What Our Residents Say...

Independent Living Resident Survey Sample Responses • February 2023



What were some of the main reasons you chose to move to Waterman Village

WV has everything we were looking for: activities, lectures, trips, golf, delicious cuisine, continuum of care available and the best employee and management team ANYWHERE!! *Michele, moved from Dade City, Florida*

We realized we were hitting those "Golden Years" and needed to make a change. After looking for a year, we chose Waterman because it suited our lifestyle. We loved the friendly atmosphere, the great staff, and the many amenities they offered. We wanted to make our own decisions before our children were burdened with having to make necessary and rushed decisions should something happen. We made the right decision, with God's help! *Jean, moved from Palm Coast, Florida*

Chose WV because of the friendliness of all the residents, the food and the beautiful trees. Also of course, because this was a not-for-profit organization.

Theo, moved from Tavares, Florida

Beautiful campus. The Medicare rating of the nursing home for care. Proximity of Lake Dora to Waterman Village (we boat and jet ski). Activities WV offers. Friendliness of staff. Chapel on campus. *Sue*

The lifestyle. There are so many different activities to choose from. The friendly atmosphere, not only from other residents but the staff as well. Peace of mind that if I do have serious health issues down the road, I know I'll have the medical assistance that I'll need.

Cynthia, moved from The Villages



There is a very special atmosphere about Waterman Village that we noticed immediately - from the beautiful oak trees to the warm and friendly people (both residents and staff). The location is also perfect, with quaint downtown Mount Dora, access to nearly every restaurant and retail chain nearby, proximity to several big cities and access to both the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Ocean. We never had **New York** any doubts about our choice and after 7 years here have no regrets. Harry and Janet, moved from Endicott, New York

When considering our retirement years we looked for a community offering an active independent lifestyle while also providing assisted living, skilled nursing, memory care and therapy services if needed. We lived in The Villages Florida where there are a number of facilities, but none with all the services on the same campus. Not only did Waterman offer the services, but six dining venues, a sports bar, gyms, pools, libraries and a chapel are all available residents. We are, indeed, getting to "live our best life.

Dave, moved from The Villages

Non-profit, location, the villas, the 75% back on initial investment. Jack and Carol, moved from Summerfield, Florida



Location; friendliness of the residents and staff; access to the Country Club of Mount Dora for golf, pickle ball, and its restaurant; cost lower than other communities we looked at.

Karen, moved from The Villages, Florida

I know people that have looked at 17 different independent living communities before they chose Waterman Village, so the work has been done. We have residents here that have managed, as CEO, independent living communities and they ended up choosing Waterman Village. Plus, things happen and it's easier to move when you're younger than waiting until something happens. I also like the fact Waterman Village is a not for profit organization and everyone is very friendly. I would say the main reasons for choosing WV is: everything is done for you here, you don't even have to change a light bulb if you don't want to. It is relatively close to everything you need, and most of it within walking distance or a short drive. For example, I can walk to the doctor, the dentist, the library, the swimming pool, my meals, and social activities. I can walk to all of that. Also, I like the town of MOUNT DORA. It is

friendly, clean, well run, and safe. I also like the fact that it's close to a hospital, close to the police department, shopping and a choice of pharmacies. *Jim, moved from Hawaii*



When I moved, I was ready to give up cleaning and maintaining a large home and yard. I didn't enjoy cooking everyday anymore and my neighborhood was changing as we started to get more young families. They were beautiful families with young children who were sweet and polite. I will always remember the little girl who pulled flowers from her mom's yard to give me a bouquet. I had wonderful neighbors; but it was time to move on and I'm glad I did. Now, I'm living my best life since my own children grew up and had children.

Reuben, moved from Orlando, Florida



Waterman Village offers two things that most similar communities don't. You get most of your initial financial investment back when you no longer live here, either to you or your estate. And, you don't pay for health care, i.e. assisted living or nursing care, unless you use it. In most similar communities your initial investment is amortized over 3 to 5 years and is gone. And, your monthly fees are higher because they include payment for future health care that you may never need.

Joel and Sherry

We chose Waterman because we were looking for a smaller community . Also, we love Mount Dora. We have visited before we moved in and we were amazed at all the restaurants, stores and great festivals throughout the year. Especially at Christmas! You just have to experience it! This is a great place and we love it! *Nancy, moved from Dunedin, Florida*

It seemed like we were home when we drove through the gate. *Don and Wanda, moved from Summerfield, Florida*



It is new. We did not want to leave the area. Continuing care was important. Not feeling crowded. Facing the lake. Activities of interest. Provided transportation.

Simone, moved from Tavares, Florida

I loved being able to have an independent

residence in a nicely landscaped neighborhood. I truly enjoy having a wide choice of activities. And a bonus is having a choice of eating venues.



Virginia, moved from Reston, Virginia

The first of course is Waterman Village's 30 year reputation of furnishing a proven quality lifestyle for its residents. Second is the location. You are so close to every kind of doctor and store you can think of; from big box stores to small mom and pop stores. *Fred, moved from The Villages, Florida*

C The main reason I chose Waterman Village was its reputation. Arminta

Offers level of care: independent living, assisted living, nursing home. Nice flow. *Lou, moved from The Villages, Florida*

I think one knows when they are ready, it's a subtle feeling that stays with you. Waterman Village is a wonderful place to live. I enjoy every aspect of it. *Joy*

I grew up in Mount Dora. My father lived at the Bridgewater assisted living residence at Waterman Village in his last years. Therefore, I knew a lot about Waterman Village and what it can provide. I was particularly attracted to the new Lakeside campus and the possibility of having a garden home with a lake view.

Pat, moved from Mount Dora, Florida.

Tired of homeownership responsibilities. Dining options right on campus. Guaranteed return of a % of entrance fee.

Nancy, moved from The Villages, Florida

The main reason is that Waterman Village is a nonprofit organization. *Deborah, moved from The Villages, Florida*

I looked at many retirement communities in central Florida and I found Waterman Village to have all the amenities that I was looking for! *Karen, moved from Clermont, Florida*

We chose Waterman Village to make our golden years enjoyable and Easy and we are not at all disappointed! *Bill, moved from Eustis, Florida*

- 1. We could afford it.
- 2. Tired of caring for a house and yard, let someone else do it.
- 3. Tired of deciding "what's for dinner."
- 4. Didn't need or want all the space we had.
- 5. Good excuse for getting rid of most of stuff we had accumulated over 50 years. Into minimalism.
- 6. Always liked WV and the new Lakeside provided the opportunity without a waiting list.
- 7. We were ready to go somewhere, and WV provided an excellent opportunity.

Steve



What would you tell a friend your age who says they plan to move to Waterman Village *someday*, but are not ready yet

You will know when you are ready...BUT...just remember, there is usually a multi-year waiting list. *Michele, moved from Dade City, Florida*

Don't wait until it's too late! It is so smart to get settled into a place where you can live your "Best Life" and establish friendships while you are still enjoying life; before dealing with struggles that old age brings. In my case; my husband of 62 years passed unexpectedly, and I thank God that I had my Waterman family and staff around to support me. I feel comfortable and safe here; even though I am now having to live without my precious husband. *Jean, moved from Palm Coast, Florida*

If you are not ready yet, remember that there may be a waiting list to get into the village. Consider what or where you wish to be in, say 4 or 5 years. If there is a waiting list, you can get your name on at this time. *Theo, moved from Tavares, Florida*

What do you have to do to get ready? If it is selling your home, are you going to wait until one of you gets sick or has an accident? Have you ever thought how difficult it would be to have to dismantle your home and get rid of a lot of things and get it ready to sell if one of you were sick or had an accident. The time to do it is when you feel well and are able to do it. It is not wise to wait until it will be a real chore to get the job done.



Moving in sooner than later allows people to enjoy all that Waterman has to offer. As we age, physical limitations are inevitable. So why not enjoy Waterman while you're healthy? **Cynthia, moved from The Villages, Florida**

I have told friends various things. Like, define "ready." What determines "ready"? Is it after you have fallen? Is it after a debilitating illness? How long is it until you are "ready"? Also, you want to move when you are healthy, feeling good, and have all of your decision making faculties. Moving is not easy depending on where you are moving from. *Jim, moved from Honolulu, Hawaii*

Waterman Village has so many wonderful and varied activities, that you'll want to move here when you're well enough to be able to enjoy as many as you want. There's never pressure to participate, but it's nice to have so many things to choose from. *Janet and Harry, moved from New York*

I think one of the biggest mistakes couples make is to wait too long to enjoy their last living site. If you move soon enough, both of you can enjoy the activities and make good friends together. That leaves the last mate with a well known support group.

Virginia, moved from Reston, Virginia

Don't wait too long because as we said we wished we would have moved in sooner when we saw all the activities we could be involved with. **Don and Wanda, moved from Summerfield, Florida**

Do it when you can, don't wait until you have to. Jack and Carol, moved from Summerfield, Florida

I am 83 and, fortunately, healthy. At my age, however I wanted to make sure that any future need for living assistance or health issues would be readily available right where I live. This has provided peace of mind for both me and my family in a beautiful atmosphere that I would recommend to anyone in their "golden years.

David, moved from The Villages, Florida

What are you waiting for? If you wait until you're "ready", you may not be in good health and that could keep you from enjoying all Waterman Village has to offer. So much better to come while you can still be active, make new friends, take part in all this community has to offer.

Karen, moved from Summerfield, Florida

Don't wait! *Lou, moved from The Villages, Florida*

We wanted to move to Waterman Village as soon as we could. We wanted to enjoy all it had to offer and not wait. To say they do all they can to make this community amazing is so true and we are loving it. My advice to anyone is while you are active take advantage of this community, you will not be disappointed.

Nancy, moved from Dunedin, Florida





Please don't wait to move into this wonderful community. Move in so you can become an active participant in all Waterman has to offer. The Activities, Wellness and Culinary Departments are determined to offer everything they can to make every week entertaining. It's a perfect fit for the very fit two of us!

Joel and Sherry

Are you sure? Think of your pros & cons. Sandy, moved from Mount Dora, Florida

I didn't think I was ready. The people are so friendly and welcoming. I got a chance to see what it would be like in assisted living and skilled care and a couple of choices for independent living. I was also pleased to learn they had their own home health agency and that they offered priority access to assisted living and skilled care if needed. They offered me the opportunity to have a meal. A few residents told me: "You must try the food; it is outstanding"! I have been so pleased and they offered so much guidance to help me prepare for the move, and within a week, I found out how responsive they are to requests, like hanging pictures and operating appliances. They were right, the food is outstanding. I was more ready than I thought to enjoy the activities, the gym, the pool, the chapel, the outings to nearby towns, and shopping. It was a good move.

Reuben, moved from Orlando, Florida

We said the same thing. After moving to Waterman Village we discovered that it is never too early to start enjoying the rest *and best* years of your life in comfort and style with similar minded people. You are ready NOW!

Fred, moved from The Villages, Florida

You planned for your retirement, now it's time to plan for the next phase of your life. Will you be in an assisted living or memory care facility of your choice, or what is left in a Medicare facility? Deborah, moved from The Villages, Florida

Come enjoy the many benefits! Karen, moved from Clermont, Florida

Don't wait, do it now. Elsie, moved from Leesburg, Florida

When you are ready, it may be too late to move with intention and under your own terms. Pat, moved from Mount Dora, Florida

Unfortunately, determining your time of need may not be your choice, and availability at that time may not be possible.

Nancy, moved from The Villages, Florida

There may be a waiting list which does not obligate you to accept but you remain on the top of the list when homes become available. Aging is not predictable so you never know when you will need the help the Waterman Village includes. In many cases sooner is better.

Bill, moved from Eustis, Florida

I would ask: Under what conditions would you be "ready?" And, when is "yet?" What would happen to you if you don't move? Does the housing market need to get better? Are you worried about what you are going to do with your "stuff?" Remember, the kids don't want it, and Grandma doesn't care! How much nostalgia do you want to wallow in? How do you want to "live" now? Putting it off will not make it any easier. Finally, make the decision while you can, and not when somebody has to do it for you because that day WILL come. Steve

We visited 15 communities-throughout Horida. Waterman Village was-tops.

John & Joy Moved from Deltona, Florida



LIVING YOUR BEST LIFE

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