

We understand that the move to a senior living community is a significant decision for both you and your family.

To help you through this transition, we've designed this hands-on Guide to Senior Living Tours to reference once you begin to visit senior living communities. It's important that you find a community that feels like home and meets all of your and your loved one's needs. So, as you make your decision on which community will be the right fit, here are some items to consider, questions to ask and information to gather before, during, and after a tour.





STEP 1: PLANNING AHEAD CHECKLIST

The more time you allow yourself to plan, the less stressful your move can be! Now is the perfect time to start outlining a plan for your future. We invite you to review these important areas that many families need to navigate for a successful move.

Actions to take:

Start preparing to sell your home. Many times this requires the assistance of professionals.	Schedule a visit with your doctor to ensure that you have all current medical information in order.
Contact a realtor and have them assess your home to see if they recommend anything prior to placing your home on the market. They can also share how long it may take for your home to sell.	Check into available benefits that you may qualify for now or in the future. The Veterans Aid & Attendance Benefit assists veterans in reimbursing some costs of senior living.
Meet with an elder law attorney to confirm that you have appropriate legal paperwork for your will and power of attorney.	If you have long-term care insurance, contact your provider to discuss the process and what may be included in your policy.
Meet with your financial advisor. Let them know what you are planning for and see what advice they have to offer.	



STEP 2: WHILE ON YOUR TOUR

Consider asking or reflecting on the following questions while on your tour.

Community Information

- How many years has this community been open?
- Who owns and manages this community?
- Can I see the last state survey or inspection report?

Team Members

- On average, how long have team members worked for this community?
- What training do team members receive?

Apartment Availability

- What apartments are currently available?
- Is there a wait list?
- Are there apartments with patios or balconies?
- What appliances are included?
- What appliances may be brought in? (I.e. coffee maker, toaster oven, or microwave)
- Is there sufficient closet space in the apartment?
- Are shelves and cupboards easy to reach?

Financial Obligations

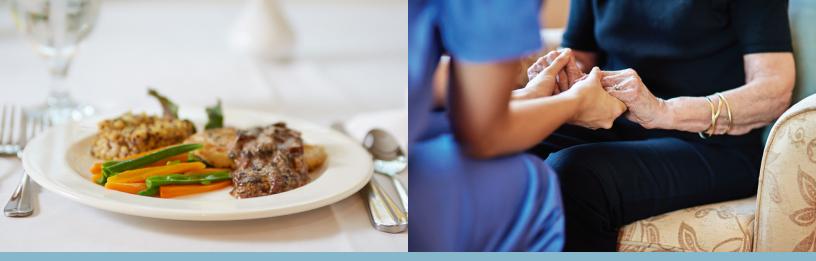
- How much is the deposit to hold an apartment?
- What are the policies for refunds and transfers?

Care and Services

- What care services are offered and how are they provided?
- Is there a written plan for the care of each resident? If so, how often is it updated?
- What is the process for assessing individual need for services? Who is included in this process?
- How often does a physician or nurse visit with residents?
- How are the costs for care and supportive services billed?

Community Amenities

- Are pets allowed?
- What type of programs and activities are offered?
- Are transportation services to doctor appointments, off-site activities, shopping, etc. available?
- Are transportation services included in the monthly fee or is there an additional fee?
- What type of security system is in place? (Night watch, video cameras, door locking, etc.)
- What is the procedure for responding to an emergency, such as a fire or a fall?
- What hours are guests welcome to visit residents?



Dining

- What are the dining times and are any meals included?
- What happens if a resident misses a meal?
- How often does the menu change?
- Is there room service? If so, what is the charge?
- Can I have a meal? (Usually, the community will offer a meal as part of the tour so you can try the food.)

Resident Testimonials

Can I ask residents about the community, team members and meals?

First Impressions

- How did you feel when you walked in?
- Does the community appear clean?
- Did the team members smile and appear friendly?

Notes:	



STEP 3: AFTER YOUR TOUR

Having now visited, we encourage you to reflect on the following items to help make your decision.

- Do you like the location?
- What size apartment do you prefer?
- Does this community have the amenities you want?
- How does this community compare to others you have visited?
- Have you done a cost comparison between this community, your current living situation and other communities you toured?
- Do you have more questions about this community to help you decide?
- If this community wasn't for you, what is the next community you want to tour?
- If you're ready to move in, who do you need to contact about your current residence? Do you need to notify your landlord, sell your home, downsize your belongings or hire a moving company?

Notes:		

We invite you to explore additional senior living resources available at:

blog.thegoodmangroup.com

