

# Comprehensive Guide on Strategies for investing in Commercial Real Estate

# **ABSTRACT**

Commercial investment is an investment in a for-profit enterprise involved in the buying or selling of goods and services, with the expectation of generating cash flow. An individual, group or institution can assume this type of investment. Frequently, a group of investors who combine assets will fund a commercial venture.

# INTRODUCTION

A commercial investment occurs when an investor commits money or capital to purchase a for-profit property or business. This enterprise may be a partial investment as part of a group effort or may be purchased by a single investor. Some of the most common examples of commercial investments include real estate properties, such as apartment complexes, office buildings, hotels or industrial complexes.

# I. Commercial Investment: What It Is, How It Works, Pros And Cons

# **Understanding Commercial Investment**

Franchises are another favorite type of commercial investment. Many low-cost franchises require expenditures of \$10,000 or less, which can be an excellent way to get experience in the commercial investment realm with a relatively small amount of initial capital.

# Pros and Cons of Commercial Investments

Investing in commercial property can involve several pros and cons. Two of the positive aspects are measurable income, or profit potential, and relatively passive income.



Savvy investors who have a knack for spotting up-and-coming neighborhoods on the cusp of rapid growth can get relative bargains before the local market soars. Of course, as with most things in real estate, it's all about "location, location, location." Your profit potential will depend in large part on the location, and how property values and rental markets in that area are performing. In many areas, commercial and multi-unit properties tend to increase in value at a higher rate than residential properties.

But there are also a few potential downsides, including that values could drop and unexpected emergencies or disasters can occur. Even the most promising areas can suddenly take a turn in the wrong direction, and you could find yourself with a property that has dropped in value, or one with vacant units you are unable to rent.



Any type of property is subject to damages, breakdowns or other headaches you may not anticipate. This maintenance could range from fire or flood damage to a malfunctioning air conditioner or furnace. Depending on the situation, insurance may help recoup part of the costs, but it is smart to have a repair or emergency fund to help cover the costs of any needed repairs.

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# II. The 6 Types of Commercial Real Estate Property



### What is Commercial Real Estate

Commercial real estate is simply defined as a property with the potential to generate profit through capital gain or rental income. Commercial property spaces include office buildings, duplexes, restaurants, and warehouses. If you can make money by renting it out or holding it and reselling it, it is considered commercial property.

# How does commercial real estate differ from residential properties?

Commercial real estate differs from residential property in four key ways:

**Purpose** – With the exception of residential rental properties such as apartment buildings, commercial real estate is typically used as a place of business rather than a residence. The purpose of commercial spaces is to provide income for owners and investors.

**Price** – Commercial properties are much more expensive than residential properties because they are typically larger buildings on large plots of land in heavily trafficked commercial areas, and are thus more likely to be owned by a group of investors rather than an individual.

**Occupants** – Residential properties are frequently owner-occupied, whereas commercial properties are typically occupied by business tenants who lease the property from the owner or a group of investors.

**Lease Terms** – Commercial real estate properties typically have longer lease terms than rental residential properties, with retail and office spaces having the longest leases, averaging 5-10 years, as opposed to typical residential apartments or homes, which are leased for six months to a year.

# How does investing in commercial property differ from investing in residential property?

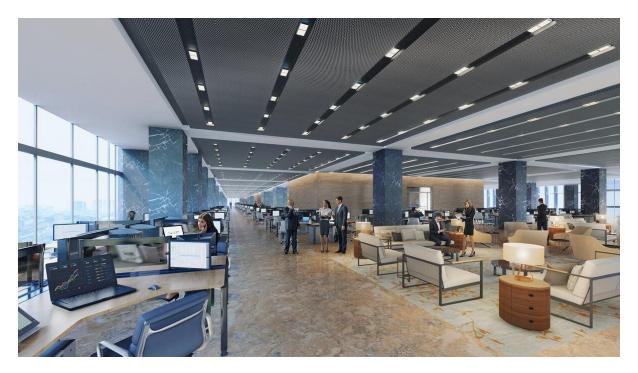
While commercial property typically requires a larger initial investment than residential property, the potential rate of return is often higher—but you may also face greater risk, particularly with retail or industrial tenants in an uncertain economic climate. On the plus side, as a commercial real estate owner or investor, you can benefit from triple net leases, which shift financial responsibility for costs such as real estate taxes, maintenance, and insurance to the leasing tenant.

In contrast to residential real estate, most commercial real estate investments do not allow you to live on the property. However, the advantage is that you are typically working with business owners (a B2B relationship) rather than renters (a B2C relationship). Income-producing businesses are more likely to follow lease terms and pay rent on time. Longer lease terms in commercial real estate can provide more consistent cash flow, and tenants such as government agencies and healthcare providers can provide stability even in an unstable economy.

On the downside, investing in commercial real estate can be more difficult than investing in residential properties. Most commercial investors have a background in commercial property law or have a team of commercial property experts on hand to help them navigate the red tape that comes with the commercial real estate industry.

# What are the different kinds of commercial real estate?

1. Office Spaces – Office buildings are generally divided into two types: urban and suburban. Urban office buildings are found in cities and include skyscrapers and high-rise properties, some of which can be as large as several million square feet. Suburban office buildings are typically smaller in size and are sometimes grouped into office parks.



Class A – The most prestigious buildings compete for premier office users, with rents that are higher than the local average. Buildings feature high-quality standard finishes, cutting-edge systems, excellent accessibility, and a strong market presence.

Class B – Buildings compete for a diverse range of users, with office spaces renting at the area's average rate. The building finishes are average to good for the area. The building finishes are acceptable for the area, and the systems are adequate, but it cannot compete with Class A at the same price.

2. **Retail Spaces** – Retail refers to the commercial spaces that house the retailers and restaurants we frequent. They can be multi-tenant (with an anchor, or lead tenant, who drives traffic to the leased property) or single-use, standalone structures.

The retail industry is complicated because the type of shopping centre is determined by a variety of factors, including size, concept, types and numbers of tenants, and trade area.

Big-box centres (with a national chain such as Target, Walmart, Best Buy, or Dick's Sporting Goods) and pad sites (single-tenant buildings within a shopping centre, often a bank, restaurant, or drugstore) are examples of single-tenant buildings.

### 3. Industrial Spaces

Industrial buildings house industrial operations for a variety of tenants and are typically located outside of cities, particularly along major transportation corridors. Low-rise buildings can also be organised into industrial parks. The properties are divided into four categories:

Heavy Manufacturing – These buildings are highly customised and house the machinery that manufacturers require to operate and produce goods and services.

Light Assembly – These are not as personalised and can be used for product assembly or storage.

Bulk Warehouse – These properties are typically large and serve as distribution centres.

Flex Industrial – These properties feature a mix of industrial and office spaces.

Keep in mind that industrial land use has its own set of zoning laws, such as research and development (R&D) facilities, which require a specialised type of industrial zone.

### 4. Multifamily

Commercial real estate is defined as any residential property with five or more units owned by a single entity. The multifamily sector includes all types of residential real estate other than single-family homes, such as apartments, condos, co-ops, and townhouses. Multifamily property, like office buildings, is frequently divided into three classes: A, B, and C.



Apartment rental buildings, in particular, are classified into several property types. Freddie Mac has divided them into six distinct buckets:

High Rise – A building with at least nine floors and one lift.

Mid Rise – A multistory building with an elevator, usually in an urban setting.

Garden-Style – A one-, two-, or three-story apartment development constructed in a garden-like setting in a suburban, rural, or urban location; buildings may or may not have elevators.

Walk-Up – A four to six-story building with no elevator.

Manufactured Housing Community – A community in which the operator rents out ground sites to owners of manufactured homes.

Special Purpose housing – A multifamily property of any style that caters to a specific population segment, such as student housing, senior housing, and subsidized (low income or special needs) housing.

### 5. Hotel

The hotel industry includes establishments that provide lodging, meals, and other services to travellers and tourists. The hotels can be independent (boutique) or flagged, which means they're part of a major hotel chain like Marriott or Sheraton. Real Capital Analytics divides them into six different categories:

Limited Service – There is no room service, restaurant, or concierge on site.

Full Service – Includes room service and an on-site restaurant.

Boutique – Located in an urban or resort setting, offers full-service amenities, is not a member of a national chain, and has fewer rooms.

Casino – Includes a gaming component, such as video poker or slot machines.

Extended-Stay – Limited service, with fully equipped kitchens in guest rooms and larger rooms for extended stays.

Resort – Full-service, on a large plot of land in a typical resort setting (such as Hawaii or Orlando), with an attached golf course, water park, or amusement facility.

### 6. Special Purpose

Commercial real estate investors may own special purpose real estate, but it does not fall into any of the previously mentioned sectors. Special-purpose facilities include open land for fairs, amusement parks, churches, self-storage, and bowling alleys.

# What is the best way to get into the commercial real estate industry?

If you want to diversify your portfolio by investing in commercial real estate, you should first understand the various types of investment options.

Direct Investment – Direct investment is the most straightforward way to invest in commercial real estate, assuming you have a lot of money and knowledge. With a direct investment, you will work with a real estate agent or broker to find a property to

buy, after which you will have the option of leasing it out and managing it yourself as the landlord or hiring a property manager.

In-Direct Investment – If you don't have a lot of money and don't know much about commercial real estate, you can still invest in it indirectly. REITs, crowdfunding, and exchange-traded funds (ETFs) all allow you to invest without taking full responsibility for the leased property. Rather than buying a property, you can invest in a company that buys, sells, and leases commercial properties. As a limited partner, you will receive a portion of the investment returns without being involved in day-to-day commercial property operations or decisions.

# Types of Indirect Commercial Real Estate Investment

Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT) – REITs are companies that purchase commercial real estate properties and lease them to tenants. REITs issue shares to qualified investors (such as mutual fund managers and other professional investors) and then pay out 90% of profits as dividends to shareholders. REIT investment is a more liquid form of property ownership because its shares can be easily bought and sold.



Crowdfunding – Commercial real estate crowdfunding, like traditional crowdfunding, allows a group of people to pool their resources to fund a large project, such as the purchase of a commercial property. Crowdfunding requires a lower initial investment than other types of CRE investing, but it is not strictly regulated, so investors must be accredited by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) – An REIT ETF operates similarly to a mutual fund, but because it is publicly traded in the stock market, its value fluctuates more frequently than a mutual fund. An REIT ETF typically consists of a collection of REIT securities rather than stocks and has lower overhead fees because the securities are not traded individually.

### Commercial real estate investment benefits and drawbacks

Weighing the benefits and drawbacks of investing in commercial real estate can help you decide if it's the best option for you. Traditionally offers a strong return on investment, especially in areas with high demand and low inventory.

Longer lease terms than residential real estate provide greater cash flow stability. Can offer both short-term cash flow from leasing and long-term returns from capital gains over time.

Provides a more diversified portfolio and may give you greater control over ROI. During an economic downturn, sectors such as government and healthcare can provide greater stability.

# Cons of Investing in Commercial Real Estate:

Buying and selling are long processes, making it less liquid than other investment vehicles. Buying a property outside of a partnership or publicly traded REIT may necessitate a larger initial investment. Can be highly susceptible to economic downturns, especially in retail and small businesses.

Because different commercial tenants have different space layout needs, tenant turnover can be time-consuming and expensive. Direct investing necessitates an understanding of commercial real estate laws, regulations, and best practices.

# III. Things To Know Before Investing In Commercial Real Estate



Investments can be as simple as saving in a bank or as intensive as trading via the stock market. Based upon the complexity of the mode of investment, time and effort are expended. Investing in real estate is an option to consider for those looking for investments that involve a longer span of time.

There are five main types of real estate investments, one of them is commercial real estate. Here's how commercial real estate works and how you can add it to your investment portfolio.

# Why Choose Investing in Commercial Real Estate?

An investment in commercial real estate generally entails an investment amount that is a large sum for any single retail investor to provide. The most common ways of investing in commercial real estate (CRE) are via real estate investment trusts (REITs) or through fractional ownership.

This mode of investment reduces a load of entry into CRE for retail investors by cutting down the ticket size. But a reduction in ticket size does not necessarily mean an investment option is good.

CRE investment comes with certain benefits over other traditional investment options:

- Being real estate, it is insulated from market fluctuations. As a long-term investment option, it is stable and mostly has a consistent rate of return.
- It comes with a lock-in period that safeguards your investment while assuring returns.
- Any special purpose CRE in a key location can be a literal gold mine as it will be well sought after by a niche segment of tenants, thus also assuring that a renewal of the investment keeps giving returns as a passive income.

# How To Begin Investing in Commercial Real Estate?

Investing in commercial realty can be done in an individual capacity but the high cost of investment makes it difficult for a single investor to invest the required amount in a commercial real estate entity.

The favoured method of investing in commercial real estate is via investing in REITs or fractional ownership .

REITs: These work somewhat like mutual funds. There are fund managers who manage a REIT, and your investment forms a part of the investment pool that is divided across multiple assets. These assets are selected by the fund managers based on their historic performance and the market dynamics. The returns from all the assets are clubbed and distributed to investors based on their investment in the REIT fund.



Fractional ownership: This helps get like-minded investors to pool their investment amounts into owning an asset. The minimum ticket size normally stays within multiples of lakhs. Based on their risk appetite and funds, individual retail investors can own one or more fractions of an asset, granting them a portion of the ownership. Returns from rent and capital appreciation are paid out in the ratio of the ownership of each investor.

The major difference between the two modes is simple – in a REIT, whether you like it or not, a part of your investment could be sitting idle in an asset that does not attract tenants for some reason. The only way to prevent your investment from being a costly paperweight will be to withdraw from the fund completely.

Whereas fractional ownership gives you complete control over your choice of the asset. In fractional ownership, you can still stay invested in other profit-making

assets and stop, sell, or trade your ownership fraction of a non-performing asset with another.

# How to Go About Goal-based Investing in Commercial Real Estate?

Goal-based investment works almost the same way as an investment in any other traditional model. CRE is ideal for long-term investment goals. So, if you are looking to invest for anything less than three years at a stretch, you should probably look elsewhere.

In long-term investments, goals are bigger, well-planned, and comparatively laid out across five years or multiples thereof. The easiest and most readily available option to invest in CRE at any given time is commercial office space, closely followed by warehouses. The rarer variety turns up in laboratories, manufacturing units, or assembly floors.

**Office Spaces**: Office spaces generally tend to be stable investments for four to five years at least if the business has not set up a head office or corporate office. In such cases, the lease tenure could go up to 10 years with the possibility of subsequent renewal, which will be requested by the tenant.

**Warehouses**: General-purpose warehouses are used for storing goods in transit, as a supply hub or as a support for a manufacturing or industrial unit nearby. If the tenant is an established e-commerce player, and the business is good in the surrounding area, you can rest easy on the stability of the investment for a long period such as 15 years. If not, most warehouses come with a lock-in period of five years and a lease tenure of 11-12 years.

Laboratories, manufacturing units, or assembly floors: The last category of manufacturing, research, and industrial spaces are rarely vacated by tenants. The only opportunities that you can get for investing in them is when new assets crop up or some tenant decides to sublet a portion of the asset. The occupancy stays steady as a rock, with tenures crossing 20 years or more. Capital appreciation is steady and rental returns continue.

Based on what you are looking for, you can choose to invest in any of these subclasses as per your ideal financial goal.

# What Factors To Consider Before Investing in Commercial Real Estate?

As with any kind of investment, proper research should go into the factors that are crucial for CRE assets. Here are the top factors that you should bear in mind before investing in commercial real estate:

# 1. Location

Location plays a big role in deciding how your asset performs. This holds true for residential as well as commercial real estate.

Accessibility via roads and railroads, major highways, proximity to airports, and seaports are factors that can make or break the value of the asset and how much it can appreciate over the course of time. A well-connected spot close to harbors and ports might be great for tenants who are into manufacturing and either export to or import from other countries.

The same location will not work great for businesses that deal in software operations. When investing in a major urban market, make sure you also keep a tab on the micro-markets in and around the asset you are interested in, for any changes that might affect your investment.

# 2. Tenancy

The existing tenants, their financial condition, and the terms that they are currently on, are factors that can tell you a great deal about the viability of the asset for the long-term and how far your investment is going to be beneficial.



Historical data about the lease terms and vacancy will give you an idea of what to be prepared for in case there is a gap in the tenancy during the period you decide to invest. General-purpose office space is likely to have more chances of getting occupied compared to a special purpose warehouse or laboratory. However, the latter can score over the former through better capital appreciation and a much more stable tenancy.

# 3. Market Dynamics

It is true that commercial real estate does not suffer from the same market shifts as most other traditional investment options. However, changes in the market do affect the vacancy rate, the rentals, and the stability of occupancy. A very relevant case can be made from the Covid-19 pandemic. With people not going to office spaces to work, quite a few markets saw dips in the rentals from commercial office spaces.

Keeping an eye on what businesses are stirring the economy is a great way to understand which commercial real estate asset is the one you should be looking out for next.

### 4. Documentation

If you are getting into CRE investment on your own, without the help of an advisor, it is ideal to have adequate legal support to take you through all the legal paperwork to check for any hidden charges, ambiguous ownership clauses, among others.

In case you are opting to go the REIT or fractional ownership way to get into CRE investment, most of the above factors will be taken care of by the team that is handling the investment, sale, or resale of the assets. The most important thing you would have to do then is, fix a goal for what your investment should achieve.

# IV. Pros and Cons of Investing in Commercial Real Estate

Understand the advantages and disadvantages of investing in Commercial Real Estate.

Any type of property, whether it's commercial or residential, can be a good investment opportunity. For your money, commercial properties typically offer more financial reward than residential properties, such as rental apartments or single-family homes, but there also can be more risks.

Understand the full pros and cons of investing in commercial properties is important so that you make the investment decision that's right for you.

# Positive Reasons to Invest in Commercial Property

Income potential. The best reason to invest in commercial over residential rentals is the earning potential. Commercial properties typically have an annual return off the purchase price between 6% and 12%, depending on the area, current economy, and external factors (such as a pandemic). That's a much higher range than ordinarily exists for single family home properties (1% to 4% at best).



Professional relationships. Small business owners tend to take pride in their businesses and want to protect their livelihood. Owners of commercial properties are usually not individuals, but LLCs, and operate the property as a business. As such, the landlord and tenant have more of a business-to-business customer relationship, which helps keep interactions professional and courteous.

Public eye on the property. Retail tenants have a vested interest in maintaining their store and storefront, because if they don't, it will affect their business. As a result, commercial tenants and property owner interests are aligned, which helps the owner maintain and improve the quality of the property, and ultimately, the value of their investment.

Limited hours of operation. Businesses usually go home at night. In other words, you work when they work. Barring emergency calls at night for break-ins or fire alarms, you should be able to rest without having to worry about receiving a midnight call because a tenant wants repairs or has lost a key. For commercial properties, it is also more likely you will have an alarm monitoring service, so that if anything does happen at night, your alarm company will notify the proper authorities.

More objective price evaluations. It's often easier to evaluate the prices of commercial property than residential, because you can request the current owner's income statement and determine what the price should be based on that. If the seller is using a knowledgeable broker, the asking price should be set at a price where an investor can earn the area's prevailing cap rate for the commercial property type they are looking at (retail, office, industrial, and so forth). Residential properties are often

subject to more emotional pricing. See Evaluating Cap Rate: Is that Residential Real Estate Investment Property Worth It? for more on the subject.

Triple net leases. There are variations to triple net leases, but the basic concept is that you, as the property owner, do not have to pay expenses on the property (as would be the case with residential real estate). The lessee handles all property expenses directly, including real estate taxes. The only expense you'll have to pay is your mortgage.



Companies like Walgreens, CVS, and Starbucks typically sign these types of leases, as they want to maintain a look and feel in keeping with their brand, so they manage those costs, which means you as an investor get to have one of the lowest maintenance income producers for your money.

Strip malls have a variety of net leases and triple nets are not usually done with smaller businesses, but these lease types are optimal and you can't get them with residential properties. For more on common lease terms, such as net leases, see Commercial Leases: Negotiate the Best Terms and related articles in the Your Business Space & Commercial Lease section of this site.

More flexibility in lease terms. Fewer consumer protection laws govern commercial leases, unlike the dozens of state laws, such as security deposit limits and termination rules, that cover residential real estate.

# <u>Downsides to Investing in Commercial Property</u>

While there are many positive reasons to invest in commercial real estate over residential, there are also negative issues to consider.

Time commitment. If you own a commercial retail building with five tenants, or even just a few, you have more to manage than you do with a residential investment. You can't be an absentee landlord and maximize the return on your investment. With commercial, you are likely dealing with multiple leases, annual CAM adjustments (common area maintenance costs that tenants are responsible for), more maintenance issues, and public safety concerns. In a nutshell, you have more to manage; and just as your tenants have to worry about the public eye, you do as well.

Professional help required. If you are a do-it-yourselfer, you'd better be licensed if you are going to handle the maintenance issues at a commercial property. The likelihood is you will not be prepared to handle maintenance issues yourself and will need to hire someone to help with emergencies and repairs. While this added cost isn't ideal, you'll need to add it on to your set of expenses in order to properly care for the property.

Remember to factor in property management expenses when evaluating the price to pay for a commercial investment property. Property management companies can charge between 5-10% of rent revenues for their services, which include lease administration. Evaluate beforehand whether you want to manage leasing and the relationships yourself or outsource those responsibilities.

Bigger initial investment. Acquiring a commercial property typically requires more capital up front than acquiring a residential rental in the same area, so it's often more difficult to get your foot in the door.

Once you've acquired a commercial property, you can expect some large capital expenditures to follow. Your property might be humming along for a few months and wham, here comes a \$10,000 bill to address roofing repairs or a new furnace. With more customers there are more facilities to maintain and therefore more costs. What you hope is that the gains in revenue outweigh the gains in costs, to support purchasing a commercial property over a residential one.

More risks. Properties intended for commercial use have more public visitors and therefore have more people on the property each day that can get hurt or do something to damage your property. Cars can hit patrons in parking lots, people can slip on ice during the winter, and vandals can spray paint the sides of the building. Incidents like these can occur anywhere, but chances of experiencing something like these events go up when investing in commercial properties. If you're risk adverse, you might want to look more closely at putting your money in residential properties.

# V. How To Find Undervalued Commercial Real Estate For Investing

Commercial real estate is known for its high prices and outstanding returns. Thus, high-net-worth individuals often acquire them to generate long-term rental income. These seasoned investors are well-versed in the commercial property sector and

have a wide network that includes real estate agents, investors and property owners. They are constantly tracking the changes in the segment that affect prices and rental yield. Investors usually create a diversified property portfolio to ensure they have not invested everything in one domain.

It gives them the flexibility to acquire different assets that continue to bring returns even if one of the segments is lagging due to economic conditions. Another masterstroke that helps them save capital is buying undervalued commercial real estate and selling it at a higher price later for capital gains. It is the best way to generate the maximum return on investment from the property.

Here is how to find undervalued commercial real estate when looking for investment opportunities. In-depth research and knowledge of the sector will help you make the right choice.

# 1. Identify Industry Trends



Investors looking for undervalued commercial real estate Sydney must follow the industry news and trends. It will help them gain insight into property owners' buying and selling behaviour and price changes. It is also helpful in understanding each segment's rental yield and property values. Besides the basic information, they must determine the time taken to sell properties in the region, the number of similar properties on the market with comparable prices and capital appreciation of assets.

The data can be provided by real estate agents and online reports published by real estate companies operating in NSW. It is vital to check these details for all the suburbs because of the population boom in these areas. Analyse the data accumulated from different sources to identify which segments are performing well and which are expected to fall in the undervalued category.

# 2. Look for Upcoming Markets

The pandemic was a depressing phase for investors with hospitality-based properties. They had to face losses due to the lockdowns, and the travel restrictions created a lot of financial distress. Naturally, it led to decreased property prices due to decreased demand. However, things are improving in the sector with international travellers coming back and the government investing in CBD revitalisation and 24-hour economy.

Thus, the hospitality industry will boom in the coming years, and those who wish to invest must do it right now. Similarly, the retail industry experienced a setback, and e-commerce created a stir with high demand from business owners. Since industrial property is still the best investment option, undervalued assets are scarce in this segment. Retail stores can be acquired at affordable prices to be transformed into attractive properties that will experience a surge in demand in the next five years.

# 3. Research Your Territory

Finding undervalued properties is difficult, and they might not be listed online. Also, inspecting the structure before jumping on the bandwagon is better. The overhaul will involve a massive investment if the building is completely dilapidated. It will cost more than you can expect in returns from the property. Thus, you must search for the undervalued options with the help of a real estate agent and lawyer.

The lawyer will help you identify the valuation of the Sydney commercial real estate and check the viability of investment by forecasting the returns and capital gains. The easiest way to identify these structures is to look in the neighbourhood and the nearby areas to conduct the inspection effectively.

# 4. Use Your Network for Inside Information



Since many undervalued properties are not marketed or staged by the owner because of a financial crunch, it is vital to find out about them. These hidden opportunities can be brought to the forefront by your industry network. Investors,

property managers, brokers, property appraisers and real estate agents can provide information about properties that are getting sold at a lower price.

Use social media to join real estate groups and discussions to identify such assets. It is easier to find genuine referrals through the network, which comprises like-minded individuals. It is helpful in identifying off-market opportunities that are sold through the network. Thus, maintain good relations and rapport with industry people and stay in constant touch to find valuable information.

# 5. Find Properties That Need Refurbishment

Another way to identify undervalued commercial real estate Sydney is to look for properties that are not well-maintained. These will not attract premium buyers and will be priced to sell by the owner, who is not willing to spend on the renovation or maintenance. However, check for structural damage or expensive refurbishment requirements before signing the deal.

Minor repair work or upgrades are manageable and can be accommodated while adding value to the investment. The property must be well-built and have a layout that allows easy refurbishment. It must not have outdated fixtures and fittings that require complete modification of the building. If the property seems to be falling to pieces, it is better to avoid the deal or bring the price further down and pay for the value of the land and location.

### 6. Choose Motivated Sellers

When looking for undervalued properties, it is vital to identify sellers looking for a quick sale. They must be offered an urgent sale with a negotiable price. They are more accommodating than others who are not hurrying to sell the property. Since the seller wants to get rid of the responsibility for reasons like cash crunch, lack of maintenance, etc., it is easier to bring down the price further.

However, you must ensure you are not too late with your offer because motivated sellers are eager to skip the waiting time. Thus, they can accept offers from other investors without much thought. So, try to match the quotes of other buyers to acquire the property.

# 7. Attend Real Estate Auctions



Auctions are yet another way of acquiring undervalued properties that are not being sold. They allow bargaining on the listed price and showcase off-market properties. Usually, the seller settles for the price offered because if the property is not sold in the auction, it will stay on the market for a long time and get labelled as unsaleable.

Look for auctions organised by real estate agents and specialised companies. After inspecting the commercial real estate Sydney, the investor must register as the bidder. Also, the buyer must understand the auction process and prepare a bidding strategy to avoid feeling pressured or stressed.

If you are looking for an undervalued Sydney commercial real estate for investing, you must know the avenues to locate them. They are usually not listed online or marketed through media channels. Use the tips above to find a decent property at the lowest rate.

# **CONCLUSION**

Commercial real estate provides a diverse range of profitable opportunities for owners, investors, and tenants, but it is not for everyone, Learning more about the CRE industry can help you better understand its intricacies and open up new opportunities for diversifying your portfolio or expanding your business.

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