



Seven Steps to a Happy Retirement

With vision, confidence and a well designed plan, you can achieve the retirement of your dreams. It is still possible to enjoy your golden years, you just need to follow these steps:

- 1) Define your retirement goals. Take some time to envision your life. Will you retire completely? Work part-time? Volunteer? Travel? These are all options to consider as you set up your plan.
- 2) Meet with a registered independent advisor to set up your plan. Look for an wealth manager who has a fiduciary responsibility, which means he or she will always act in your best interests.
- 3) Analyze your financial situation. Take a critical look at your age, assets, debts and earning potential and structure your retirement plan accordingly. You advisor will help with this.
- 4) Location, location, location. This is not just a consideration for real estate. Look at the tax implications of your home state and decide if it would be wise to establish residency somewhere else.
- 5) Take a good look at family obligations. Will you need to care for an elderly parent? Do you want to reserve time to spend with your grandchildren? Are you helping a child get a business started?
- 6) Health care and insurance coverage become important considerations as well. A long-term care policy will ease the stress of an impending health crisis, but you should analyze these carefully. You don't want to pay into a policy that is not going to provide you with adequate coverage.
- 7) Invest in your future through education. Take some classes to keep your mind sharp. Check out your local university system for Learning in Retirement courses.



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