

Where to Retire

The Authority on Retirement Relocation

March/April 2015

Editorial Calendar

Closing Date: December 12, 2014

On-Sale Date: February 17, 2015

City Profiles

Amelia Island, FL

In northeast Florida, alongside the rolling Atlantic waves, lies Amelia Island. This peaceful barrier island, named after Britain's Princess Amelia, has had eight flags fly over her shores and is steeped in American history. Amelia Island sports impeccable golf courses that flow with the natural landscape as well as the only AAA Five Diamond five-star hotel in north Florida. It also maintains its status as a nature sanctuary.

Knoxville, TN

This eastern Tennessee city, developed in 1786 on the remote frontier, served as the capital of the newly created state for several decades. Knoxville's culture is closely tied to the University of Tennessee, a research institution with 28,000 students. Many retirees become rabid football fans for the Volunteers, or Vols. And boomers are contributing to the growth. The area's scenic beauty, rich outdoor offerings and top-notch medical facilities have proven to be an irresistible draw.

Boulder, CO

The college town about 30 miles northwest of Denver fiercely protects its natural beauty, with restrictions that don't allow construction and growth to mask the beauty of the mountains and Flatirons. Four blocks of downtown's Pearl Street have been turned into a pedestrian-only mall, encouraging walking and homegrown businesses. The University of Colorado Boulder serves as a hub of enlightenment not just for its more than 30,000 students, but for all Boulder residents.

Tucson, AZ

Three seasons of the year -- in spring, fall and winter -- Tucson has perfect weather, with just the right amount of sun. Five mountain ranges surround the city, and golf courses are numerous. The University of Arizona creates basketball fans out of many retirees, who also enjoy the outdoorsy life in the southern Arizona city. Plus, the university has an Osher Lifelong Learning Institute that touts "no tests, no grades -- just the joy of learning."

Features

8 Great Small Towns

After decades of fighting traffic, crowds and anonymity, many former big-city folk are attracted to small towns where most everything is within walking distance and the pace of life is slower and less demanding. These eight small towns lack big populations but have an abundance of good living: Columbus, MS; Danville, KY; Helena, MT; Madison, GA; Moscow, ID; Mount Dora, FL; Northport, AL; and Rockport, TX.

Serendipitous vs. Meticulous Planning

Some people heading toward relocations become masters at spreadsheets, carefully creating pro and con lists on each potential destination. Others make a wrong turn off the highway and come to a split-second decision: "This is it." Here's advice on how to make your decision, whether based on research or gut instinct.

Departments

Financial Consultant: Budgeting for a New Town

How much will it cost to live in a new city? Advice includes checking out cost-of-living data, as well as taking trips beforehand to find out the price of a steak dinner or a gallon of gasoline.

Roads to Retirement: South Carolina: Charleston to Beaufort to Hilton Head

Best Neighborhood: Sun City Peachtree in Griffin, GA