

# Baby Boomers Find Active-Adult Communities an Ideal Place to Live

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**F**or many of us, it's hard to imagine how quickly time marches on. For example, the Census Bureau reports that every day, about 10,000 baby boomers a day hit retirement age, and that by 2030 everyone in this generation that shaped our nation so profoundly will be at least age 65.

And as more and more baby boomers move into retirement age, age-restricted "active adult" communities are becoming more popular. There are more than a dozen active adult new home communities in the greater Sacramento area so if you're thinking it's time to downsize and enjoy life, I'd encourage you to see what these communities have to offer.

Most of these communities offer several important things in common.

First of all, they provide residents with a sense of community. You'll be living with other people in your general age group who have many shared experiences and interests,



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A homes in active adult communities are built with seniors' needs in mind. These homes are single-story designs, meaning you won't have stairs to deal with anymore. Doorways and hallways are often wider and exterior entrances feature easier access.

making it easier to make new friends and really enjoy the amenities active adult communities offer. (More on that later!)

Another great advantage is that you will have far less maintenance to worry about in an active adult community. The homeowners' association will take care of many of the

tasks you are probably having to deal with where you're living now, such as mowing the lawn, tending the landscaping and even painting your home at some point in the future when it will need freshening up.

Did I mention amenities? These developments are called active adult

communities for a reason. Among the many activities offered are often a great community pool and clubhouse, numerous organized activities, classes, tennis and in some cases even golf.

In addition, homes in active adult communities are built with seniors' needs in mind. These

homes are single-story designs, meaning you won't have stairs to deal with anymore. Doorways and hallways are often wider and exterior entrances feature easier access. Spacious kitchens are designed with more accessible appliances, while additional lighting throughout the home is

included with seniors in mind.

These communities are also designed with safety and security in mind. Many are gated, and neighbors know who should be in the neighborhood so it's easier to spot people who don't belong.

Finally, homes in new active-adult communities feature all the advantages of today's building standards. Today's new homes are 30% more energy-efficient than ones built just a few years ago, and on top of that come equipped with solar. They also include the latest in smart-home technology, such as thermostats, door locks and appliances that can be controlled with your smart phone. You won't be buying a home that's behind the curve when it comes to today's cutting-edge technology.

And of course, buying a new home allows you to customize many features to truly make it your new home.

Each new home comes with a great variety of options for flooring, countertops, appliances and other features.

So if you're thinking the time has come to enjoy the lifestyle that an active-adult community can provide, do your research and then talk to the BIA-member homebuilder that has the models that best meets your needs.