

“Finding Home”

The ultimate guide to relocating around the world for a second life in a second home.

“Finding Home ” is an advent reality show that addresses the interests and concerns of a major demographic group: The Expanded Boomers.(45-65).

As they have for decades, the members of this group drive the markets and memes of American society as well as having an outsized influence in the international market. They do so because- following Sutton's Law- they're where the money is. Of those entering their golden years many are tired of shoveling snow, fighting traffic, fighting the insurance companies for medical coverage, and fighting their local taxman over ever escalating property taxes. Those on the younger side are thinking that perhaps they don't want to spend all those years making it to a certain point- that the point they are at is pretty good, and that they are ready to look into the same things: ease of life in a safe and comfortable habitat.

What to do -and increasingly more importantly- where to do it? The Expanded Boomers are the group to break the mold, to flout convention, to break out of the box and try something new. The baby steps toward that end in the hearth and home division was the selling of the nesting home and downsizing, but usually in the same area. The next step in this cultural evolution is not necessarily downsizing but a unique combination of right-sizing and out-sourcing. Just as we have seen in the business world over the years, for the best combination of price and service, we increasingly turn to foreign shores. Why would one do that?

Let us count the ways:

You eliminate the whole snow-shoveling-pay-a-fortune-in-heating-bills thing by selecting a country within the tropic zone.

You find a community within that country that is in your comfort zone. No cone hats and eating bugs required.

You maximize and extend your financial resources by spending a lot less on the necessities- and that includes a potential game changer stateside- medical costs.

You maintain your contacts back home by internet- Skype is a pretty powerful tool for conducting business as well as sharing your life with grandkids.

You can find golf courses in a LOT of places.

Sounds intriguing, but where would you start ? Can't find an English speaking local on Skype in all of the possible locales, right? Right. You would need a guide. And then you would need to see and hear for yourself once the guide gets you there. And you would need to see and hear a lot more than what's behind door number 1, 2, or 3.

Alright then, to your guide. Meet Mark Fitzpatrick, professional tourist, businessman, raconteur, and freelance bon vivant. In the last decade, he has poked around all the best places in more than 120 countries on every continent. Countries where you didn't even know they had places. In every one of these locations, he has paid attention and taken notes, and now, he is willing to share his travel treasures.

Mark will introduce you to folks who have already made the move, and will fill you in on the skinny of what is involved in buying or leasing a home, setting up a residency, joining a golf club, finding the best local markets, and who to talk to for a broadband hookup. We'll also meet the local reps of the government crowd, who will outline the legal hoops en route.

Within this age group, one has to be aware of the increasing need for medical services, even though one has been biking and hiking for ages. In many of the countries we'll be looking over, medical services are still of the fee-for-service kind, and the fees are not of the stratospheric sort that have become common in the U.S. In the U.S. of the twenty first century, the medical industry has become so bloated that it has become all but impossible for an individual to deal with, and thus the nightmare tales of having to navigate the rocky shoals of either Medicare or insurance company functionaries.

For some of the younger folks, there is the additional concern of caring for their aging parents. For anyone who has faced this challenge, they know how much extra aggravation can be involved with the management of an extended care facility between the actual care and the attendant billing issues.

Combine that with geographic limitations, and it can be a real strain on a family. In many of the communities under consideration, we'll see that not only can the expat find a comfortable place to hang their hats, but a place where they can have an aged parent residing in a more welcoming and hospitable facility than many in the states at a fraction of the cost.

The key to pulling off the successful second home concept is financial management. Many have the idea that this sort of golden year scenario is only available to the millionaire set. This is not so. If you don't have the millions banked, then the other side of the formula is to reduce your outgo. There are many lands on the sea that afford a life at social security income levels.

What are we talking here, numbers-wise? Well, a 2007 Zogby poll examining an American cross section asked if they were thinking of relocating to another nation without the external influence of job or government, found that 11.6% of all respondents were considering real estate in a foreign land. Applying that number to all American households and it comes in at a little over 13 million of them. We're looking at 50M eyeballs either looking to move or at least buy property offshore. By age, the expanded Boomer group comes in at nearly 20% of this group, and the interest goes even into the 25-34 range, but perhaps without the same level of financial ability.

After Europe, Central and South America are the most popular destinations, with Asia coming in close behind.

“Finding Home ” is poised to focus the attention of a large, successful, and restless segment of the American market in a fashion that no other show has done.

Show Rundown

0:00>0:30	Title sequence : Spinning globe with flags popping out- zoom into highlighted country to Google earth zoom in to town.
0:31>1:30	Host walk thru- intro BG material
1:31>2:00	Finding first residents, BG and intro
2:01>7:00	Resident story / B roll / housing
7:01>10:00	Walking tour with resident faves
10:01>11:00	Medical facility BG / intro
11:01>12:00	Intro to second residents- medical story / parent care
12:01>17:00	Medical stories / B roll coverage
17:01>19:00	Host walk through recreational oppos / culture
19:01>21:30	Watch / watch out for / gov stuff / tech hook ups
21:31>21:46	Wrap up / next up teaser / goodbye in local tongue
21:47>22:00	Reverse Google earth > to spinning globe / tail credits

Country / Place / City

- 1 Mexico / Chapala
- 2 Ecuador / Bahio de something
- 3 Chile / Santiago
- 4 Phillipines / Luzon
- 5 Peru /
- 6 etc etc etc