



The Sarasota area has been ranked as one of the 25 most desirable places to live in the United States by U.S. News and World Report. [HERALD-TRIBUNE STAFF PHOTO / THOMAS BENDER]

Sarasota ranked among most desirable places to live in US

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Sarasota is one of the 25 most desirable places to live in the U.S. in 2019, according to U.S. News and World Report.

The report ranked the city at No. 20 last month, attributing its popularity as a retirement hot spot to the beaches, growth and year-round warm temperatures.

The Sarasota region has

a population of 768,381, according to the report. And the median age is over 51. The median home price is \$237,260 and the median annual salary is almost \$43,000. The city joined the ranks of three other Florida destinations on the “most desirable” list: Port St. Lucie at No. 23; Pensacola at No. 15; and Fort Myers at No. 12.

Other top places were Los Angeles, New York City and Seattle — with the top spot

being a tie between San Francisco and Portland, Oregon.

Also this year, Lakewood Ranch was recognized by Where to Retire as one of 50 best master-planned communities in the U.S. Eight other Florida communities made the list — including Grand Palm in Venice — which was based on factors such as housing options and amenities that enrich the lives of relocating retirees.