



# First time buyers guide

Everything you need to start your journey.



## Your step by step guide to finding the perfect holiday home for you and your family.

Owning a Willerby holiday home is so much more than four walls. It's about having the freedom to escape, relax, explore and unwind whenever you like. It provides you with the space to create memories with family and friends which will last a lifetime.

Like the sound of this? Let's take a look at where to start!



# 1. Do your research

As with any big purchase, it's useful to do your research first. This will make the buying process more enjoyable, as you'll understand everything when it comes to the exciting bit - choosing your home!

Here's our suggestions of things you need to consider:

- **Terminology** - do you understand the language?
- **Homes available** - familiarise yourself with the different products on offer.
- **Budget** - make sure you set yourself a realistic budget.
- **Usage** - what do you want to use your holiday home for?



## Terminology

From galvanised chassis to plots and pitches, it might seem like we speak a different language. [Here's a guide](#) to all the key terms you might hear along the way.



## Plans

Is the home you are purchasing a family retreat that you can enjoy for years to come or a new business venture? If you are looking to rent out your property it is well worth sizing up the competition. What are the holiday rentals near you like? How much do they cost? How much availability do they have to book? These are all important factors to consider. It's also worth speaking to parks and insurance providers as this may have an impact on your budget.



## Budget

It's important to understand not only how much you are willing to pay for the home but also how much you wish to pay annually on site fees. Speak to parks in the area you are interested in locating your home. You'll be purchasing your home directly from the park or distributor therefore they are the best people to give you an indication of both the price of a home and the cost of its upkeep.



## Holiday homes

Make sure you familiarise yourself with the products available. [Download our brochure](#), watch our [videos](#), experience our 360s or even [visit a showground](#). These will all help you to make a decision that is right for you.



## 2. The two P's - park and plot

Location, Location, Location! From traditional seaside resorts to idyllic rural escapes, finding the park that's right for you is incredibly important. Here are some of the things that are worth considering.

We have a few pointers when it comes to choosing the right location for you:

- **Travel time** - how long are you prepared to travel to get to your home?
- **Facilities** - is there anything you can't live without? Golf course? Swimming pool?
- **Local area** - is there a specific town or village you want to be nearby?
- **Type of park** - big or little? Quiet or bustling? There's lots of options.
- **Your plot** - this ultimately defines what home you can buy so choose carefully!



### Travel time

Would you be happy to travel 6 hours for a weekend away? There is no right or wrong answer but it's definitely something worth contemplating. Test the journey out and to get to know the route you'll be taking. Best of all it's a great excuse for a weekend away!



### Facilities

It's not just all about geographical location but also finding a park that has everything you want out of a holiday. From golf resorts to fishing lakes and adventure play areas to club houses, think about what you require on site to make your vacations magical.



### Your plot

Once you've found the park that's right for you, you'll need to secure a plot. The plot you choose will dictate the size of the home you are able to purchase. Once you know your plot size it will really help you to narrow down and find the perfect holiday home.



### Local area

Are the local amenities you need close by? Think about the lifestyle you want to lead whilst visiting your home. If you enjoy an evening walk to the local pub or want to be able to stroll into town these are all things worth considering. Is the park tucked away in the countryside and perfect for dog walks or is it better suited for jumping in the car and exploring. The right location is a big part of any holiday.



### Type of park

Some love the hustle and bustle of a bigger park, the added benefits such as facilities and activities and the opportunity to socialise. Others prefer small quiet retreats that allow you to escape the everyday world. Just as no two people are the same, the same can be said with parks. Things to take note of include if a park is adult only and pet friendly.

Struggling to know where to start? Why not check out our [find a park tool](#)



# 3. Find your dream home

Now you've found your park, it's time to choose your dream home! Every Willerby home in our range is different, meaning there is something for everyone.



## Showgrounds

There's no better way to get a feel for a home than to step inside and explore! Our showgrounds are designed to be relaxed environments in which you can see a wide selection of homes in one single place. Open cupboards, sit on the sofa and jump on the beds, it's the best way to figure out if a home is right for you. Located in Hull, Southport and Livingston, our friendly and knowledgeable showground teams are on hand to answer all of your questions and offer advice. If we don't know the answer you can be sure we'll find out.

[Book your visit today.](#)



## Criteria

It's important that you consider what you need from the home to meet your needs. Below is a list of questions that we'd recommend considering:

- How many people will be staying? The maximum capacity of our homes is between 4-10 people depending on which model you select.
- Does your home need to be wheelchair accessible? Check out the Willerby Richmond as this has been designed to maximise on comfort for both wheelchair users and their families.
- Do you want a bigger kitchen or living space? It's worth thinking about whether cooking up a storm in the kitchen or having extra space to relax and entertain the family is more important to you.



## Options

Once you know which home you want it's time to check out the ways you can enhance the model to suit you and your lifestyle. Whether you are considering french doors to overlook the lake, a galvanised chassis for extra protection at the coast or our simply better sleep pack to guarantee that good night's sleep, each model has its own unique set of options designed to elevate your holiday home. Popular options include switching your shower for a bath or even replacing the twin beds for a double. Our premium models can even be upgraded to residential specification meaning you can enjoy weekend getaways all year round.

Why not check out our product packages for more inspiration on the most effective ways to upgrade your homes?

# 4. The buying process

Once you've found your home it's time to place your order.

Just like buying a car, you can only buy homes through your park or local dealership. A full list is available on our websites [certified distributors page](#).

Their friendly team will be on hand to help from the day you place the order to the day you get your keys and beyond.

So you know exactly what to expect from the park or distributor you purchase your home from, we've summarised it below.

## 1. A thorough inspection upon delivery

Your chosen park or distributor is required to have carried out a thorough visual inspection to check for any external and internal damage caused during delivery and siting and to ensure that all ancillary items have been included. They should also ensure the home includes all optional features specified at the point of ordering.

## 2. A properly sited and commissioned home

The safe movement, and the correct siting and commissioning of your new home is the responsibility of your chosen park or distributor. This should be carried out in accordance with the National Caravan Council's 'Guidelines of Good Practice for the Transportation, Movement, Siting, De-siting and Commissioning of Single Unit Caravan Holiday Homes'. Your gas, electric and water commissioning must be carried out by a suitably qualified person e.g. a Gas Safe registered engineer.

## 3. The provision of all appropriate documentation

- Manufacturer's user manuals for appliances
- An electrical certificate
- A water test certificate
- A gas commissioning notice
- Floor plan showing means of escape
- The Willerby owner's handbook and warranty information pack
- Once your order is placed the only thing left for you to do is start buying the finishing touches and planning future trips.

**Top tip: Make sure you add any optional extras at least three months prior to the build date of your new home.**

# 5. Welcome to the family



Once you've got your keys, unpacked your bags and settled down with a cup of tea it's time to join our owners club.

It's also a good time to familiarise yourself with your home, read our owners handbook and register the warranties for both your home and it's appliances.

The Willerby Owners Club is completely free to join and only a few clicks away. [Find out more.](#)

Our Willerby Owners Club is made up of over 9000 proud Willerby owners, and this number is growing everyday! You could soon be part of this ever-growing family. We know you'll love the freedom of owning your own holiday home, but don't just take our word for it, hear it from our owners themselves.

**'This is our first Willerby - it's our dream and we couldn't ask for more'**

David and Nicola Mercer, from Prescot, Merseyside

**'We love our Willerby and being in the owners' club - you feel part of a family'**

Robert and Denise McCrory, from County Down, Northern Ireland

**'We don't need to book to get away ... we can come and go as we wish'**

Laura and Colin Wilson, from St Andrews, Scotland.