

# HOW TO BUY A FARMHOUSE?

An Invaluable Guide



Shatamanam Bhavati

# How long will the **attraction** last?

A lot has changed in the way people view homes, in the last decade. Fresh air, fresh food, active lifestyle, family bonding, work from home have all come into focus now.

The vertical expansion of buildings and rapid dense urbanisation are also causing suffocation leading to an increasing need to getaway.

People have started to invest in getaway or weekend homes, farmlands far from and yet near to the cities, where they can unwind away from the hustle & bustle of city life.

However, more often than not, after all the efforts you make in identifying the perfect location and building just the right one for you and your family, the lure of a farmhouse doesn't last long.

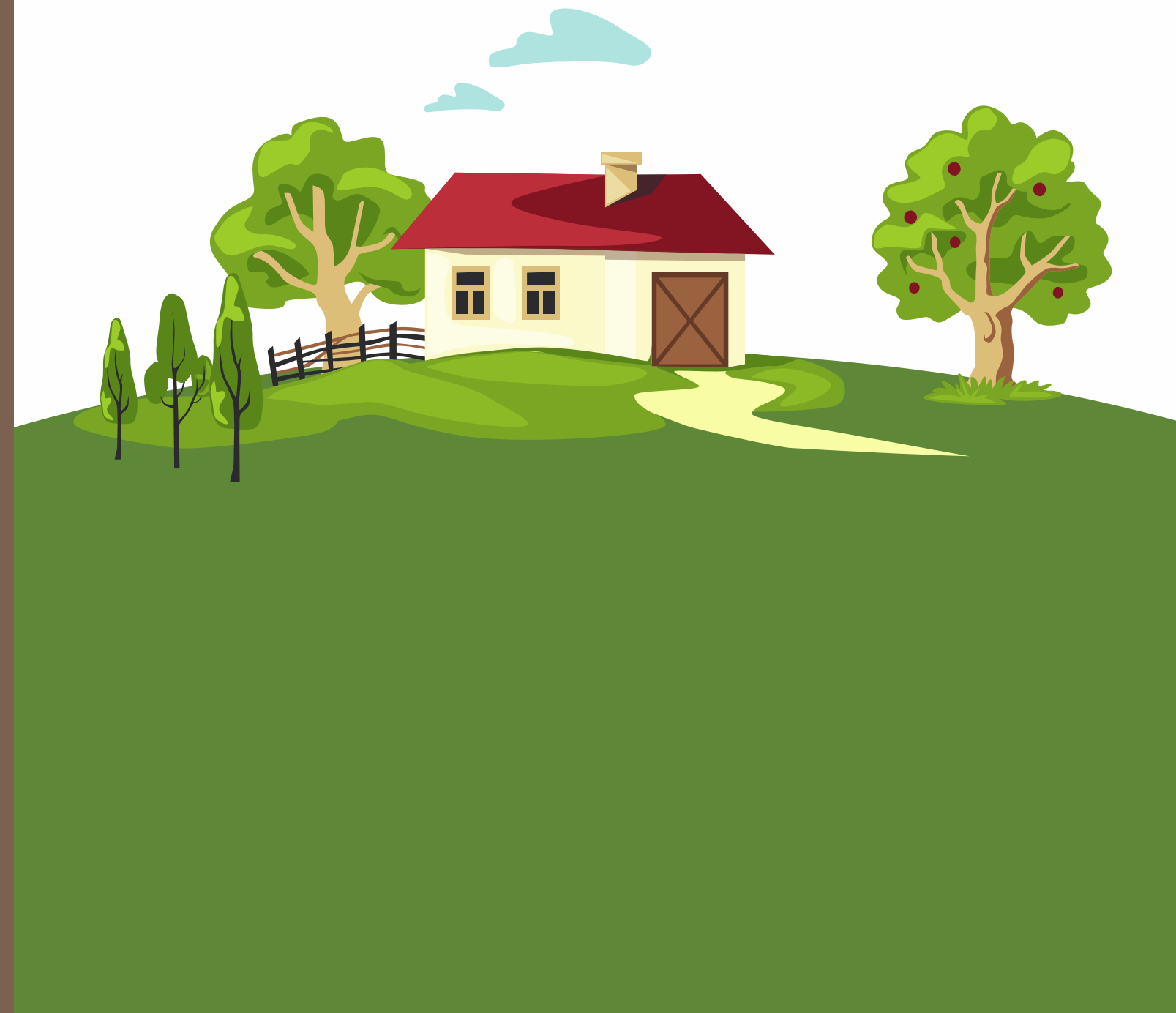
The charm fades as the years' pass, and you begin to realise the practical aspects of maintaining your farmhouse remotely. You reduce the frequency of your visits, and the chances of losing complete interest because of the high maintenance costs combined with the lack of farm help and a neighbourhood are high.

So, does that mean you have to give up on that dream?

No, we're not suggesting that. On the contrary, we encourage people to adopt a rural lifestyle and adapt themselves to what it takes to be a farmer.

But like everything else in life, you need to first commit to the idea and start walking on that path.

Secondly, you need to be prepared for setbacks and roadblocks that may completely throw you off track. Most importantly, if you want the attraction to last long, you need to keep the spark alive through several ways and means.



# It's one thing to build a **farmhouse** it's quite another to stay in love with it.

Initially, the excitement of taking off every weekend and set out to the dream farm is huge for all the family members.

But as times passes, the charm of consistent work fades away, and one by one, your loved ones will start dropping out of the weekend plans with you if it means driving down to the farmhouse.

You can't blame them. Because what can the kids or teens do if they don't have peer groups to engage with, play with and interact with. Man, by nature, is a social animal, and humans need other humans, preferably with similar interests, to sustain their interest levels in a place.

You build it for family bonding without realising that families need other families, in other words, community, to keep the spark of visiting the farmhouse alive.

How often can you do the same things again and again?

The human spirit seeks a variety of activities and experiences. Especially, the younger ones, the tiny tots, the toddlers, the teens and the young adults will not jump at the idea of going to the farm whenever you suggest it. So what's the solution?





# Why on earth do you want a **farmhouse?**

To begin with, let's analyse why anyone would want to own a farmhouse. Over a period of time, after having spoken to 100s of farm owners, the following are the primary reasons we discovered:

- a. To invest for appreciation and returns on investment
- b. To be connected to nature
- c. To explore organic farming

Whatever may be your motivation, the idea of a farmhouse brings freshness and a sense of nostalgia instantly.

Fresh air, scenic vistas, fresh food, healthy lifestyle... However, all these ideas need lots of commitment to execute and a drastic adjustment in the mindsets of urbanites.

An urbanite can aspire to be a farmer but may not probably be able to live like a farmer.

There is an enormous difference in mindsets and also fitness levels.

Before you make that long term commitment, there are important aspects for you to take into account.

Here's a list of ten questions you need to ask yourself before buying a Farm House

01. How often will you be able to use the farmhouse in a farm plotting project?
02. What are the activities of interest that can engage all the members of your family?
03. Are those initial attractions sustainable in the long run?
04. Who would you be able to rely on to help you maintain it?
05. What is the common family purpose that a farmhouse should serve?
06. What is your relationship with the other plot owners and how is it going to flourish over time?
07. What is the value that can be achieved for the maintenance cost when not in use?
08. Who will be handling day-to-day maintenance of the person's property and assets?
09. How do you deal with farm management? Like crop schedules, sowing, pest management, timely harvesting and more importantly, selling the produce?
10. What is the support for the essentials for a farm to sustain "water"?

# Stand alone **Farmhouses** are tough nuts

In case you're considering an individual farmhouse; there are additional points to consider.

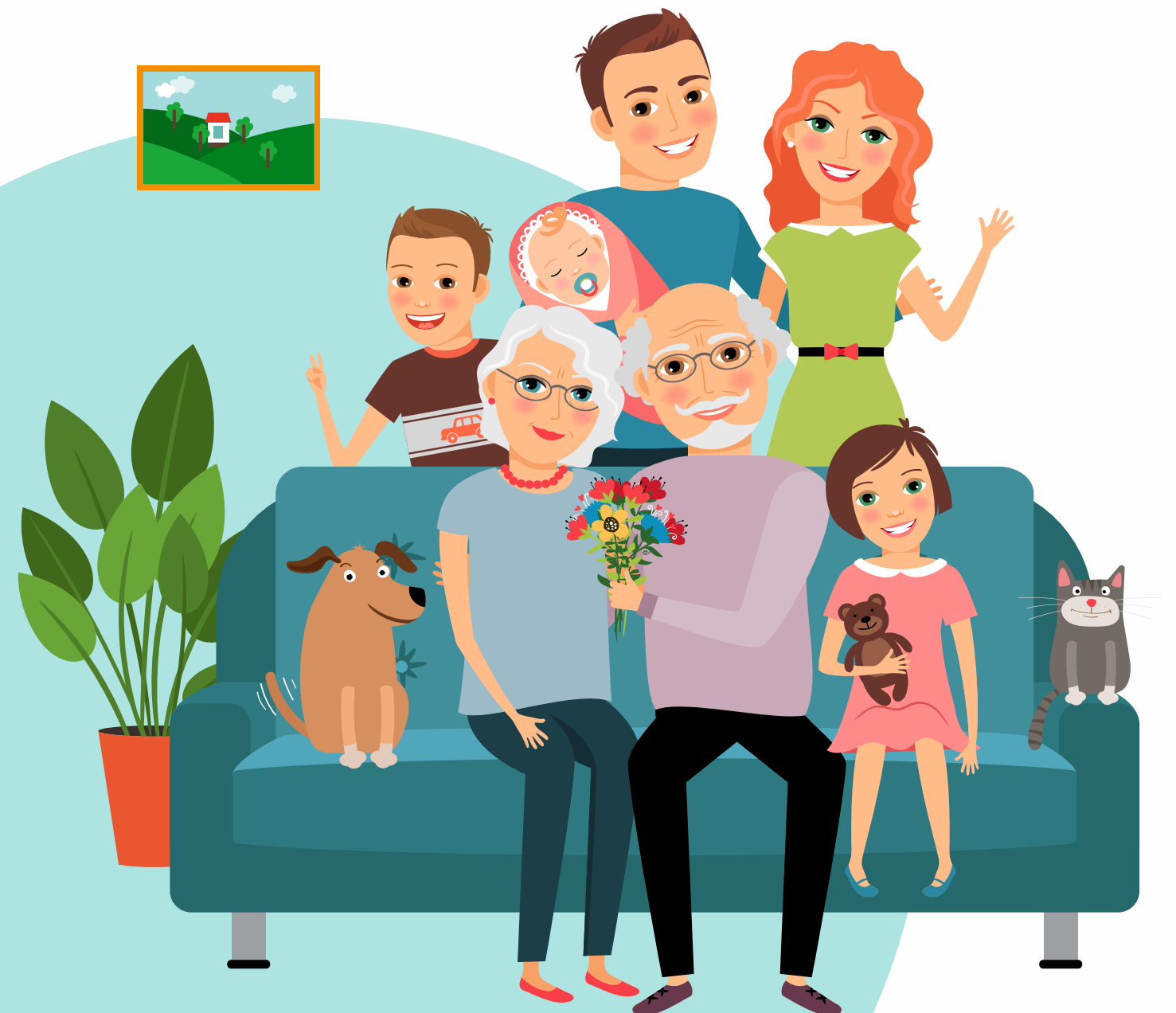
For instance:

01. Can the family feel secure completely to stay in the farmhouse?
02. Dependability of staff support in maintenance.
03. What would attract all the family members?  
Their social engagements?
04. Is farming really lucrative as a business for busy urbanites?  
Meet at least one person who is an urbanite and is making money in farming before you take the decision.
05. Do you have enough social skills to deal with local villagers and politicians from nearby?

Answer all of them. Get your family to understand their motivations, their areas of interests and passion.

Get an understanding of the security and safety of the area where you want to build your farmhouse.

Because you wouldn't want anyone in your family to face any issue if they ever decide to hang out by themselves or with their close group of friends on the farm.





Once you understand  
every aspect, dive right in.  
Enjoy!



Office address: Plot No: 15, 8-3, 684/3-15, Lane Number 3, Sri Nagar Colony,  
LIC Colony, Hyderabad - 500073, Telangana State, India.

Contact: +91 79 9335 5227

Email: [mounika.puli@organo.co.in](mailto:mounika.puli@organo.co.in) Website: [www.organo.co.in](http://www.organo.co.in)



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