



Best places to retire in every state

Washington: Port Townsend

©cdrin // Shutterstock

Population: 9,428

- Median household income: \$52,000

Housing: \$308,600 median home value (59% homeowners), \$953 median rent (41% renters)

Port Townsend sits at the top of the Quimper Peninsula, near Olympic National Park. Despite its proximity to Seattle and Vancouver, Port Townsend's geographic location makes it somewhat isolated from those major cities. However, there are plenty of maritime activities available (like seal watching), as well as spas, shopping, and an aero museum.

©Simona Pilolla 2 // Shutterstock

Florida's sandy beaches and Arizona's green golf links aren't the only ideal places to settle down after retirement. As towns and cities across the country make themselves adaptable for aging populations, there are now more wonderful communities than ever before in every one of the 50 states to enjoy one's golden years.

From coast to coast, each state offers dozens if not hundreds of recreational activities and historical landmarks, as well as parts of the year with enviable weather (if not all year). Some of these cities have been settling spots since the 17th and 18th centuries—home to European colonizers and Native Americans before them—while others are relatively new gated communities specifically planned out to attract retirees looking to live their best lives.

Stacker compiled a list of the best places to retire in every state using 2020 data from Niche. The rankings include towns and cities with populations of more than 5,000 residents; all have earned their appeal based on several factors including weather, crime, tax rates, housing costs, and access to amenities. Several of the entries are also in convenient proximity to major cities, beaches, lakes, and mountain ranges.

If you're a snowbird tired of the overpopulation of Miami and surrounding areas, a majority of the communities in this slideshow are less densely saturated. From Orange Beach to Green Valley, retirees have found their niche to create a peaceful nest egg without having to elbow their way past crowds of other senior citizens. There are also a few familiar names included, albeit not necessarily cities you'd immediately associate with retirement. Indian Wells, California, home to one of America's most well-known tennis tournaments, has become a trendy landing spot. Cody, named after "Buffalo Bill" Cody, is home to one of Wyoming's safest cities and huge rodeo festivals