

Wol-End
Lot 29, Wise Island
Some technical info ... as supplied by the Owner

1. Electricity.

1.1. Solar panels on the roof supply DC electricity to a battery bank in the m&e shed where the electrical energy is stored;

1.2. If solar generation is insufficient to maintain the battery charge (during periods of heavy demand and/or low solar collection, e.g., rainy days), the stand-by generator will cut-in, power the system and recharge the batteries. The stand-by generator is in the m&e shed. The gen-set is powered by propane.

1.3. An Inverter converts the DC current provided by the battery-bank to 110V. AC, the same power Hydro supplies. Thus, normal household appliances will work.

2. Water:

2.1. All rainwater falling on a roof at Wol-End is collected into 3 x 2000 Gal. water cisterns = 6000 Gal. of "raw" water. Normal city-use is 75 Gal. per person per day, but economical use can reduce this to 20 Gal. per person per day and periodic rainfall serves to mitigate draw-down.

2.2. Water is lifted by pump to a gravity head tank in the m&e shed, whence it flows, in sequence, to a Davnor sand-filter, a Davnor charcoal filter and then to a storage tank.

2.3. From the storage tank, water is drawn and pumped, at pressure, into a "bladder-tank" where it is held under pressure.

2.4. On opening a tap, water under pressure is delivered, via an Ultraviolet filter.

2.5. Hot water is created by means of a propane on-demand water-heater located in the Utility Room inside the house.

3. Heating:

3.1. One wood-burning stove in "Cave", the lowest level.

3.2. One main fireplace in Living Room.

3.3. One propane-powered space-heater in hallway (useful for maintaining a plus temp. inside the house during absences in winter).

3.4. One bathroom heater (electric)

4. Telecommunications:

4.1. Phone – Cell phone only.

4.2. Web-access: ditto. Others on Wise Island have hi-speed internet access.

Why the name: “Wol-End”?

I collect owls; It is my house; In Winnie-the-Pooh, Owl was the wise animal in the forest, the only one who could read & write, to whom the animals of the forest deferred with great respect for reading & writing services. Little did they know that Owl was (despite his reputation) barely literate and there is a glorious illustration showing Owls’s tree, with a sign outside painted (very badly) by Owl, with mixed upper and lower-case letters some written the wrong way round and upside down, all of different sizes, with paint-dribbles and splatters abounding, something like: “oWls house. WoL livs hEre”. So “Wol” was born in my imagination. The occasional “Hoot” in the forest, and the trees remind me of “Wol” in his forest domain.

I lived for awhile in London in a (then) disreputable area called: “World’s End” where the trams used to turn around at the edge of the city. If you were going all the way to the end of the line, you asked for a ticket to “World’s End”.

A little contraction here and there, and it seemed natural to call it “Wol-End” for all these reasons and the name has stuck.