

SIX TIPS BEFORE YOU MOVE

Susie and Neville moved from Victoria to a Queensland Island over 10 years ago and for them it was a great move. They cite the weather, the lifestyle and a friendly community as being important factors. Their children are spread around the eastern seaboard, so a move to Queensland was also desirable in terms of travelling to see them, and having the children and grandchildren visit them.

Needs May Change

This active couple also realised that their needs would probably change as time progressed. They chose an area that had different types of accommodation options. Having initially moved to a two storey home on the island they decided to move, a couple of years ago, to an over 50's resort where they could 'lock up and leave' when desired, there was not as much garden to worry about and they were closer to shops and the golf course.

Make A List

Everyone's preferences for their next move will be different and it is worthwhile making a list of what you want in a location. Proximity to shops, or a library may be at the top of the list for others, whilst being near a marina, golf course or public transport may top others' lists. Fishing seems to be at the top of the list for others. We suggest making a list of at least 10 things you want in your new location. You may discover that you have everything right where you are now.

You And Your Partner

Remember the tv series 'Green Acres'? in which Eddie Albert sang '*Green acres is the place to be, Farm living is the life for me*' to which Eva Gabor replied:

New York is where I'd rather stay, I get allergic smelling hay! We've met a few people who have had similar experiences!

Have you and your partner ever sat down and compared lists? In '*Where To Retire In Australia*' we put together a 'decision matrix', which is a quick way of scoring facilities. This can be an interesting exercise!

Rent, House – Sit, Take The Caravan Before You Buy

Before you buy a home, consider if you could rent, house-sit or take a caravan and live in the area you are interested in ...this way you can see what the weather is like, receive an indication of the peak and non-peak seasons if in a tourist area, see if you 'fit in' to the local scene and even if your pet likes the new area! Try and do this for at least 12 months.

Subscribe To The Local Newspaper

By subscribing to the local newspaper for at least 12 months before moving, you can find out

Resources:

Where To Retire In Australia: *the essential guide for anyone planning their retirement lifestyle*

Australian Housesitters www.housesitters.com

Newspapers: <http://www.nla.gov.au/npapers>