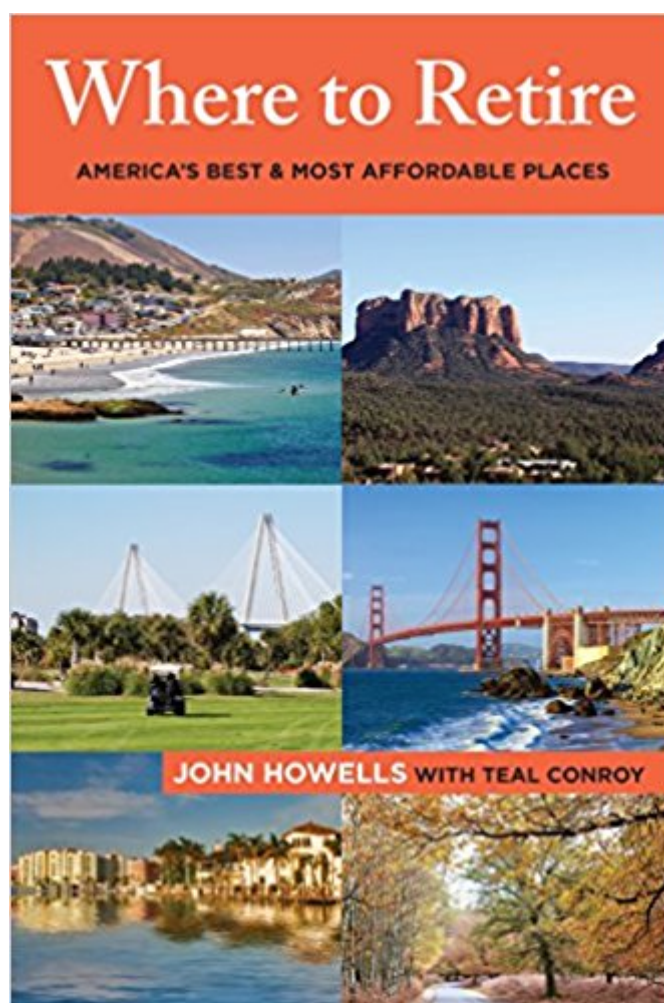


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# Where To Retire: America's Best & Most Affordable Places (Choose Retirement Series)



## Synopsis

Where to Retire offers the best advice not only on where to relocate in the retirement years, but why people should pick up and move just as life is settling down. Retirement guru John Howells provides well-researched and completely revised and updated information on how to find the ideal home base for the retirement years. To help the decision-making process, the author offers a list of items to consider when selecting the ideal community: safety; climate; housing availability; cultural and recreation opportunities in the area; social compatibility; affordability; medical care; distance from relatives and friends; transportation; and jobs and/or volunteer opportunities. Howells gives readers clear snapshots of life in hundreds of the most affordable, comfortable, and stimulating places to retire in the United States, including locations in Florida, California, the Pacific Northwest, the Gulf Coast, the Ozarks, the Appalachians, the Southwest, and the Rockies. This guide tells not how to retire, but where readers can retire happily.

## Book Information

Series: Choose Retirement Series

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Average Customer Review: 2.8 out of 5 stars 9 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #674,801 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #59 in [Books > Travel > Specialty Travel > Senior Travel](#) #609 in [Books > Business & Money > Personal Finance > Retirement Planning](#)

## Customer Reviews

John Howells is the author of coauthor of several books for Globe Pequot Press about retirement locations, including Choose the South, Choose Mexico, and Choose Costa Rica, and he writes for magazines such as Consumers Digest and Where to Retire.

A lot of the information was out dated. We had previous editions and were looking for newer stats etc.

copyright is recent, but data presented is old and/or inaccurate.

OK but not as good as previous retirement reviews.

This book provides some useful information, but it omits areas of the country that the authors consider "too cold." Although they live in a small town in Oregon, they neglect to note that many seniors will not want to retire in Portland, Oregon, which has become dominated by left-wing fanatics, rich techno- yuppies, and tons of drugged up youngsters from all over the U.S.A. living in the street. A useful complement if you have other books on this subject.

ok

I have doubts about the credibility of the information in this book. The 2015 edition of this book lists county operated "General Hospital" as a facility for healthcare in San Luis Obispo. General Hospital closed its doors in JUNE OF 2003 after 125 years of service.

The original author has some biases (mostly political) that will make this book useless for many people. In addition, he freely admits that he spends much of his retirement in Costa Rica. How can he claim to be an expert on America's top retirement places? Two stars for what it does provide, but after multiple editions and a new co-author, this book should be a lot better than it is.

Howells discusses affordability in this new edition of his *Where to Retire*, but (thank goodness!) he talks about so much more, even given the limited text on each of the hundreds of communities he describes. And although he is upbeat throughout the book, he hints at reasons that certain places may not be what all readers want, so the book has more than chamber-of-commerce-style boosterism. I really, really appreciate this candor, and his reminding us that some communities will be very, very different from where you've spent the past 10, 20, or even 50 years. For example, he points out that St. George UT, recommended by so many retirement writers, has a few churches that aren't Mormon, but that as a someone outside that faith, you may always be regarded as an outsider. I also appreciate the detailed information regarding taxes, and his warning to focus on the entire tax burden for a retiree rather than worry about a single tax (such as income tax, which we in Washington do not have). He reminds readers that some states do not levy income taxes on certain

pensions and that even when property taxes have high rates, your tax bill may be less because of the lower assessed value of your home.

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