

Timeshare Myths vs. Realities

(NAPSA)—The allure of having a steady getaway in a gorgeous destination without the hassle and cost of full-time ownership continues to be an attractive travel option for the more than 7 million timeshare owners worldwide.

Still, the idea remains unfamiliar for many. Some people have certain misconceptions that can be keeping them from giving it a try. Here are some common myths associated with timeshare compared to the actual facts:

Myth: Most timeshare resorts are outdated.

Reality: Many resorts are newly built or recently renovated. In fact, more than 20 percent of U.S. timeshare resorts have been built in the last six years, says the American Resort Development Association (ARDA). As the industry has evolved, so too have the innovative timeshare offerings.

Myth: Timeshare does not appeal to young people.

Reality: Timeshare has mass appeal. Owning a timeshare is an attractive proposition for all age groups. A recent ARDA study found that Generation Y (15 to 28) and Generation X (29 to 44) account for 39 percent of all timeshare owners. People 64 and older represent 16 percent of timeshare owners.

Myth: All timeshare resorts are identical.

Reality: Timeshare offers variety and flexibility. Vacationing in today's timeshare resorts—which can include stand-alone homes, villas and condos with multiple bedroom options, a dining and living room and other lavish amenities—offers owners more variety, flexibility and uniqueness. Some innovative vacation options even include accommodations aboard luxury trains and boats.



A vacation timeshare lets you tailor your holiday to meet your lifestyle needs and travel dreams.

Myth: A timeshare is more expensive than a traditional hotel stay.

Reality: For many, timeshare is more cost effective over the long haul. If you choose timeshare, you're paying for tomorrow's vacations—often at more spacious and well-appointed resorts than hotel accommodations—at today's prices. With consistent, long-term use, the overall cost savings, including the associated maintenance fees, can more than make up the purchase price.

Myth: Timeshare owners must vacation at the same resort every year.

Reality: Timeshare owners have a world of travel options to explore. Membership with timeshare exchange organizations lets you “swap” your timeshare for a vacation at a different resort. For example, global vacation exchange leader RCI offers vacation options at more than 4,000 affiliated resorts in approximately 100 countries.

You can learn more about timeshare at www.vacationbetter.org and www.EndlessVacationRentals.com, which allow travelers to sample timeshare firsthand before they buy by booking stays at available resort accommodations around the world.