



Retirement Hot Spots

The desert Southwest is famous as a retirement magnet, but with millions of baby-boomers retiring during the next few decades experts expect more dispersed retirement patterns. Younger, healthier retirees from the baby boom will still play golf but they'll also ski, flyfish, and mountain bike, and settle into places far from traditional retirement meccas. Here we map recommended retirement towns according to Retirement Places Rated and New Choices for Retirement Living. Northern locales like Polson, Montana or Wenatchee, Washington are a far cry from the desert golf communities in California and Arizona, but, like much of the West, they offer pleasant climate — including enough snow to play on — and a small-town atmosphere that increasingly includes services the retirees need, from investment brokers to good hospitals. The southern spots still beckon with endless summers, and some western retirees will surely flit north and south as the seasons change.