

# So, you have decided to consider a “retirement community”.

## Where do you look and what type of housing do you choose?

First, you have to ask yourself, “What do I want from a retirement community?”

There are many options from which to choose when looking for independent retirement living: cottage homes, condominiums and apartment living to name a few.

Cottage homes offer space with yards, garages and plenty of privacy and room. Many seniors choose apartment living as the apartment building itself usually houses other amenities and is close and convenient in proximity to “home.” Conveniences such as a dining room, store, library, gym, bank, activities room and beauty salon are usually within a short walking distance and under roof.

For those on the go, living in a retirement community affords many benefits. The ease of knowing that your home is cared for with services such as maintenance, (should a pipe leak or snow removal be needed) is a comfort when you are away. Housekeeping and security systems are also available. This allows for a quick response by a professional team of employees, not to mention the local fire and police department.

For fun, look for communities that offer a large array of choices in entertainment. It is best to choose a community with many options so you can pick and choose what you wish to do! From cards, crafts, educational classes and sporting events to “outside of the community” options, such as trips to theatres, shopping centers, restaurants and transportation for your own personal appointments - retirement community living can be convenient and exciting!

When looking for a retirement community, look to the road ahead – Should you need surgery, is there a rehabilitation center on site so that when you need it, you can come home to your community to recover? A complete retirement community also offers assisted living, skilled nursing care and memory care programs all designed to offer the best in service for your individual needs.

Looking for a retirement community can be confusing and overwhelming, but remember there are many services that offer comparisons and information that can help with that decision. Do not be afraid to ask questions and spend some time in a retirement community. Most offer lunches, dinners and tours. Take full advantage of those offers!

**It is an exciting time to be a senior! Enjoy yourself and have fun!**

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