

How Do I Find the Right Senior Living Community?

Once you know you want to make the transition to senior living, the next step is finding the place that's right for you. But there are many factors to consider like geographical location, cost, and amenities. Where do you even begin?

There are a few important steps you want to consider before making a decision—but don't worry. We've provided some tips to help you find the perfect fit for you or your loved one.

So you're ready to do your research, weigh your options and make a decision. While the journey can be difficult to start, once you've decided that senior living is right for you, you'll often feel a relief knowing that you're about to embark on your next great adventure.

But what happens now?

The next step is choosing a community. We've got years of experience helping seniors find the perfect fit, and we have a few tips and tricks to make the process as smooth as possible.

Step-by-Step Guide to Choosing the Right Senior Living Community

There are several things you need to think through before you make a final decision on your next place to hang your hat. But don't worry. Here's a step-by-step guide to help you find the community that's right for you.

1. Start by discussing your decision with your children.

In many cases, children are the ones to initiate conversations with their parents. But sometimes the parents take the lead, and that's great too. If you've decided to move into a senior living community, it's often important to sit down with your children and talk to them about your choice.

You may want to explain some of the reasons that led you to this decision. Maybe you're concerned about your health and safety, you want to downsize, or you like the idea of having more opportunities to engage in interesting activities and events in a community atmosphere. If they have a negative reaction or seem caught off guard, take the time to explain what you've learned, and share all the benefits you're looking forward to experiencing.

2. Think about the kind of lifestyle you want.

The next step is envisioning the kind of lifestyle you want. This means thinking through everything from the level of care you'd like down to the amenities on your wish list. Perhaps you have spent the last few years wishing you lived closer to your grandchildren. Maybe you've always known you want to spend your retirement years improving your golf swing or working on the next great American novel.

There are a lot of things to consider, and your wishlist will look different than someone else's. But the top things to think about are geographic location, the level of care you need, and the amenities you want most.

3. Determine your budget.

It's almost time to start looking for the place where you can make the most of this well-deserved retirement season, but it will often be helpful to determine a budget first.

This is a big topic, and it isn't one we can cover in just a few short paragraphs. You can read all about the cost of senior living communities and how to pay for it on our Financial Considerations page. Once you know how much you can spend and where the money is going to come from, you can check this box off the to-do list and move onto the next step.

4. Make a list of your top choices.

Now the fun begins! It's time to start looking at communities and narrowing down your options based on your wishlist and budget.

We have an online search feature that makes it easier than ever to explore our MBK communities if you want to see what we have to offer. And we provide so many different care levels and have locations in many West Coast states that you're bound to find a great fit no matter what your circumstances and budget are.