



Guest Views

Autumn, 2023

About a year and a half ago since Daniel and I bought the Blue View. It's been a busy time, with many flights back and forth from my temporary home (of four decades) in California to my real home where my heart is, here in Virginia. We're getting off the ground with it at last.

People made fun of us when we said we wanted to remodel a home and open a vacation rental 3000 miles from where we live. But my family has had roots in Highland for generations, and for Daniel loved it from his first minute here. And here we are. This never could have happened without my trust in people and their faith in me. I'm amazed and so grateful for the help and encouragement to carry this through. It's been gratifying to have a project and a purpose here.

We didn't get this book ready in time for our first few guests, so we'd love for it to get some attention from you!

If you'd like to, we'd welcome your reflections and comments on your stay here. Feel free to ignore the prompts and write whatever and however you'd like, and to use the pages, and the backs of pages, however suits you. It would be an honor to have your contribution to the book.

Johnny McNamara

Daniel Dobson

Your Name

Justyna T.

Dates At the Blue View

11.24-11.26

Where are you traveling from?

Virginia Beach

Care to share memories or
recommended activities?

We loved Blue View. So
peaceful, so clean, so comfy!
We climbed Sounding Tower.
It was such cool experience.
Definitely will try to come back.

Something else to mention?

Thank You John! You have
great place!

May we share your comments on our website?

☒ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes, but only anonymously

TÜL

Your Name

Dan, Sueta, Eric, John

Dates At the Blue View

3/16/24 - 3/18/24

Where are you traveling from?

DC

Care to share memories or
recommended activities?

We stayed here to go snowboarding
at Snowshoe which we highly
recommend! We also enjoyed a
fierce game of Catan in the
sunroom.

Something else to mention?

We appreciate how clean and well
appointed the home is!

May we share your comments on our website?

☒ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes, but only anonymously

TOL

Your Name Trace W.

Dates At the Blue View 2/23-25 2024

Where are you traveling from? Richmond

Care to share memories or
recommended activities?

Blue view was such
a cute place to stay
and use as our home
base. we went to Snowshoe
for the day on Saturday but
it was nice to come
back & relax.

Something else to mention?

It was so clear; felt
like home from the time
we walked in.

Thank you!!

May we share your comments on our website?

☒ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes, but only anonymously

TOL

Your Name Jan + Bob A.

Dates At the Blue View 3/15-18/24

Where are you traveling from? Onancock, VA
The Eastern Shore

Care to share memories or
recommended activities?

We were here for the Maple Festival.
We are leaving with a bag of
maple syrup - several flavors,
some wonderful skin products and
a piece of art for our home - oh!
and some other items from
Highland County.
We visited several farms and
really enjoyed Back Creek and
Mill Gap.

Everyone has been so pleasant
and friendly. —————> (more)

Something else to mention?

Mugs are in the cabinet with
the Rooster Plate.

The house is very comfortable and
had everything we needed.
Walking to town is very easy.
The details in the house guide
are super helpful.

May we share your comments on our website?

☒ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes, but only anonymously

TOL

If here on a Saturday, we
recommend dinner at the
Monterey Inn (reservation).

Hugh's Family Restaurant
is another good place
to eat.

Your counter tops are
beautiful and ever so
special knowing that Johnny
made them!!

Your Name Amanda, Chris, Ezra, Maeve,
and Jonas Scheeler
Dates At the Blue View 6/15 - 6/17

Where are you traveling from?

York, Pennsylvania

Care to share memories or
recommended activities?

- Sounding Knob Fire tower
- The Curly Maple
- Campfire in the back yard

Something else to mention?

We really enjoyed our time
and felt right at home.
It was a very cozy place
to stay. We had a blast
out by the campfire!!

May we share your comments on our website?

☒ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes, but only anonymously

TOL

Your Name

Shirrie J., Becky C.,
Tammy W.

Dates At the Blue View

June 21-23, 2024

Where are you traveling from?

Fredericksburg, Hursey + Herndon VA

Care to share memories or
recommended activities?

Visited local family Cemetery,
visited with relatives and
spent hot afternoon at the
community pool - very cooling
and relaxing.

Something else to mention?

The house was comfortable and
surprisingly cool despite the heat
wave. loved the artwork throughout
the house.

May we share your comments on our website?

☒ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes, but only anonymously

TOL

Your Name

Heath H

Dates At the Blue View

06/24 - 06/29

Where are you traveling from?

Gulf Coast MS

**Care to share memories or
recommended activities?**

Family & friend
visit

Something else to mention?

Perfect place to stay &
perfect host to have!
A+++

Thx!

May we share your comments on our website?

☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes, but only anonymously

TOL

Dates At the Blue View

July 28 & 29th

Where are you traveling from?

Ohio

Care to share memories or
recommended activities?

The house is beautifully
decorated & very comfortable.
Would stay here again.
Thank you to Arlene.

Something else to mention?

May we share your comments on our website?

☐ Yes ☐ No

☒ Yes, but only anonymously

TOL

Your Name

RUDI RIET & CROW

Dates At the Blue View

AUGUST 2-4, 2024

Where are you traveling from?

WASHINGTON, DC

**Care to share memories or
recommended activities?**

SO COMFORTABLE! WE WERE
HERE FOR MOUNTAIN MAMA AND THE
HOUSE WAS JUST RIGHT!
BIG FISH COCK WAS A TREAT!

Something else to mention?

WOULD RETURN ANYTIME!

May we share your comments on our website?

☒ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes, but only anonymously

TOL

Your Name Paul & Rob

Dates At the Blue View 8/17-18/2024

Where are you traveling from?

San Francisco CA

Care to share memories or
recommended activities?

Hiking through the
beautiful mountains, coming
across a field of monarch
butterflies had a magical
quality. Beautiful countryside
and friendly neighbors
made for a great trip.
Such a great visit!!

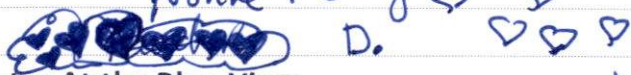
Something else to mention?

May we share your comments on our website?

☒ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes, but only anonymously

TOL


Dates At the Blue View

8/16-8/19/24

Where are you traveling from?

Tucson, AZ!

Care to share memories or recommended activities?

Luvvy Daniel
John & Daniel


Happy 20th reunion for our New Orleans marathon that we all met training for! (6 months prior)

Thank you, John, for sharing your precious home in Virginia with us! The NLB shirts will go down in history!

Rob, Paul, Elaine, John, Joey, + Yvonne. all present.... Rob, John, Yvonne the 3 original NLB's that are still together! And, running/walking together!

Something else to mention?

John & Daniel's love for this house is palpable throughout every detail in the Blue View Lodge! We are honored + grateful to have been able to experience your home with you! And Virginia is stunning!

May we share your comments on our website?

☒ Yes ☐ No

☒ Yes, but only anonymously

TOL

Best Hospitality Ever! *

Your Name Elaine

Dates At the Blue View 8/14 - 8/19/24

Where are you traveling from? California

Care to share memories or
recommended activities?

OMG. too many! The tower,
the beauty, the woods,
all just so peaceful
and pretty. The Blue View
is such a special place.
Every detail has been
meticulously thought
about to make it
a perfect place to spend
a few days

Something else to mention?

You were the perfect
host, so gracious &
thoughtful. Wonderful
to catch up with friends
in this magical place
♡♡♡ Thank you!

May we share your comments on our website?

☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes, but only anonymously

TOL

Your Name Pauli, Virginia & Patti

Dates At the Blue View Oct. 8, 9, 10 2024

Where are you traveling from? Chester, Va.
Norfolk, Va. & Chesapeake, Va.

Care to share memories or

recommended activities?

We enjoyed the games in sunroom, bonding Knob fire tower, Claire's for lunch, yummy dinner cooked by Pauli & shared w/ Angela & Leigh & Johnny. Fireside fun, Dollar Stores, We really loved seeing McNamara big white house & hearing history of area. Lots of McNamara family stories

Something else to mention?

Johnny's Blue View cottage is the best place. Instructions so helpful and house is so well-appointed. Just perfect. Comfortable & cozy. Clever logo. Beautiful barn quilt.

May we share your comments on our website?

☒ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes, but only anonymously

TOL

Your Name

ZAHN'S

Dates At the Blue View

NOV 29 - DEC 1st 2024

Where are you traveling from?

VA Beach, VA

Care to share memories or
recommended activities?

* Hunting in the national forest

* House was clean & Comfortable

* Would Stay again!

Something else to mention?

* All restaurants are delicious in town

May we share your comments on our website?

☒ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes, but only anonymously

TOL

Your Name Sahily, Maria, Amy,
Paul, Laz

Dates At the Blue View Dec 23-27/2024

Where are you traveling from? Miami FL

Care to share memories or recommended activities? This town is so lovely and friendly. The house is pretty and clean. Kids enjoyed the backyard and the fireplace a lot. We enjoyed the sunroom every morning. Johnny the host is a great person. We are definitely coming back ♡.

Something else to mention? Places to visit: Omni Homestead & Snowshoe mtn.

XOXO, Sahily ☺

May we share your comments on our website?

☒ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes, but only anonymously

TOL

Dates At the Blue View

11/1/25 to 1/4/25

Where are you traveling from?

Harahan, S.C. and Jacksonville, FL

Care to share memories or recommended activities?

We very much enjoyed the house and location. There was plenty of room for all 7 of us. Even though it was cold and snowing we were warm and comfortable in the house. It was a beautiful, manageable drive to Horseshoe for the kids to ski and snow tube. We would love to come back in the summer or spring.

Something else to mention?

We mostly ate meals here with everything you would want for a kitchen. We did eat out at the High restaurant. It was good.

May we share your comments on our website?

☐ Yes ☐ No

☒ Yes, but only anonymously

TOL

Dates At the Blue View

2/7-2/8

Where are you traveling from?

SOUTHEAST BATH COUNTY

**Care to share memories or
recommended activities?**

WELL APPOINTED HOUSE !! ☺

- * WALKING IN TOWN
 - * SOUNDING KNOB FIRETOWER
 - * "CLAIRE'S" FOR B FAST & PARTY
 - * BIG FISH CIDER CO.
 - * ACE HARDWARE TO SEE KAYLA
- THANK YOU - ARLENE !!

Something else to mention?

COME BACK !!

May we share your comments on our website?

- ☒ Yes ☐ No
- ☒ Yes, but only anonymously

Your Name

Joni & Hayden

Dates At the Blue View

March 7-9, 2025

Where are you traveling from?

Norfolk, VA

Care to share memories or
recommended activities?

- * Sounding Knob Fire Tower
- * Maple Festival Everything
- * Cider at Big Fish
- * Looking out at a snowy morning
- * Sitting by roaring fire
- * Pinckney Museum

Something else to mention?

Just a wonderful house and stay from beginning to end. Thanks to Arlene for the amazing cinnamon buns! What a treat to be able to walk to Maple Festival happenings. Thank you Johnny everything was great!

May we share your comments on our website?

☒ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes, but only anonymously

TOL

Your Name

Pauli + Leigh Hager

Dates At the Blue View

4/3 - 4/4 / 25

Where are you traveling from?

Crested VA

Care to share memories or
recommended activities?

Love Love Love this
place. The care +
attention to making
a guest's stay very
comfortable is amazing
♥ Will definitely come
back.

Something else to mention?

Highlander has great
onion rings
Cher's is very tasty.

May we share your comments on our website?

☒ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes, but only anonymously

TOL

Your Name Sandy André

Dates At the Blue View 3/14-16/2025

Where are you traveling from? Pennsylvania

Care to share memories or
recommended activities?

Maple Festival -
Doughnuts + Buckwheat Cakes

Big Fish Cider

Something else to mention?

Fantastic house. So cozy
& well organized! Love the
artwork. Will definitely
stay here again.
Thank you!

May we share your comments on our website?

☒ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes, but only anonymously

TOL

Your Name *Eden Fisher, Jane Swope,
Loren Cook*

Dates At the Blue View

4/23 - 4/26

Where are you traveling from? *Bridgman,
~~Ham~~ Elkhart, Dayton in Sandusky
Valley*

Care to share memories or
recommended activities?

*We visited the Homestead
in Bath County, drove around
to enjoy the beauty of the area.
Recommend Higley's Restaurant.*

*The house is lovely and enjoyed
our time here. Loved the notes
and hints scattered around, very
unique and helpful. The
community ~~was~~ ^{is} so friendly and
helpful.*

Something else to mention?

May we share your comments on our website?

☒ Yes. ☐ No

☐ Yes, but only anonymously

Your Name Kurt + Karkie Hoffman,
Mark + Brabble Hoffman
Dates At the Blue View 5/20-5/23/25

Where are you traveling from?

Monroe Co, WV / Vienna, VA

Care to share memories or
recommended activities?

Main focus of trip was birding. Saw
over 60 species in 2 days - YEAAH!!
Great scenery. Love the area, &
residents very friendly.

Something else to mention?

One of the best VRBOs we've stayed at -
amazing place, esp. since in such a
rural area. Uber clean. Hostesses
thought of everything to make guests
feel comfortable + welcome.

May we share your comments on our website?

☐ Yes. ☐ No.

☐ Yes, but only anonymously

TOL

Dates At the Blue View

6/7

Where are you traveling from?

DC area

Care to share memories or
recommended activities?

We were here for a wedding so we didn't have a chance to do much else. So beautiful here! Lovely area.

Something else to mention?

You've done a thoughtful job setting up the place - clear you love it. Very nice and cared for. The view is beautiful!

May we share your comments on our website?

☐ Yes ☐ No

☒ Yes, but only anonymously

TOL

Your Name

Scott + Liz Foster
and daughter Helen Kate

Dates At the Blue View

June 27-30, 2025

Where are you traveling from?

Williamsburg, VA

Care to share memories or
recommended activities?

Great wedding of my
sister Marian and
Brother-in-law Corey Lightner.

Something else to mention?

Appreciate the hospitality
Johnny!

May we share your comments on our website?

☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes, but only anonymously

TOL

Your Name The Jones Family Charlotte,
(Chris, Sarah, Ethan + Papa) NC,
Dates At the Blue View

Where are you traveling from?

Nebo, NC

Care to share memories or
recommended activities?

Here for annual family Reunion of
the Charles Pinckney Jones descendants.
Always nice to escape to the
mountains! We had a nice night
dancing to the live music at the
Highland Center. It was fun to
make smores with lightning in the
distance past Jack Mountain!

Something else to mention?

We have been coming here every July
for a decade but this is the first
time staying at Blue View. We
plan to always stay here going
forward,

May we share your comments on our website?

☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes, but only anonymously

TOL

Your Name

Matt Birnbaum,
Chris Ross, Lee Goldberg, Wolfgang
Macholz

Dates At the Blue View

Aug 1-3, 2025

Where are you traveling from?

Washington D.C Metro

Care to share memories or
recommended activities?

Mountain Mama!

Something else to mention?

May we share your comments on our website?

☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes, but only anonymously

TOL

Your Name Samantha & Anderson
Moss

Dates At the Blue View

October 24-26, 2025

Where are you traveling from?

Fairfax County, VA

Care to share memories or
recommended activities?

We loved (carefully) walking into town to get coffee at Claire's and walk along some of the barn quilt trail! We also trekked down to Warm Springs to visit Troddenvale at Oakley Farm. Loved the peace and quiet.

Something else to mention?

Thank you so much! we love this wonderful house!

May we share your comments on our website?

☒ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes, but only anonymously

TOL

Your Name the Savino Family

Dates At the Blue View

11/28 - 11/30

Where are you traveling from?

Richmond, VA

Care to share memories or
recommended activities?

Five Knob tower
time w/ family
walks through town

Something else to mention?

LOVE this house!
will be back (U)

May we share your comments on our website?

☒ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes, but only anonymously

TOL

Your Name The LaValle Family

Dates At the Blue View 12/23/25 -

Where are you traveling from? Florida

Care to share memories or
recommended activities?

Just spending time here, playing
games + watching movies.

Driving to different little towns,
we saw 57 deer in a 30 min span.

Snowshoe tubing was also super fun.

Something else to mention?

Johnny, has been nothing
but kind, generous + informative
throughout our whole visit.
He even gave us an extra night
because of bad weather.

May we share your comments on our website?

☒ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes, but only anonymously

Your Name Erby, Jack, Mario

Dates At the Blue View 1/24 - 1/25

Where are you traveling from? VA Beach, VA

Care to share memories or
recommended activities?

SNOWSTORE WVA!

Something else to mention?

Great House, nice Host

May we share your comments on our website?

☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes, but only anonymously

TOL

Your Name

Ken & Linda Ellington
Russ & Jean Giacomini

Dates At the Blue View

March 13-16 2026

Where are you traveling from?

Mechanicsville, Va 23111

Care to share memories or
recommended activities?

Climb Sounding Knob Fire tower
great sun

Fun Visit to Back Creek Farm

You will love it! Great folks
Run It.

Fun Maple Festival 2026

great food at High's Highlander

Beds were comfy, Cottage well
appointed

Something else to mention?

on call staff fantastic

Enjoyed fire pit

Had everything you could possibly
need

Need full length mirror upstairs

May we share your comments on our website?

☒ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes, but only anonymously

TOL

Great Owners

Ellingtons

First time Renting
anywhere we didn't need
to Clean when we got here
The Cottage Was Spotless!

We Would Love to Rent
again

Such a Fully equipped
Kitchen