

WHERE TO RETIRE

March/April 2017 Editorial Calendar

Closing Date: Dec. 9, 2016

On-Sale Date: Feb. 14, 2017

CITY PROFILES

CARSON CITY/CARSON VALLEY, NV

Northern Nevada is drawing many retirees who have figured out that this area, graced by the Sierra Nevada and low taxes, has lots of lures. Another is its proximity to tech hub Reno and vacationland Lake Tahoe. About 15 miles south of Carson City, the thriving state capital, Carson Valley has three charming cities: Gardnerville, Minden and Genoa. "I don't think I've talked to someone who retired here who's not happy," says one California transplant.

LAWRENCE, KS

True, it's the birthplace of basketball, and the Jayhawks at the University of Kansas live up to that tradition in most NCAA tournaments. But roundball fans soon learn that sunny skies and pleasant downtown strolls abound here. The award-winning public library is a major community gathering place, and the university brings cultural bonanzas such as Pulitzer-Prize winning speakers, NPR show tapings and inspiring classical music concerts.

FEATURES

8 DELIGHTFUL DOWNTOWN CITIES

Would-be retirees around the nation have made it clear: Give me a thriving downtown in my relocation destination. Rejuvenated central cities represent gifted and talented cities on the upswing, like these eight: Dahlonega, GA; DeLand, FL; Franklin, TN; Frederick, MD; Georgetown, TX; Livermore, CA; Ocean Springs, MS; and Wenatchee, WA.

HOMEWARD BOUND: RETIRING TO YOUR HOMETOWN OR COLLEGE TOWN

Our hometowns and alma maters hold dear places in our hearts, and going home is a life-affirming, nurturing goal, right? It can be, but thinking past the memories and evaluating the city afresh is required. It was great as a child and as a college student, but what would it be like for you as a retiree? Here are tips to contemplate if you look homeward.

NORTH PALM BEACH COUNTY, FL

Anchored by the city of Jupiter, this area of Florida is known for outstanding golf and relaxing beaches. But many don't know that the local Lifelong Learning Society sponsored by Florida Atlantic University is the largest university-based program of its kind in the nation. Many retirees find encore careers here, where an active nonprofit urges on entrepreneurs. Plus, West Palm Beach's ballpark welcomes the Houston Astros and Washington Nationals for spring training.

STAUNTON, VA

Graced by a downtown vintage enough to be a movie set, Staunton in northern Virginia immediately captures the hearts of those who drive through. It has no less than six districts on the National Register of Historic Places. This part of the Shenandoah Valley calls to retirees who love the four-season climate and its proximity to Washington, DC, about 150 miles northeast. Staunton, pronounced STAN-ton, promotes locally grown food at farmers markets and inviting restaurants.

DEPARTMENTS

Financial Consultant: The Costs of Living Near Water

The lure of oceans, rivers and lakes means everyday pleasures that poor inlanders don't have, from gorgeous sunsets to crashing waves to fishing, swimming, boating and more. But water exacts a toll on homes, cars and, sometimes, personal safety. Here's what to consider when water is a must in your relocation.

Roads to Retirement: West-Central Arizona: Flagstaff, Bullhead City, Lake Havasu City

Best Neighborhood: Cross Creek Ranch in Fulshear, TX