



Online Companies Compared

Here is a comparison of the “big four” online family history companies. All are excellent companies and have different strengths and services. Look to the strengths column to determine which company has the most records in the area you are researching. Also read reviews and their websites to see which company is a good fit for your research.

Note: There is a difference between a Free Guest Option and a Free Trial. With a Free Guest Option (at most companies) you can build your tree for free (or upload it), but you can only research their free online records. Not all records are free to see (except for FamilySearch).

With a Free Trial, you can build a tree and see all records for the duration of their free trial and then you will be charged when the free trial expires unless you cancel prior to its expiration.

Also note which services have One World Tree or your own tree. One World Tree (FamilySearch) is a collaborative tree where people can change your work. This can be frustrating for some and a blessing for others.

	Free Guest Option	Free Trial	Paid Subscription	Private Trees	One World Tree	Record Hints	Records Online	DNA Service	Contacting Members	Strengths	HQ
Ancestry	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	U.S. Research & Worldwide	United States
MyHeritage	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Jewish, Scandinavian, German, England	Israel
FindMyPast	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	England, Scotland, Wales, & Ireland	United Kingdom
Family Search	Always Free	Always Free	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	U.S. Research & Worldwide	United States

