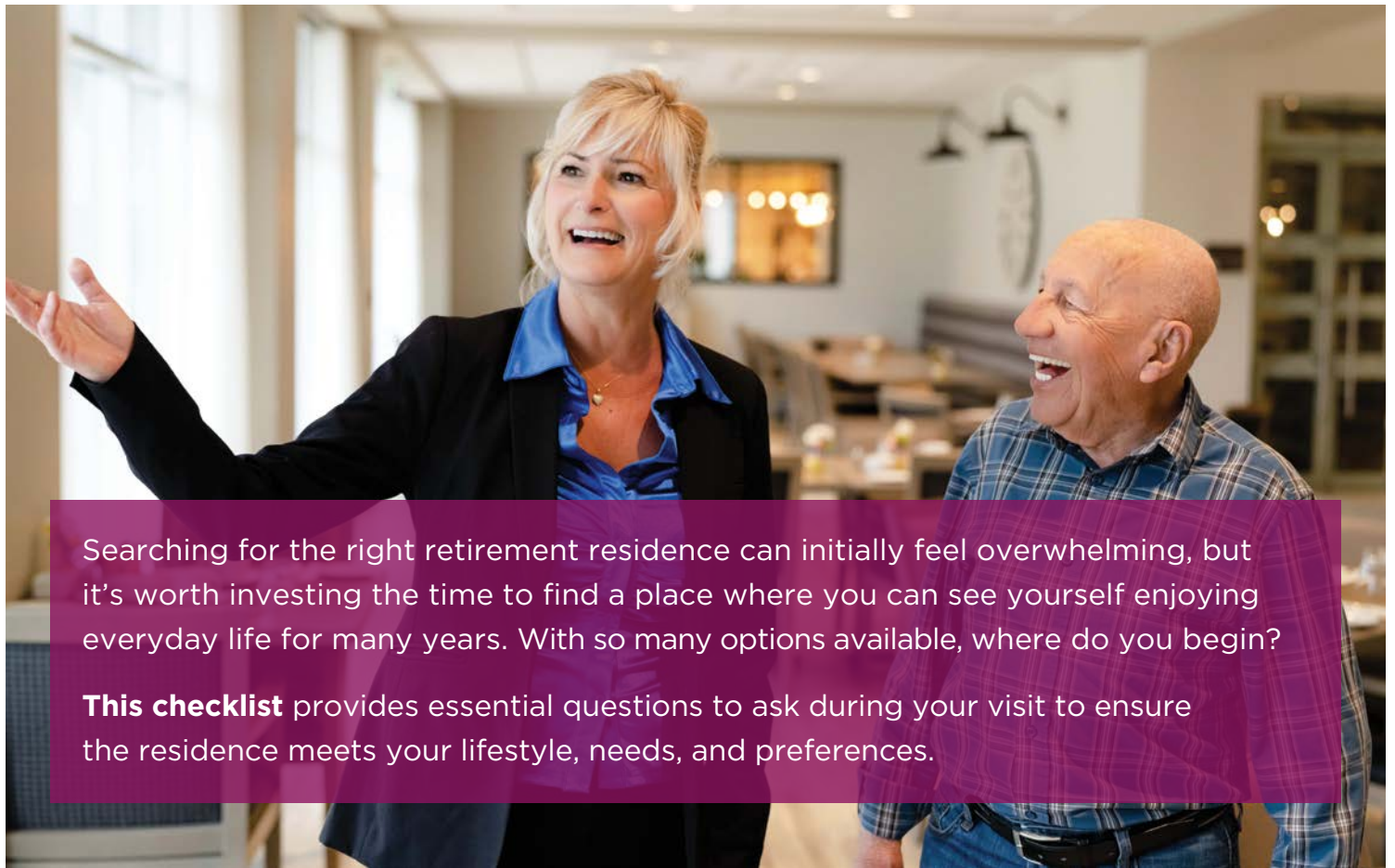




# *Questions* to ask on a **retirement residence tour**





Searching for the right retirement residence can initially feel overwhelming, but it's worth investing the time to find a place where you can see yourself enjoying everyday life for many years. With so many options available, where do you begin?

**This checklist** provides essential questions to ask during your visit to ensure the residence meets your lifestyle, needs, and preferences.

## LOCATION



- ☐ What amenities are in the neighbourhood?
- ☐ How accessible is the residence via public transit?
- ☐ What are the parking options and the cost for residents and visitors?

## ACTIVITIES AND AMENITIES

- ☐ What amenities are available (e.g., outdoor areas, library, fitness centre, hair salon)?
- ☐ Are there organized activities and events? Can I view the activities calendar?
- ☐ Can family members participate in activities with residents?
- ☐ Does the residence offer transportation to off-site activities?



## SUITES AND SERVICES

- ☐ What suite options, sizes, and layouts are available?
- ☐ Can I personalize my suite?
- ☐ Is there storage or closet space available?
- ☐ Is cable/TV/phone/Internet included?
- ☐ Do suites have accessible bathrooms?
- ☐ How is the heating and air conditioning system controlled?
- ☐ What emergency communications system is in place?
- ☐ Are there additional services available for a fee (e.g., hairdressing, personal care)?
- ☐ Is transportation available for appointments, shopping, or outings?



*“Happiness doesn’t have just one address.”* -Anonymous

## DINING AND FOOD



- ☐ Are meals included? How many?
- ☐ Is there an à la carte menu?
- ☐ Is there an option to cook my own meals?
- ☐ Can I view the current food menu?
- ☐ How diverse are the meal options?
- ☐ Does the menu offer a variety of healthy and appealing choices?
- ☐ Are snacks available?
- ☐ Can I have my meal delivered to my room?
- ☐ Are dietary restrictions accommodated?
- ☐ Can family or friends come and eat with me?
- ☐ Can I host big dinners with my loved ones?

## CARE SERVICES

- ☐ What levels of care are available (independent living, assisted living, memory care)?
- ☐ Will this meet my current and future care needs?
- ☐ Can I continue to use my doctor?
- ☐ Are there short-term respite services available?



## ATMOSPHERE AND COMMUNITY



- ☐ Does the home feel welcoming and comfortable?
- ☐ Did I feel a sense of community?
- ☐ Did the residents seem happy?
- ☐ Can I speak to current or former residents?
- ☐ Did the staff accommodate me when I dropped in for a tour?
- ☐ How do the staff members interact with residents?
- ☐ Is the environment clean, well-maintained, and free of odours?
- ☐ Does the residence have a Facebook page I can follow?

## COST

- ☐ What is the monthly fee, and what does it include?
- ☐ Are there additional fees for services such as laundry, housekeeping, or transportation?
- ☐ What are the terms of the residency agreement?





Moving is very difficult and stressful, but despite these challenges, my mom has a new lease on life. She is making new friendships, enjoying the delicious daily meals, and is settling into her new lifestyle.”

- Daughter of a resident

## GENERAL

- ☐ Are pets allowed? If so, what are the restrictions?
- ☐ Is there a waiting list?
- ☐ What is the move-in process for retirement residences?
- ☐ Are visitors welcome at any time?
- ☐ Is the landscaping well maintained?



For more in-depth information about senior living, explore our other guides at [chartwell.com/senior-living-resources](https://chartwell.com/senior-living-resources). If you have any additional questions, call us today at **1-855-461-0685** to speak with a local Chartwell Retirement Living Consultant, or visit [chartwell.com/find-a-residence](https://chartwell.com/find-a-residence) to locate a retirement residence near you.



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