

# Long Distance House-Hunting Tips



Looking for a new home can be stressful, but searching long distance is another nail-biting experience. There are so many questions to ask: Which area of town is best to live? Where do I even begin to look? Who is the right agent for me?

Whether you are moving for a job or a simple life change, buying a home long-distance doesn't have to be the worst experience in the world. With the right tips and tricks, house hunting can be fun and exciting.

Here are some helpful house-hunting tips to help you find your perfect home:

## CONSIDER YOUR LIFESTYLE

Buying a new home means uprooting your current lifestyle and adjusting to a new environment. You want to make sure your new home includes a picturesque style of living. Hilton Head Island isn't just a destination, but a forever home that showcases the natural beauty of the South. Surrounded by salt marshes, moss-draped oaks, magnolias, palmettos, and sandy shorelines, it is easy to find your version of paradise. Choose from one of the 24-gated communities and live every day like a vacation. Explore the island on a bike ride, hike, or discover it by sea and enjoy a kayak or fishing trip. Enjoy a relaxing round of golf on one of the 33 courses historic Hilton Head has to offer.

## MAKE A LIST OF YOUR MUST-HAVE HOME FEATURES

Whether you are retiring, relocating or buying a second home, it is a chance to daydream and own what you didn't have before. Narrow down your search by listing the luxuries and amenities you want included. Maybe you are looking to live in a gated community? Are you interested in recreation and fitness? Do you want to watch the sunset every evening on your back porch? Living in Hilton Head provides all of these luxuries and makes the possibilities endless. Their neighborhoods offer a solid foundation for your imagination to run wild and secure the perfect home for you. Go ahead and buy the house with a grand kitchen, stylish laundry room, heated pool, floor to ceiling windows, and wine cellar.

## RESEARCH THE AREA

Don't fall in love with a house based on looks alone. Make sure you research the neighborhood you want to live in and that it will fit your lifestyle. Become

familiar with the job market, schools, crime rate, cost of living, and livability scores. Review a local newspaper and get to know the cultural events in your potential new city. If you have the availability, visit the neighborhood for a weekend and become acquainted with it. Observe the area at different times of the day, visualize yourself living there, talk to your future neighbors, and stop and listen to the pleasant or not so pleasant sounds. Knowledge of the area will help to narrow down your home search and prevent the process from being overwhelming.

## ASK THE OBVIOUS QUESTIONS

Buying a home from hundreds or thousands of miles away is going to be stressful, but don't hesitate to ask questions. There are no wrong questions when it comes to making an investment. South Carolina and Georgia may have a different home buying process than up north. You might not run into winter storms in the South, but be sure to inquire about elevations in order to determine your insurance needs. A superior real estate agent wants you to feel prepared and informed. After all, you are paying for their guidance and expertise, and asking obvious questions is the smartest thing you can do for yourself.

## FIND THE RIGHT AGENT

Look for a local real estate agent that will work with you long distance and has experience with relocations. A knowledgeable agent should know the ins and outs of the area so that you can make the best decision. Research their contacts and client reviews, ask about their connections, and interview several real estate agents before making a final decision. Make sure your agent is easy to reach and will make an effort to answer questions as thoroughly as possible.

HHIMLS.com serves South Carolina and Coastal Georgia to make your home buying process as simple as possible. Where you may search for an agent, research community information, calculate your mortgage, and learn more about a preferred neighborhood. Find an expert today that will understand your needs and make the process a smooth one.

*Considering a move to the Hilton Head, Beaufort or Jasper area? Our Members access the latest Real Estate data services, inventory, and tracking to help you find your place in the Lowcountry. We enable a smooth and simple process for buyers and sellers. Find an HHIMLS Agent on our APP and make South Carolina your home today!*

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