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Home Is Where the Community Is

SAN AGUSTIN (HUILA)

2021

What would it be like to share your home with lots of other people?

Today, thanks to the Internet, there's a lot of sharing going on. People share advice and opinions. They share music, photos, and videos. They share rides. Some even share their living spaces.

Co-living spaces are apartments or houses where groups of people live together. Each home has a mix of private and communal living areas. Co-living spaces are opening up in big cities across the US and around the world.

One such space, We Live, took a New York City office building and built apartments for residents. Residents have their own bedrooms, bathrooms, and small kitchens; the spaces they share include a yoga room, movie room, and large kitchen.

In the co-living space Common, residents live in brownstones. Each person has his or her own bedroom, but shares a bathroom with another person. And everyone shares a living room and kitchen.

Co-living spaces are designed mostly for 20- and 30-year-olds. They have many social activities, from book clubs to dinners to musical events. They also have many amenities. The Collective Old Oak in London has a library, tearoom, and "disco launderette" - a laundry room with a dance floor. The Embassy, a mansion in San Francisco, California, has its own bowling alley.

Co-living spaces help make life easy for residents. They come with furniture, towels, sheets, and blankets. They also offer shorter leases than regular apartment rentals, which often require a 12-month lease. Many co-living spaces allow residents to stay for six months or less.

What brings most people to co-living spaces, however, is the community. Residents have a built-in social group. "We're all about community," says Brad Hargreaves, founder of Common. "We're all about getting to know your neighbors."

QUESTIONS

- 1) According to the article, most co-living spaces are for...
 - A) Students.
 - B) 20- and 30-year olds.
 - C) Families.
 - D) Founders of companies.

- 2) Which co-living space is in a mansion?
 - A) Common
 - B) The Collective Old Oak
 - C) Embassy
 - D) We Live

- 3) According to the article, most co-living spaces...
 - A) Have only communal areas.
 - B) Don't come with furniture.
 - C) Come with towels and blankets.
 - D) Have libraries.

- 4) What is NOT true about most co-living spaces?
 - A) They often have group events.
 - B) They have many amenities.
 - C) They make life easy for residents.
 - D) They require residents to stay for 12 months.

- 5) Brad Hargreaves lives at Common.
 - A) True
 - B) False
 - C) We don't know.

GLOSSARY

RIDES



COMMUNAL



RESIDENTS



MANSION



FOUNDER



