
HOUSTON HOME BUYER GUIDE

Houston relocation: before you buy

A compact starting checklist for your move: compare properties, test your routes, and record the address-specific questions to verify.

Compare the properties

Begin with the places you need to reach, the housing you need, and a comfortable recurring budget. Choose two or three areas to investigate using current listings and address-specific records.

Compare established homes, newer construction, and rental or temporary options. A larger home, a different layout, or a different location may change both maintenance and daily travel.

Rent first, or prepare to buy?

Consider a rental or temporary stay if your work location, length of stay, or housing needs are uncertain. Prepare to buy when you have verified the budget, destinations, and property and have enough time for the transaction. Compare deposits, lease terms, a second move, and ownership costs.

Try the route you will use

Routes to compare include the roads between each finalist and your actual work entrance or other regular destination. Test the drive from the specific home to your regular destination, including its entrance or parking garage, at the hours you expect to travel. Traffic and roadwork can change the result.

Bring these local questions

1. Does my arrival date fit a verified purchase schedule, or should I compare renting first?
2. What is the full recurring cost for each home?
3. What can I verify remotely, and what needs a visit or inspection?
4. What is my backup if the dates change?

BEFORE YOU MAKE AN OFFER

Check the exact address

Costs and comparable sales

Review recent sales, the proposed loan terms, current taxes, insurance quotes, HOA dues, and any MUD or other district charges. Keep repairs and cash reserves in the budget.

School assignments

If relevant to your search, confirm the district and assigned campuses directly with the district for the exact address. Use txschools.gov for district and campus information. Ask about boundary changes and enrollment; contact private schools separately.

Flood history and condition

Check current FEMA and local flood maps, available disclosures and claim history, and property-specific insurance quotes. A mapped zone does not rule out flooding. Arrange inspections and ask qualified specialists about issues outside a general inspection.

Restrictions, permits, and utilities

Review recorded restrictions, the survey, easements, HOA documents, and the applicable municipality. Confirm utility service, permits, and any restrictions affecting rentals, additions, or a future build.

Contract dates and financing

Review the written showing or representation agreement before proceeding. A pre-approval letter is not a guaranteed loan. Any option period is negotiated; confirm the fee, payment deadline, and termination-notice deadline in the contract.

Talk it through with CGP

Bring your destinations, timing, shortlist and unanswered questions to a conversation with CGP.

English, Vietnamese, Mandarin, and Cantonese. The same service, responsiveness, and pricing in every language throughout the Houston metro.

(832) 402-1921 | hello@cgprealtygroup.com

Current city guide: <https://cgprealtygroup.com/guides/moving-to-houston>

Area details: <https://cgprealtygroup.com/guides/houston-suburbs-compared>

[Texas school information](#) | [FEMA flood maps](#) | [TREC written-agreement guidance](#)