

**Texas Department of Agriculture
GO TEXAN Certified Retirement Communities**



ADVANTAGES TO RETIRING IN TEXAS

Save your savings in Texas.

Texas is one of the most affordable states in which to live thanks in part to its tax laws. Texas has no income, inheritance or estate taxes, and also enjoys low property taxes, moderate sales tax and many of the nation's most affordable housing markets.

Go, do, enjoy in Texas.

Texas offers mild climates and boundless opportunities for year-round recreation:

- There are 3,700 named streams and 15 major rivers that meander through 191,000 miles of Texas landscape (Texas Parks and Wildlife).
- There are nearly 1,050 golf courses in Texas (Golflink.net).
- There are more than 620 bird species identified in Texas (Birding.com).
- There are nearly 100 state parks located throughout Texas representing more than 270,000 square miles (Texas Parks & Wildlife).
- Texas is the 5th largest wine producer in the U.S. and home to nearly 220 wineries (GoTexasWine.org).
- There are more than 15,000 historical markers across Texas (TX Historical Comm.).

It's easier to start or grow a business in Texas.

Forbes.com has identified Texas as having the most stable economy in the country while *Chief Executive Magazine* ranked Texas first each year from 2006–2010 for job growth, citing 70 percent of all new jobs in the U.S. being created in Texas since 2008. And, as of December 2010, Texas has the second lowest unemployment rate in the country.

It's like a whole other country in Texas.

It may be a tourism slogan, but it doesn't make it any less true. Texas offers some of the most diverse geography in the country with rolling hills, coastal beaches, plains, grasslands, prairies, forests, mountains, bayous, canyons and deserts. Plus, Texas boasts cosmopolitan class and rural charm with equal measure.

You're not alone in Texas.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Texas ranks as the No.2 state in the nation for retirement. And, there are 25.4 million Texans eager to greet new neighbors with famous barbecue, fiery salsa and a friendly smile.

Connecting to friends, family and fun is simple in Texas.

Texas has three convenient international airports in Dallas, Houston and San Antonio.