

# Retirement Community Moving Guide



*Sunbound's step-by-step guide for making  
a simple and carefree transition to a  
retirement community*



**sunbound**

Call Today (623) 263-9162



# Introduction

*Moving to a senior living community is an incredibly exciting time as it lets you drop the burdens, chores, and expenses of home ownership and focus on the things you care most about in your retirement, like traveling, hobbies, or seeing family. To make the most of your move it's important to make sure that you find the right community for you, ensuring not only that it has the right amenities, programs, and care options for your lifestyle, but also that the community fits within your budget. Following these five tips will help make sure your senior living search gets off on the right foot, and get you ready to start touring communities.*

## 1

### Overview: The different types of retirement communities

There are several different types of senior living communities, each of which provide their own unique benefits and amenities that are tailored to your lifestyle. While you can get an explanation of each type of community in our blog post [here](#), senior living communities generally come in several standard varieties, including: 55+ communities, independent living, assisted living, memory care, skilled nursing facilities, and continuing care retirement communities (or CCRC's).

Independent living communities are amenity-rich, apartment style communities with resort-style



Independent living communities are amenity-rich, apartment style communities with resort-style offerings from movie theaters to yoga classes

offerings from movie theaters to yoga classes. These communities are designed for you to live a completely independent life by taking care of boring or difficult tasks of homeownership like repairs, home maintenance, or mowing the lawn. For those who require some amount of regular care, usually with tasks like



**sunbound**

Call Today (623) 263-9162

dressing or preparing food, there are assisted living communities. Contrary to what some believe, assisted living communities are not medical facilities, and for those with more advanced care needs there are memory care for those who need assistance with advanced memory ailments like Alzheimer’s and dementia, or skilled nursing facilities for broader, round-the-clock medical care.

---

## *Independent living communities offer amenity-rich, apartment-style living*

---

Finally, CCRC’s offer several types of senior living options all under one roof, allowing residents to move from independent living, to assisted living, to memory care or skilled nursing as they age, all while staying in the same community. Some individuals prefer CCRCs due to the ability to stay in one location without moving and remain close with their friends, along with the guaranteed ability to receive additional care on-site as their needs increase

### **Bottom Line**

---

*There is a type of retirement community for everyone, from those seeking resort-style apartments to those who need more assistance.*



**Finances: Cost increases with level of care**

Another thing to keep in mind about the different types of senior living communities is that communities that provide a lot of care can sometimes be fairly expensive. The national average price per month for independent living communities is around \$3,000 and increases to \$4,500 per month on average for assisted living (due to the higher level of care provided).

For memory care facilities, the national average price per month is roughly \$5,300, and for skilled nursing facilities the rate per month can often be \$7,000 or \$8,000. So while life in a senior living So while life in a senior living community can certainly help streamline bills and reduce costs, you should still be aware that your monthly rate will nevertheless increase should you require more care.

## Bottom Line

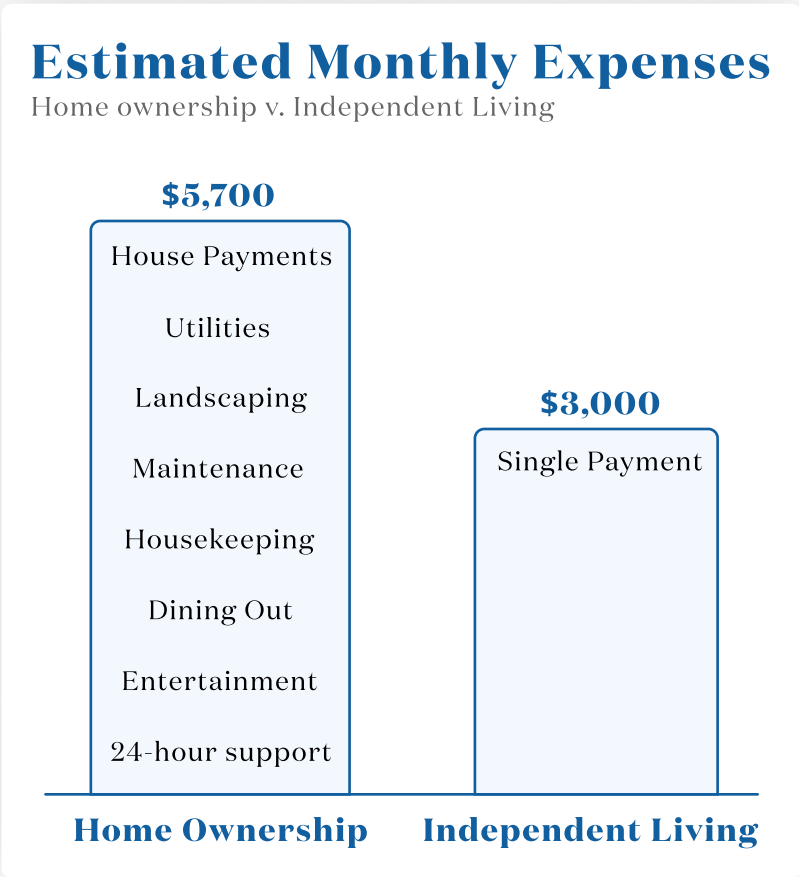
*While independent living senior communities offer rates that are competitive with apartment living, higher-care communities often come with higher monthly rates.*



### Retirement communities often simplify your finances

One significant perk of moving to a senior living community is that, because the community collects one monthly check covering both your rent and all the included amenities and services, you can consolidate most of your monthly bills into one single payment. This single monthly payment will generally cover things like: cleaning and housekeeping, repairs, landscaping, utilities and internet bills, and a gym or fitness center.

Along with these services, many senior living communities also include in their monthly payment several, if not all, of your meals, meaning yet another set of expenses that are included in your rent.



Retirement communities can help simplify monthly finances by consolidating many monthly bills into one single charge





Senior living communities can help residents simplify and reduce monthly payments

Along with making your payments simpler by consolidating so many bills into a single monthly charge, life in a senior living community can often lead to significant savings as well. Oftentimes communities are able to offer services in-house, like access to a gym or personal fitness classes, at a cheaper rate than you would be able to otherwise find. Another significant source of savings can be from no longer needing to pay for a car, as many times senior living communities include in their monthly rental fee transportation services. For many, no longer needing to pay for a car can represent significant monthly savings.

## Bottom Line

*Retirement communities can help simplify, and in some cases reduce, your monthly bills by consolidating most payments into a single charge.*

4

**See for yourself: Book a tour and see the community**

While it might feel obvious that you can book a tour at a community before moving in, we've found that people sometimes overlook this incredibly important step because they assume they can learn all they need from a community's website or brochure. While some senior living communities



**sunbound**

Call Today (623) 263-9162

do have amazingly informative and up to date websites and marketing materials, this isn't always the case. Also, even if a community has a nice website with plenty of informative photos, it can sometimes be hard to judge relative size in a photograph, and so it's good to make sure that everything, from your room to the community's pool, is the right size for you. Another good thing about going on a tour is that seeing a community in person lets you pick up on things that would not appear in a photo, like the level of cleanliness or the manner in which the staff go about the community and interact with residents and one another. It's important to try and get as much of a feel as possible for the community before moving in to make sure that you'll feel comfortable and at home.

## Bottom Line

*Book a tour, you'll be happy you did. And in many places you'll also get a free lunch!*

5

### Make sure to ask about a community's amenities and social programs

While the fact that a community has a swimming pool or a movie theater might be obvious with no more diligence than taking a tour or viewing a community's website, there may be less obvious parts of a community's offerings that you should make sure to explore, like all the programs available at their various facilities. For example, if a community has a fitness center make sure to ask about further fitness



Many retirement communities offer access to sports facilities like golf courses or tennis courts

options like group classes or personal instructors. As another example, some communities have cultural programs like lectures or



**sunbound**

Call Today (623) 263-9162



adult education classes. It's important to fully explore a community's programming options not only so that you know what's available to you, but also to know whether there are any fees associated with use of the amenities or for joining in any programs. Finally, make sure to confirm who is in charge of activities at a community, as some communities have dedicated activities directors or other support staff which can help you take advantage of all that a community has to offer.

## Bottom Line

*Make sure to explore all the amenities and social programs offered by each community. These are great ways to pick up new hobbies and meet new friends.*

If you want to learn more about moving to a senior living community, or about moving during your retirement more generally (whether it's around the country or around the block), Sunbound is here to help. To learn more about how Sunbound can make sure you have your easiest move yet, reach out to us at [info@sunboundhomes.com](mailto:info@sunboundhomes.com) or check out [our services page](#) to learn more.

If you reach out ***before September 30th*** we can even offer you a ***free move*** when you work with Sunbound to handle your full real estate needs. See more details on the next page!

***You're almost  
Sunbound!***



**sunbound**

Call Today (623) 263-9162



**sunbound**

# How the Free Move Works

Find your retirement home through Sunbound and we'll pay for the movers

1

## Connect with a Concierge

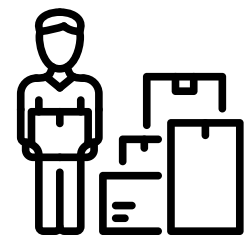
Connect with a Sunbound concierge to let them know the type of community and home that suits you best. Sunbound has thousands of communities in our network across all price points and geographies.



2

## Select Your Home

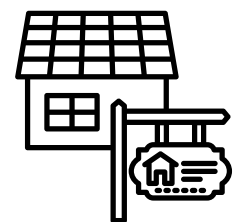
Review a customized list of communities prepared by Sunbound and tour your favorites. We will help you compare costs, amenities and care options to give you the full picture on every community. Our expert, local concierges can answer any questions you may have.



3

## Move to Community

Move by yourself or get Sunbound's help to organize and direct the move. **We'll even pay the moving company directly once your move is complete.** If you're ready to move today, Sunbound will cover your rent payments until your home sells for no additional fees!



## Need to sell your home first? Sunbound can help with that too!

We are a licensed realtor and can handle your entire real estate and moving process. Work with Sunbound as a single point of contact and eliminate the hassle of dealing with dozens of vendors, all for the same fee as a traditional realtor.

Your easiest move yet. Visit [sunboundhomes.com/free-move-apply](https://sunboundhomes.com/free-move-apply)

Call **(623) 263-9162** to start booking tours!



# Our Communities

Sunbound works with thousands of communities of all types and price points around the country. We are paid by our participating communities, so we can offer our service for free to you.

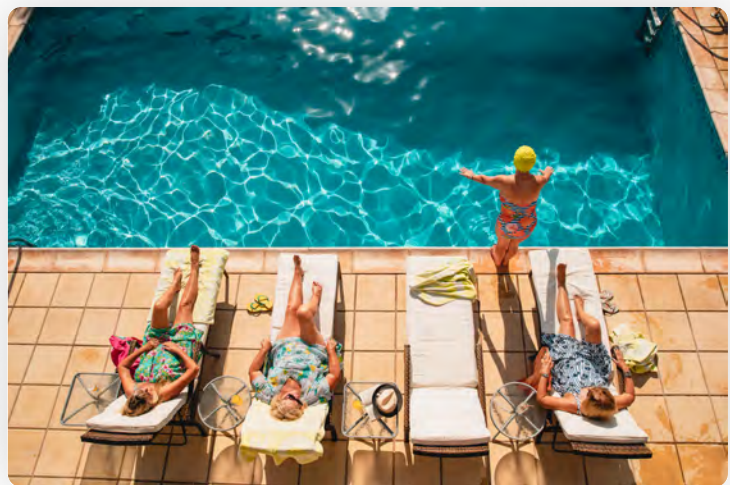


## 55+ Communities

Whether you're looking to buy or rent, Sunbound works with America's top active adult master-planned community builders. These age-restricted communities feature tons of desirable resort-style amenities, vibrant social scenes, and a sense of peace and quiet.

## Independent Living

Find the highest quality independent living communities for individuals that are looking for a maintenance free lifestyle and who do not need any assistance in their daily lives. They offer resort-style amenities and apartment-style living, housekeeping and other lifestyle services.



## Assisted Living and Memory Care

For those who need additional care, Sunbound works with the highest-quality assisted living, memory care, and nursing providers (either at-home or nursing homes). Whether looking for yourself or a loved one, we will find you top of the line care and assistance.

## Your better way to move starts here

*Find your new home free through Sunbound*

Sunbound is a one-stop real estate platform for individuals aged 55+. We partner with the top communities across the country to help a customer find their new home, sell their existing home and help complete all the logistics in between. Our unique approach saves customers money, effort and most important of all - time.

For more information email [info@sunboundhomes.com](mailto:info@sunboundhomes.com) or visit us at [sunboundhomes.com](https://www.sunboundhomes.com)

Sunbound is a registered real estate brokerage in California and New York operating as Sunbound Brokerage CA Corporation and Sunbound Brokerage NY, LLC, respectively, and works with affiliated brokers in other states. For more information on our brokerage licenses and disclosures visit [www.sunboundhomes.com/licenses-and-disclosures](https://www.sunboundhomes.com/licenses-and-disclosures).



Your easiest move yet. Visit [sunboundhomes.com/free-move-apply](https://www.sunboundhomes.com/free-move-apply)

Call **(623) 263-9162** to start booking tours!