (usually the Portland metro area). Because it can also change from mist to sun to rain and wind all in the span of two hours, AND some of the properties are not heated over the winter months, it's good to make sure you can stay warm and dry. Hats and gloves optional, but certainly good in wet/cold weather. Good warm socks, too, because when walking around the colder cabins in bare feet or thin socks, you can get a chill quickly. We see many properties close to one another, so you sometimes don't get a chance to get warmed up in the car before you see another unheated home.

2. Outdoor shoes—ones that are easy to remove are always best. You won't have to take your shoes off for every property, but it's far easier (especially for kids and people with bad backs) not to have to remove your footwear often. Galoshes are good—especially if you

are a Winnie the Pooh fan! Clogs, rubber boots, slip-ons with a good rubber sole—that way you won't fall on those wooden steps that might have fallen leaves which can be quite slippery!

3. Snacks—I can deliver in this department, but especially if you have little ones who are picky about their food or who are on a strict diet, this is good to bring. When blood sugar gets low, no one is happy!

4. A picnic basket!—in the warmer months, once the tour is completed, some buyers looking at lakefront property for sale at Fishhawk Lake like to go back to the clubhouse and sit at the picnic tables, enjoying their own food and the vast views of Fishhawk Lake. No one will bother you and it gives you a chance

to enjoy the pristine feel of the community while basking in the absolute quiet that can calm the soul in a few deep breaths. When it's really warm, you could dip your toes in the warm Lake waters at our "postage stamp" of a beach. It is shallow, has two little steps for easy access and works for all age groups.

5. Bring your pets—I encourage buyers to bring their dog(s) along for the ride—literally! I have an area in the back of my truck that's perfect for larger dogs and if you have a small one that will be a lapdog, then I am completely comfortable with it enjoying the tour right along with you in the back seat. A good leash is necessary, we do now have leash laws. Poo bags (just in case) would be a good idea, but I often have some available as well. This is such a perfect community for dogs and they can run around the clubhouse area if it's workable for the owner and the pet to do that. After all, this will be their home, TOO!

6. Car sickness—yes, it does happen so it's good to be prepared! There are a variety of ways to get to Fishhawk Lake and some follow rather windy country roads. Candied ginger is a nice natural way to curb car sickness and Dramamine (but that always made me terribly sleepy) is a medication that would work, too. Others have discovered that if they simply are the drivers as opposed to the passengers, then they don't encounter car sickness. If you have someone who really gets woozy, there are



wristbands with some kind of bead (or something like that) that you can wear that curbs it also. Ginger ale and soda crackers are a snack that might be helpful, too.

7. Bathrooming—since we are located about 90 minutes from Portland and I have people meet me at my home, I always suggest the restroom as soon as buyers arrive. Because many homes are winterized, and even in the spring and summer, owners turn their water off at their cabins, it's wise to get it taken care of before we start the tour!

8. After the tour—you can feel free to take a walk around the lake or visit The Birkenfeld Store about 4 miles down the road or even hike some of the local trails when you're done looking around. Recently, some family members attended an inspection and when it was over, they walked the entire lake—a lovely 3 mile jaunt!



9. There are places to eat in Birkenfeld, The Birkenfeld Store for burgers, salads, or try fresh Mediterranean food in Vernonia at The Blue House (my personal favorite and two doors down from Vernonia Realty), just a half hour away. If you're going through Mist to Hwy 30, hitting Clatskanie, Fultano's Pizza is a great spot with many pizza choices and a killer salad bar, plus microbrews and wine--YUM!

I hope that this list is helpful for preparing you to join me for a fun and informative tour of lakefront property for sale at Fishhawk Lake—call me and let's set a date!(503)755-2905



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