

Lenzi, Chelsea

From: sue smith <sue-smith@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2018 3:05 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: STR from a college parent perspective

Dear Santa Barbara council,

Can you please distribute this to all. My son graduated from UCSB with Bachelors of Science in 2014. The hotel situation was impossible. We planned in October for the June graduation and ended up in Buellton. The SB hotel rules for three night minimum plus the prices were outrageous. I can understand the price gouging that weekend but add to it the extra night required when we couldn't even spend the third night there. It was very inconvenient staying in Buellton because there were many trips that weekend to SB and of course traffic was bad. The other disadvantage is we made a reservation at Wine Cask. We had to wait for 2 hours after the ceremony for the restaurant to open. We were hot, tired and bored waiting. We couldn't go back to Buellton and relax.

He got his masters in 2015. We rented a VRBO and had the best graduation ever. We had a place to have the family BBQ. This was not a wild college party. It was 50 year old parents and family members. We still spent money in SB with all the activities but were able to relax at our home instead of wandering the streets of SB waiting for the restaurant to open.

There is a need for STRs in SB as there is a need for it in many cities.

There were many trips to SB to visit our college student that we stayed in hotels and spent money at your restaurants. Whether we got a hotel or VRBO depended upon what we were doing there. And the length of time we planned to stay. Whether hotel or home rental, we still spent a lot of money in SB bowling, bocce, restaurants, bars, gas.... and even medical as my son had to have surgery from a UCSB ultimate frisbee injury.

Regards,

Sue Smith
UCSB parent