

VENTAS INC
Form S-3ASR
February 13, 2018

Use these links to rapidly review the document

[TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

[Table of Contents](#)

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 13, 2018

Registration No. 333-

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM S-3
REGISTRATION STATEMENT
UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

VENTAS, INC.
and
VENTAS REALTY, LIMITED PARTNERSHIP
(Exact names of registrants as specified in charter)

Delaware
Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

61-1055020
61-1324573
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification Number)

353 N. Clark Street, Suite 3300
Chicago, Illinois 60654
(877) 483-6827
(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including
area code, of registrants' principal executive offices)

T. Richard Riney, Esq.
General Counsel
Ventas, Inc.
10350 Ormsby Park Place, Suite 300
Louisville, Kentucky 40223
(502) 357-9000
(Name, address, including zip code, telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Copy to:

Cathy A. Birkeland
Julian T.H. Kleindorfer

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**Roderick O. Branch
Latham & Watkins LLP
330 North Wabash Avenue, Suite 2800
Chicago, Illinois 60611
(312) 876-7700**

**Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public:
From time to time or at one time as determined by the Registrants.**

If the only securities being registered on this Form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box.

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box.

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.D. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.D. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant (Ventas, Inc.) is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer Smaller reporting company
(Do not check if a smaller reporting company) Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 7(a)(2)(B) of the Securities Act.

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant (Ventas Realty, Limited Partnership) is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer Smaller reporting company
(Do not check if a smaller reporting company) Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 7(a)(2)(B) of the Securities Act.

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Each Class of Securities to be Registered	Amount to be Registered	Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Unit	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price	Amount of Registration Fee
Common Stock of Ventas, Inc.	(1)(2)	(1)(2)	(1)(2)	(3)

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Preferred Stock of Ventas, Inc.	(1)(2)	(1)(2)	(1)(2)	(3)
Depository Shares of Ventas, Inc.	(1)(2)	(1)(2)	(1)(2)	(3)
Warrants of Ventas, Inc.	(1)(2)	(1)(2)	(1)(2)	(3)
Debt Securities of Ventas Realty, Limited Partnership	(1)(2)	(1)(2)	(1)(2)	(3)
Debt Securities of Ventas, Inc.	(1)(2)	(1)(2)	(1)(2)	(3)
Guarantees of Debt Securities of Ventas Realty, Limited Partnership by Ventas, Inc.(4)	(1)(2)	(1)(2)	(1)(2)	(4)
Guarantees of Debt Securities of Ventas, Inc. by Ventas Realty, Limited Partnership(4)	(1)(2)	(1)(2)	(1)(2)	(4)

(1) Not applicable pursuant to Form S-3 General Instruction II(E).

(2) Such indeterminable number or amount of (a) common stock of Ventas, Inc. (which may be issued separately, upon conversion of the debt securities registered hereby and upon exercise of warrants), (b) preferred stock of Ventas, Inc., (c) depository shares representing preferred stock of Ventas, Inc., (d) warrants of Ventas, Inc. to acquire other classes of securities of Ventas, Inc. registered hereby, (e) debt securities of Ventas Realty, Limited Partnership (which may be senior or subordinated), (f) debt securities of Ventas, Inc. (which may be senior or subordinated), (g) guarantees of debt securities of Ventas Realty, Limited Partnership by Ventas, Inc. and (h) guarantees of debt securities of Ventas, Inc. by Ventas Realty, Limited Partnership is being registered as may be issued from time to time at indeterminable prices.

(3) Deferred in reliance upon Rule 456(b) and Rule 457(r).

(4) No separate consideration will be received for the guarantees by Ventas, Inc. of the debt securities of Ventas Realty, Limited Partnership or the guarantees by Ventas Realty, Limited Partnership of the debt securities of Ventas, Inc. The guarantees will include the right of the holders of guaranteed securities under the guarantees and certain undertakings, as described in this Registration Statement. Pursuant to Rule 457(n), no registration fee is required with respect to the guarantees.

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS

Ventas, Inc.
**Common Stock, Preferred Stock, Depositary Shares, Warrants and
Debt Securities**

Ventas Realty, Limited Partnership
Debt Securities

Guarantees of Debt Securities of Ventas, Inc.
by Ventas Realty, Limited Partnership

Guarantees of Debt Securities of Ventas Realty, Limited Partnership
by Ventas, Inc.

Ventas, Inc. may offer and sell, from time to time, in one or more offerings, common stock, preferred stock, depositary shares, warrants and debt securities. These securities may be offered and sold separately, together or as units with other securities described herein. These debt securities may be fully and unconditionally guaranteed by Ventas Realty, Limited Partnership, as described herein or in a prospectus supplement. These debt securities and any such guarantees may be senior or subordinated.

Ventas Realty, Limited Partnership may offer and sell, from time to time, in one or more offerings, debt securities. These debt securities may be offered and sold separately, together or as units with other securities described herein. These debt securities may be fully and unconditionally guaranteed by Ventas, Inc., as described herein or in a prospectus supplement. These debt securities and any such guarantees may be senior or subordinated.

The securities described herein may be issued in one or more series or issuances. We will provide the specific terms of any offering (including the securities being offered and their offering prices) in supplements to this prospectus. You should carefully read this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement before making an investment decision.

See "Risk Factors" on page 7 for a discussion of matters that you should consider before investing in these securities.

The common stock of Ventas, Inc. is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "VTR." The closing price of our common stock on the New York Stock Exchange was \$50.46 per share on February 12, 2018. None of the other securities offered hereby are currently listed on a national securities exchange.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The date of this prospectus is February 13, 2018.

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
<u>About this Prospectus</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>Cautionary Note Concerning Forward-Looking Statements</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>About the Registrants</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Risk Factors</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>Description of Ventas, Inc. Common Stock</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>Description of Ventas, Inc. Preferred Stock</u>	<u>9</u>
<u>Description of Ventas, Inc. Depositary Shares</u>	<u>13</u>
<u>Description of Ventas, Inc. Warrants</u>	<u>17</u>
<u>Description of Debt Securities</u>	<u>18</u>
<u>Certain U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations</u>	<u>31</u>
<u>Plan of Distribution</u>	<u>60</u>
<u>Validity of the Offered Securities</u>	<u>62</u>
<u>Experts</u>	<u>62</u>
<u>Where You Can Find More Information and Incorporation by Reference</u>	<u>62</u>

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") using a "shelf" registration process. Under this shelf process, we may sell any combination of the securities described herein, from time to time, in one or more offerings.

This prospectus provides you only with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we offer securities, we will provide one or more prospectus supplements containing specific information about the terms of such offering. A prospectus supplement may also add to, update or change the information contained herein. You should read this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement and the additional information described under "Where You Can Find More Information and Incorporation by Reference."

You should rely only on the information included or incorporated by reference herein or in a prospectus supplement. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different information. We will not make an offer of the securities described herein in any jurisdiction where it is unlawful. You should assume that the information included or incorporated by reference herein and in any prospectus supplement is accurate only as of the date of the document containing such information.

Unless otherwise indicated or except where the context otherwise requires:

references herein to "Ventas, "we," "us," "our" and other similar terms mean Ventas, Inc., together with its consolidated subsidiaries; and

references herein to "Ventas Realty" mean Ventas Realty, Limited Partnership.

Table of Contents

CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein include forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"). All statements regarding our or our tenants', operators', borrowers' or managers' expected future financial condition, results of operations, cash flows, funds from operations, dividends and dividend plans, financing opportunities and plans, capital markets transactions, business strategy, budgets, projected costs, operating metrics, capital expenditures, competitive positions, acquisitions, investment opportunities, dispositions, merger integration, growth opportunities, expected lease income, continued qualification as a real estate investment trust ("REIT"), plans and objectives of management for future operations and statements that include words such as "anticipate," "if," "believe," "plan," "estimate," "expect," "intend," "may," "could," "should," "will" and other similar expressions, are forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are inherently uncertain, and actual results may differ from our or our expectations. We do not undertake a duty to update these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date on which they are made.

Our actual future results and trends may differ materially from expectations depending on a variety of factors discussed in our filings with the SEC. These factors include, without limitation:

The ability and willingness of our tenants, operators, borrowers, managers and other third parties to satisfy their obligations under their respective contractual arrangements with us, including, in some cases, their obligations to indemnify, defend and hold us harmless from and against various claims, litigation and liabilities;

The ability of our tenants, operators, borrowers and managers to maintain the financial strength and liquidity necessary to satisfy their respective obligations and liabilities to third parties, including, without limitation, obligations under their existing credit facilities and other indebtedness;

Our success in implementing our business strategy and our ability to identify, underwrite, finance, consummate and integrate diversifying acquisitions and investments;

Macroeconomic conditions such as a disruption of or lack of access to the capital markets, changes in the debt rating on U.S. government securities, default or delay in payment by the United States of its obligations and changes in the federal or state budgets resulting in the reduction or nonpayment of Medicare or Medicaid reimbursement rates;

The nature and extent of future competition, including new construction in the markets in which our seniors housing communities and office buildings are located;

The extent and effect of future or pending healthcare reform and regulation, including cost containment measures and changes in reimbursement policies, procedures and rates;

Increases in our borrowing costs as a result of changes in interest rates and other factors;

The ability of our tenants, operators and managers, as applicable, to comply with laws, rules and regulations in the operation of our properties, to deliver high-quality services, to attract and retain qualified personnel and to attract residents and patients;

Changes in general economic conditions or economic conditions in the markets in which we may, from time to time, compete, and the effect of those changes on our revenues, earnings and funding sources;

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Our ability to pay down, refinance, restructure or extend our indebtedness as it becomes due;

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Table of Contents

Our ability and willingness to maintain our qualification as a REIT in light of economic, market, legal, tax and other considerations;

Final determination of our taxable net income for the year ended December 31, 2017 and for the year ending December 31, 2018;

The ability and willingness of our tenants to renew their leases with us upon expiration of the leases, our ability to reposition our properties on the same or better terms in the event of nonrenewal or in the event we exercise our right to replace an existing tenant, and obligations, including indemnification obligations, we may incur in connection with the replacement of an existing tenant;

Risks associated with our senior living operating portfolio, such as factors that can cause volatility in our operating income and earnings generated by those properties, including without limitation national and regional economic conditions, development of new competing properties, costs of food, materials, energy, labor and services, employee benefit costs, insurance costs, and professional and general liability claims, and the timely delivery of accurate property-level financial results for those properties;

Changes in exchange rates for any foreign currency in which we may, from time to time, conduct business;

Year-over-year changes in the Consumer Price Index or the U.K. Retail Price Index and the effect of those changes on the rent escalators contained in our leases and on our earnings;

Our ability and the ability of our tenants, operators, borrowers and managers to obtain and maintain adequate property, liability and other insurance from reputable, financially stable providers;

The impact of increased operating costs and uninsured professional liability claims on our liquidity, financial condition and results of operations or that of our tenants, operators, borrowers and managers and our ability and the ability of our tenants, operators, borrowers and managers to accurately estimate the magnitude of those claims;

Risks associated with our office building portfolio and operations, including our ability to successfully design, develop and manage office buildings and to retain key personnel;

The ability of the hospitals on or near whose campuses our medical office buildings ("MOBs") are located and their affiliated health systems to remain competitive and financially viable and to attract physicians and physician groups;

Risks associated with our investments in joint ventures and unconsolidated entities, including our lack of sole decision-making authority and our reliance on our joint venture partners' financial condition;

Our ability to obtain the financial results expected from our development and redevelopment projects, including projects undertaken through our joint ventures;

The impact of market or issuer events on the liquidity or value of our investments in marketable securities;

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Consolidation in the seniors housing and healthcare industries resulting in a change of control of, or a competitor's investment in, one or more of our tenants, operators, borrowers or managers or significant changes in the senior management of our tenants, operators, borrowers or managers;

The impact of litigation or any financial, accounting, legal or regulatory issues that may affect us or our tenants, operators, borrowers or managers; and

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Table of Contents

Changes in accounting principles, or their application or interpretation, and our ability to make estimates and the assumptions underlying the estimates, which could have an effect on our earnings.

We describe some of these risks and uncertainties in greater detail below under "Risk Factors" and in the risk factors that are incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein. Many of these factors are beyond our control and the control of our management.

Table of Contents

ABOUT THE REGISTRANTS

The following highlights information about the registrants and our business included elsewhere or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. It is not complete and does not contain all of the information that you should consider before making an investment decision. You should carefully read this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement and the information incorporated by reference herein and therein.

Ventas

Ventas, an S&P 500 company, is a REIT with a highly diversified portfolio of seniors housing and healthcare properties located throughout the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom. As of December 31, 2017, we owned more than 1,200 properties (including properties owned through investments in unconsolidated entities and properties classified as held for sale), consisting of seniors housing communities, MOB, life science and innovation centers, inpatient rehabilitation facilities and long-term acute care facilities, health systems and skilled nursing facilities, and we had 14 properties under development, including four properties that are owned by unconsolidated real estate entities. Our company was originally founded in 1983 and is headquartered in Chicago, Illinois.

We primarily invest in seniors housing and healthcare properties through acquisitions and lease our properties to unaffiliated tenants or operate them through independent third-party managers. As of December 31, 2017, we leased a total of 546 properties (excluding MOB) to various healthcare operating companies under "triple-net" or "absolute-net" leases that obligate the tenants to pay all property-related expenses, including maintenance, utilities, repairs, taxes, insurance and capital expenditures.

As of December 31, 2017, pursuant to long-term management agreements, we engaged independent operators, such as Atria Senior Living, Inc. and Sunrise Senior Living, LLC, to manage 297 seniors housing communities for us.

Our three largest tenants, Brookdale Senior Living, Inc. (together with its subsidiaries, "Brookdale Senior Living"), Ardent Health Partners, LLC and Kindred Healthcare, Inc. leased from us 135 properties (excluding one property managed by Brookdale Senior Living pursuant to a long-term management agreement), 10 properties and 31 properties (excluding one MOB included within our office operations reportable business segment), respectively, as of December 31, 2017.

Through our Lillibridge Healthcare Services, Inc. subsidiary and our ownership interest in PMB Real Estate Services LLC, we also provide MOB management, leasing, marketing, facility development and advisory services to highly rated hospitals and health systems throughout the United States. In addition, from time to time, we make secured and non-mortgage loans and other investments relating to seniors housing and healthcare operators or properties.

We aim to enhance shareholder value by delivering consistent, superior total returns through a strategy of: (1) generating reliable and growing cash flows; (2) maintaining a balanced, diversified portfolio of high-quality assets; and (3) preserving our financial strength, flexibility and liquidity.

Our ability to access capital in a timely and cost-effective manner is critical to the success of our business strategy because it affects our ability to satisfy existing obligations, including the repayment of maturing indebtedness, and to make future investments. Factors such as general market conditions, interest rates, credit ratings on our securities, expectations of our potential future earnings and cash distributions, and the trading price of our common stock that are beyond our control and fluctuate over time all impact our access to and cost of external capital. For that reason, we generally attempt to match the long-term duration of our investments in real property with long-term financing through the issuance of shares of our common stock or the incurrence of long-term fixed rate debt.

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Table of Contents

Our principal executive offices are located at 353 North Clark Street, Suite 3300, Chicago, Illinois 60654, and our telephone number is (877) 483-6827. We maintain a website on the Internet at www.ventasreit.com. Information on our website is not incorporated by reference herein and our web address is included herein as an inactive textual reference only.

Ventas Realty

Ventas Realty is a wholly owned direct subsidiary of Ventas, Inc. and a limited partnership organized under the laws of the State of Delaware.

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

Our business, operations and financial condition are subject to various risks. Before you invest in our securities, you should carefully read and consider:

the risks described in Ventas' Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017, which is incorporated by reference herein; and

any risks described in other filings we make with the SEC or in the prospectus supplements relating to specific offerings of securities.

USE OF PROCEEDS

Unless otherwise described in a prospectus supplement, we intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of any securities under this prospectus for general corporate purposes, including to fund future acquisitions and investments and to repay indebtedness outstanding under our unsecured credit facility, term loans or other debt. Until we apply the proceeds from a sale of securities to their intended purposes, we may invest such proceeds in short-term investments, including repurchase agreements, some or all of which may not have an investment grade rating.

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

The following table shows our ratios of (i) earnings to fixed charges and (ii) earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred stock dividends for each of the periods indicated. We do not currently have any preferred stock outstanding.

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Ratio of earnings to fixed charges(1)	2.30x	2.24x	2.01x	2.20x	2.45x
Ratio of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred stock dividends(2)	2.30x	2.24x	2.01x	2.20x	2.45x

(1) For this ratio, earnings consist of income before loss/income from unconsolidated entities, income taxes, discontinued operations, real estate dispositions and non-controlling interest, plus fixed charges (excluding capitalized interest) and distributions from unconsolidated entities. Fixed charges consist of interest expensed and capitalized.

(2) For this ratio, earnings consist of income before loss/income from unconsolidated entities, income taxes, discontinued operations, real estate dispositions and non-controlling interest, plus fixed charges and preferred stock dividends (excluding capitalized interest) and distributions from unconsolidated entities. Fixed charges and preferred stock dividends consist of interest expensed and capitalized, plus preferred stock dividends.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF VENTAS, INC. COMMON STOCK

This section describes the general terms and provisions of the common stock of Ventas, Inc. The prospectus supplement relating to any offering of common stock, or other securities convertible into or exchangeable or exercisable for common stock, will describe more specific terms of the offering of common stock or other securities, including the number of shares offered, the initial offering price, and market price and dividend information.

The summary set forth below does not purport to be complete and is subject to and qualified in its entirety by reference to Ventas, Inc.'s Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation, as amended (the "Certificate of Incorporation"), and Ventas, Inc.'s Fifth Amended and Restated Bylaws, as amended (the "Bylaws"), each of which is filed or incorporated by reference as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part and incorporated by reference herein. You should read the Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws for additional information before you purchase any shares of Ventas, Inc. common stock.

General

The Certificate of Incorporation authorizes Ventas, Inc. to issue up to 600,000,000 shares of its common stock, par value \$0.25 per share. As of January 31, 2018, 356,185,981 shares of Ventas, Inc. common stock were issued and outstanding.

All shares of common stock offered hereby, when issued, will be duly authorized, fully paid and nonassessable. Subject to the preferential rights of any other shares of capital stock and to certain provisions of the Certificate of Incorporation, holders of shares of Ventas, Inc. common stock are entitled to receive distributions if, as and when authorized and declared by Ventas, Inc.'s Board of Directors out of assets legally available therefor and to share ratably in our assets legally available for distribution to stockholders in the event of our liquidation, dissolution or winding-up after payment of, or adequate provision for, all of our known debts and liabilities. We currently expect to continue to make quarterly distributions, and from time to time we may make additional distributions.

Holders of shares of Ventas, Inc. common stock are entitled to one vote per share on all matters on which the holders of common stock are entitled to vote. Holders of shares of Ventas, Inc. common stock have no conversion, sinking fund, redemption or preemptive rights. Subject to certain provisions of the Certificate of Incorporation, shares of Ventas, Inc. common stock have equal distribution, liquidation and other rights.

Restrictions on Ownership and Transfer

In order to preserve its ability to maintain its REIT status, Ventas, Inc.'s Certificate of Incorporation provides that if a person acquires beneficial ownership of more than 9%, in number or value, of the outstanding shares of Ventas, Inc. common stock, the shares that are beneficially owned in excess of such 9% limit are considered to be "excess shares." Excess shares are automatically deemed transferred to a trust for the benefit of a charitable institution or other qualifying organization selected by Ventas, Inc.'s Board of Directors. The trust is entitled to all dividends with respect to the excess shares and the trustee may exercise all voting power over the excess shares. Ventas, Inc. has the right to buy the excess shares for a purchase price equal to the lesser of (1) the price per share in the transaction that created the excess shares, or (2) the market price on the date Ventas, Inc. buys the shares, and Ventas, Inc. may defer payment of the purchase price for up to five years. If Ventas, Inc. does not purchase the excess shares, the trustee of the trust is required to transfer the excess shares at the direction of Ventas, Inc.'s Board of Directors. The owner of the excess shares is entitled to receive the lesser of the proceeds from the sale of the excess shares or the original purchase price for such excess shares, and any additional amounts are payable to the beneficiary of the trust. Ventas, Inc.'s Board of Directors may grant waivers from the excess share limitations.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF VENTAS, INC. PREFERRED STOCK

This section describes the general terms and provisions of the preferred stock of Ventas, Inc. The prospectus supplement relating to any offering of preferred stock, or other securities convertible into or exchangeable or exercisable for preferred stock, will describe more specific terms of the preferred stock being offered, including the designation of the series, the number of shares offered, the initial offering price and any voting, dividend and liquidation preference rights, and any general terms described in this section that will not apply to those shares of preferred stock.

The summary set forth below does not purport to be complete and is subject to and qualified in its entirety by reference to the Certificate of Incorporation and the certificate of designation relating to the applicable series of preferred stock that we will file with the SEC, each of which is or will be filed or incorporated by reference as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part and incorporated by reference herein. You should read the Certificate of Incorporation and such certificate of designation for additional information before you buy any shares of Ventas, Inc. preferred stock.

General

The Certificate of Incorporation authorizes Ventas, Inc. to issue up to 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$1.00 per share. As of January 31, 2018, no shares of Ventas, Inc. preferred stock were issued or outstanding.

Ventas, Inc.'s Board of Directors has authority, without the approval of stockholders, to issue preferred stock in one or more series having the powers, preferences and other rights as it may determine from time to time. Any shares of Ventas, Inc. preferred stock that Ventas, Inc. offers and sells under this prospectus will have the rights described in this section unless the applicable prospectus supplement provides otherwise. You should read the prospectus supplement relating to the particular series of preferred stock being offered for the specific terms of the series, including some or all of the following:

the description of the shares of preferred stock;

the number of shares of preferred stock offered;

the voting rights, if any, of the holders of the shares of preferred stock;

the offering price of the shares of preferred stock;

the distribution rate on the shares of preferred stock, when distributions will be paid, or the method of determining the distribution rate if it is based on a formula or not otherwise fixed;

the date from which distributions on the shares of preferred stock shall accumulate;

the provision, if any, for auctioning or remarketing of the shares of preferred stock;

the provision, if any, for redemption of, or a sinking fund with respect to, the shares of preferred stock;

the liquidation preference per share of preferred stock;

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any listing of the shares of preferred stock on a securities exchange;

whether the shares of preferred stock will be convertible or exchangeable and, if so, the security into which they are convertible or exchangeable and the terms and conditions of conversion or exchange, including the conversion price or exchange rate or the manner of determining it;

whether interests in the shares of preferred stock will be represented by depositary shares as more fully described below under "Description of Ventas, Inc. Depositary Shares;"

Table of Contents

the U.S. federal income tax consequences of owning the shares of preferred stock;

the relative ranking and preferences of the shares of preferred stock as to distribution and liquidation rights;

any limitations on issuance of any shares of preferred stock ranking senior to or on a parity with the series of preferred stock being offered as to distribution and liquidation rights;

any limitations on direct or beneficial ownership and restrictions on transfer of the shares of preferred stock, in each case as may be appropriate to preserve our status as a REIT; and

any other terms of the preferred stock.

As described under "Description of Ventas, Inc. Depositary Shares," Ventas, Inc. may, at its option, elect to offer depositary shares evidenced by depositary receipts. If Ventas, Inc. elects to so offer, each depositary receipt will represent a fractional interest in a share of the particular series of preferred stock issued and deposited with a depositary. The applicable prospectus supplement will specify that fractional interest.

Ranking

Unless Ventas, Inc.'s Board of Directors otherwise determines and we so specify in the applicable prospectus supplement, we expect that any shares of Ventas, Inc. preferred stock will, with respect to distribution rights and rights upon liquidation or dissolution, rank senior to all shares of Ventas, Inc. common stock.

Dividends

Holders of shares of Ventas, Inc. preferred stock of each series will be entitled to receive dividends at the rates and on the dates shown in the applicable prospectus supplement if, as and when authorized and declared by Ventas, Inc.'s Board of Directors out of assets legally available therefor. Ventas, Inc. will pay each dividend to holders of record as they appear on its share transfer books on the record dates fixed by its Board of Directors. In the case of shares of preferred stock represented by depositary receipts, the records of the depositary referred to under "Description of Ventas, Inc. Depositary Shares" will determine the persons to whom dividends are payable.

Dividends on any series of Ventas, Inc. preferred stock may be cumulative or noncumulative, as provided in the applicable prospectus supplement. We refer to each particular series, for ease of reference, as the applicable series. Cumulative dividends will be cumulative from and after the date shown in the applicable prospectus supplement. If Ventas, Inc.'s Board of Directors fails to authorize a dividend on any applicable series that is noncumulative, the holders will have no right to receive, and Ventas, Inc. will have no obligation to pay, a dividend in respect of the applicable dividend period, whether or not dividends on that series are declared payable in the future.

If the applicable series is entitled to a cumulative dividend, Ventas, Inc. may not declare, or pay or set aside for payment, a dividend on any other series of preferred stock ranking, as to dividends, on a parity with or junior to the applicable series, unless it declares, and either pays or sets aside for payment, full cumulative dividends on the applicable series for all past dividend periods. If the applicable series does not have a cumulative dividend, Ventas, Inc. must declare, and pay or set aside for payment, full dividends for the then current dividend period only. When dividends are not paid, or set aside for payment, in full on any applicable series and the shares of any other series ranking on a parity as to dividends with the applicable series, Ventas, Inc. must declare, and pay or set aside for payment, all dividends upon the applicable series and any other parity series proportionately, in accordance with accrued and unpaid dividends of the several series. For these purposes, accrued and unpaid dividends do not include unpaid dividend periods on noncumulative shares of preferred stock. No interest will be payable in respect of any dividend payment that may be in arrears.

Table of Contents

Except as provided in the immediately preceding paragraph, unless Ventas, Inc. declares, and pays or sets aside for payment, full cumulative dividends for all past dividend periods on any applicable series entitled to a cumulative dividend, it may not declare, or pay or set aside for payment, any dividends on common stock or any other equity securities ranking junior to or on a parity with the applicable series as to dividends or upon liquidation. The foregoing restriction does not apply to dividends paid in common stock or other equity securities ranking junior to the applicable series as to dividends and upon liquidation. If the applicable series does not have cumulative dividends, Ventas, Inc. must declare, and pay or set aside for payment, only the dividend for the then current period before declaring dividends on shares of common stock or junior or parity securities. In addition, under the circumstances in which Ventas, Inc. could not declare a dividend, it may not redeem, purchase or otherwise acquire for any consideration any shares of common stock or other parity or junior equity securities, except upon conversion into or exchange for shares of common stock or other junior equity securities. Ventas, Inc. may, however, make purchases and redemptions otherwise prohibited pursuant to certain redemptions or pro rata offers to purchase the outstanding shares of the applicable series and any other parity series of preferred stock.

Ventas, Inc. will credit any dividend payment made on an applicable series first against the earliest accrued but unpaid dividend due with respect to the series.

Redemption

Ventas, Inc. may have the right or may be required to redeem the applicable series, as a whole or in part, in each case upon the terms, if any, and at the times and at the redemption prices shown in the applicable prospectus supplement.

If the applicable series is subject to mandatory redemption, we will specify in the applicable prospectus supplement the number of shares Ventas, Inc. is required to redeem, when the redemption starts, the redemption price, and any other terms and conditions affecting the redemption. The redemption price will include all accrued and unpaid dividends, except in the case of noncumulative preferred stock. The redemption price may be payable in cash or other property, as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. If the redemption price for the applicable series is payable only from the net proceeds of an issuance of capital stock, the terms of the applicable series may provide that, if no shares of capital stock shall have been issued or to the extent the net proceeds from any such issuance are insufficient to pay in full the aggregate redemption price then due, the shares of preferred stock will automatically and mandatorily be converted into shares of capital stock pursuant to conversion provisions specified in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Liquidation Preference

The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the liquidation preference of the applicable series. Upon our voluntary or involuntary liquidation, before any distribution may be made to the holders of shares of Ventas, Inc. common stock or any other shares of capital stock ranking junior to the applicable series in the distribution of assets upon liquidation, the holders of that series will be entitled to receive, out of assets legally available therefor, liquidating distributions in the amount of the liquidation preference, plus an amount equal to all accrued and unpaid distributions. If the applicable series does not have a cumulative dividend, accrued and unpaid dividends include only the then current dividend period. After payment of the full amount of the liquidating distributions to which they are entitled, the holders of shares of the applicable series will have no right or claim to any of Ventas, Inc.'s remaining assets, and Ventas, Inc.'s remaining assets will be distributed among the holders of any other shares of capital stock ranking junior to the applicable series upon liquidation, according to their rights and preferences.

If, upon any voluntary or involuntary liquidation, Ventas, Inc.'s available assets are insufficient to pay the amount of the liquidating distributions on all outstanding shares of any series and the

Table of Contents

corresponding amounts payable on all shares of capital stock ranking on a parity in the distribution of assets with that series, then the holders of that series and all other equally ranking shares of capital stock will share ratably in the distribution in proportion to the full liquidating distributions to which they would otherwise be entitled.

Voting Rights

Holders of shares of the applicable series will not have any voting rights, except as otherwise from time to time required by law or as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement.

As more fully described under "Description of Ventas, Inc. Depositary Shares" below, if Ventas, Inc. elects to issue depositary shares, each representing a fraction of a share of a series of preferred stock, each depositary will in effect be entitled to a fraction of a vote per depositary share.

Conversion Rights

We will describe in the applicable prospectus supplement the terms and conditions, if any, upon which you may, or Ventas, Inc. may require you to, convert shares of the applicable series into shares of common stock or any other class or series of shares of capital stock. The terms will include the number of shares of common stock or other securities into which the shares of the applicable series are convertible, the conversion price (or the manner of determining it), the conversion period, provisions as to whether conversion will be at the option of the holders of the series or at Ventas, Inc.'s option, the events requiring an adjustment of the conversion price, and provisions affecting conversion upon the redemption of shares of the applicable series.

Our Exchange Rights

We will describe in the applicable prospectus supplement the terms and conditions, if any, upon which Ventas, Inc. may require you to exchange shares of the applicable series for debt securities. If an exchange is required, you will receive debt securities with a principal amount equal to the liquidation preference of the applicable series. The other terms and provisions of the debt securities will not be materially less favorable to you than those of the series of preferred stock being exchanged.

Restrictions on Ownership and Transfer

In order to preserve its ability to maintain its REIT status, Ventas, Inc.'s Certificate of Incorporation provides that if a person acquires beneficial ownership of more than 9.9%, in number or value, of the outstanding shares of Ventas, Inc. preferred stock, the shares that are beneficially owned in excess of such 9.9% limit are considered to be "excess shares." Excess shares are automatically deemed transferred to a trust for the benefit of a charitable institution or other qualifying organization selected by Ventas, Inc.'s Board of Directors. The trust is entitled to all dividends with respect to the excess shares and the trustee may exercise all voting power over the excess shares. Ventas, Inc. has the right to buy the excess shares for a purchase price equal to the lesser of (1) the price per share in the transaction that created the excess shares, or (2) the market price on the date Ventas, Inc. buys the shares, and Ventas, Inc. may defer payment of the purchase price for up to five years. If Ventas, Inc. does not purchase the excess shares, the trustee of the trust is required to transfer the excess shares at the direction of Ventas, Inc.'s Board of Directors. The owner of the excess shares is entitled to receive the lesser of the proceeds from the sale of the excess shares or the original purchase price for such excess shares, and any additional amounts are payable to the beneficiary of the trust. Ventas, Inc.'s Board of Directors may grant waivers from the excess share limitations.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF VENTAS, INC. DEPOSITARY SHARES

This section describes the general terms and provisions of shares of preferred stock of Ventas, Inc. represented by depositary shares. The prospectus supplement relating to an offering of depositary shares will describe more specific terms of the depositary shares being offered, including the number of shares offered, the initial offering price and the powers, preferences and other rights of the underlying preferred stock and any general terms outlined in this section that will not apply to those depositary shares.

The summary set forth below does not purport to be complete and is subject to and qualified in its entirety by reference to the applicable deposit agreement (including the depositary receipt), the form of which is or will be filed or incorporated by reference as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part and incorporated by reference herein. You should read the form of deposit agreement (including the depositary receipt) for additional information before you buy any Ventas, Inc. depositary shares.

General

Ventas, Inc. may, at its option, elect to offer fractional interests in shares of preferred stock, rather than shares of preferred stock. If Ventas, Inc. exercises this option, it will appoint a depositary to issue depositary receipts representing those fractional interests. Shares of preferred stock of each series represented by depositary shares will be deposited under a separate deposit agreement between Ventas, Inc. and the depositary. The applicable prospectus supplement will provide the name and address of the depositary. Subject to the terms of the applicable deposit agreement, each owner of depositary shares will be entitled to all of the dividend, voting, conversion, redemption, liquidation and other rights and preferences of the shares of preferred stock represented by those depositary shares.

Depositary receipts issued pursuant to the applicable deposit agreement will evidence ownership of depositary shares. Upon surrender of depositary receipts at the office of the depositary, and upon payment of the charges provided in and subject to the terms of the deposit agreement, a holder of depositary shares will be entitled to receive the shares of Ventas, Inc. preferred stock underlying the surrendered depositary receipts.

Dividends and Other Distributions

The depositary will be required to distribute all dividends and other cash distributions received in respect of the applicable shares of preferred stock to the record holders of depositary receipts evidencing the related depositary shares in proportion to the number of depositary receipts owned by the holders. Fractions will be rounded down to the nearest whole cent.

If the distribution is other than in cash, the depositary will be required to distribute property received by it to the record holders of depositary receipts entitled thereto, unless the depositary determines that it is not feasible to make the distribution. In that case, the depositary may, with Ventas, Inc.'s approval, sell the property and distribute the net proceeds from the sale to the holders of depositary shares.

Depositary shares that represent shares of preferred stock that have been converted or exchanged will not be entitled to distributions. The deposit agreement will also contain provisions relating to the manner in which any subscription or similar rights we offer to holders of shares of preferred stock will be made available to holders of depositary shares. All distributions will be subject to obligations of holders to file proofs, certificates and other information and to pay certain charges and expenses to the depositary.

Table of Contents

Withdrawal of Shares of Preferred Stock

You may receive the number of whole shares of the applicable series of preferred stock and any money or other property represented by your depositary receipts after surrendering your depositary receipts at the corporate trust office of the depositary. Partial shares of preferred stock will not be issued. If the number of depositary shares that you surrender exceeds the number of depositary shares that represent the number of whole shares of preferred stock that you wish to withdraw, then the depositary will deliver to you at the same time a new depositary receipt evidencing the excess number of depositary shares. Once you have withdrawn your shares of preferred stock, you will not be entitled to re-deposit those shares of preferred stock under the deposit agreement in order to receive depositary shares. We do not expect that there will be any public trading market for withdrawn shares of preferred stock.

Redemption of Depositary Shares

If Ventas, Inc. redeems shares of the applicable series of preferred stock underlying the depositary shares, the depositary will redeem the depositary shares from the proceeds it receives. The redemption price per depositary share will be equal to the applicable fraction of the redemption price per share payable with respect to the applicable series of preferred stock, and the redemption date for depositary shares will be the same as that of the preferred stock. If Ventas, Inc. has elected to redeem less than all of the depositary shares, the depositary will select the depositary shares for redemption by lot or pro rata as the depositary may determine.

After the date fixed for redemption, the depositary shares called for redemption will no longer be deemed outstanding. All rights of the holders of the depositary shares and the related depositary receipts will cease at that time, except the right to receive the money or other property to which the holders of depositary shares were entitled upon redemption. Receipt of the money or other property is subject to surrender to the depositary of the depositary receipts evidencing the redeemed depositary shares.

Voting of the Underlying Shares of Preferred Stock

Upon receipt of notice of any meeting at which the holders of the applicable series of preferred stock are entitled to vote, a depositary will be required to mail the information contained in the notice of meeting to the record holders of the depositary shares representing such preferred stock. Each record holder of depositary shares on the record date will be entitled to instruct the depositary as to how to vote the shares of preferred stock represented by the holder's depositary shares. The record date for the depositary shares will be the same as the record date for the preferred stock. The depositary will vote the shares of preferred stock represented by your depositary shares as you instruct. Ventas, Inc. will agree to take all reasonable action that the depositary deems necessary in order to enable it to vote the preferred stock in that manner. If you do not instruct the depositary how to vote, the depositary will abstain from voting the shares of preferred stock represented by your depositary shares. The depositary will not be responsible for any failure to carry out any voting instruction, or for the manner or effect of any vote, as long as its action or inaction is in good faith and does not result from its negligence or willful misconduct.

Liquidation Preference

Upon Ventas, Inc.'s voluntary or involuntary liquidation, each holder of depositary shares will be entitled to the fraction of the liquidation preference accorded each share of Ventas, Inc. preferred stock represented by the depositary shares, as described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Table of Contents

Conversion or Exchange of Shares of Preferred Stock

The depositary shares will not themselves be convertible into or exchangeable for shares of Ventas, Inc.'s common stock or preferred stock or any other securities or property. Nevertheless, if so specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the depositary receipts may be surrendered by holders to the applicable depositary with written instructions for the depositary to instruct Ventas, Inc. to cause the conversion of the preferred stock represented by the depositary shares. Similarly, if so specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, Ventas, Inc. may require you to surrender all of your depositary receipts to the applicable depositary upon requiring the conversion or exchange of the preferred stock represented by the depositary shares into debt securities. Ventas, Inc. will agree that, upon receipt of the instruction and any amounts payable in connection with the conversion or exchange, it will cause the conversion or exchange using the same procedures as those provided for delivery of shares of preferred stock to effect the conversion or exchange. If you convert less than all of your depositary shares, the depositary will issue you a new depositary receipt for any unconverted depositary shares.

Amendment and Termination of a Deposit Agreement

Ventas, Inc. and the applicable depositary are permitted to amend the provisions of depositary receipts and any deposit agreement. However, the holders of at least a majority of the applicable depositary shares then outstanding must approve any amendment that adds or increases fees or charges or prejudices an important right of holders. Every holder of an outstanding depositary receipt at the time any amendment becomes effective, by continuing to hold the receipt, will be bound by the applicable deposit agreement, as amended.

Any deposit agreement may be terminated by Ventas, Inc. upon not less than 30 days' prior written notice to the applicable depositary if (1) the termination is necessary to preserve our status as a REIT or (2) holders of depositary shares representing a majority of each series of preferred stock affected by the termination consent to the termination. If either event occurs, the depositary will be required to deliver or make available to each holder of depositary receipts, upon surrender of the depositary receipts held by the holder, the number of whole or fractional shares of preferred stock that are represented by the depositary shares evidenced by the depositary receipts, together with any other property held by the depositary with respect to the depositary receipts. In addition, a deposit agreement will automatically terminate if:

all depositary shares have been redeemed;

there shall have been a final distribution in respect of the applicable series of preferred stock in connection with a liquidation of Ventas, Inc. and the distribution has been made to the holders of depositary receipts evidencing the depositary shares underlying the Ventas, Inc. preferred stock; or

each share of the applicable series of preferred stock has been converted or exchanged into securities not represented by depositary shares.

Charges of a Depositary

We will pay all transfer and other taxes and governmental charges arising solely from the existence of a deposit agreement. In addition, we will pay the fees and expenses of the depositary in connection with the initial deposit of the preferred stock and any redemption of preferred stock. However, holders of depositary receipts will pay any transfer or other governmental charges and the fees and expenses of the depositary for any duties the holders request to be performed that are outside those expressly provided for in the applicable deposit agreement.

Table of Contents

Resignation and Removal of Depositary

A depositary may resign at any time by delivering to Ventas, Inc. notice of its election to do so. In addition, Ventas, Inc. may at any time remove a depositary. Any resignation or removal will take effect when Ventas, Inc. appoints a successor depositary and it accepts the appointment. Ventas, Inc. must appoint a successor depositary within 60 days after delivery of a notice of resignation or removal. A depositary must be a bank or trust company having its principal office in the United States that has a combined capital and surplus of at least \$50 million.

Miscellaneous

A depositary will be required to forward to holders of depositary receipts any reports and communications it receives from Ventas, Inc. with respect to the related shares of preferred stock. Holders of depositary receipts will be able to inspect the transfer books of the depositary and the list of holders of receipts upon reasonable notice.

Neither Ventas, Inc. nor the depositary will be liable if the depositary is prevented from or delayed in performing its obligations under a deposit agreement by law or any circumstances beyond its control. Ventas, Inc.'s obligations and those of the depositary under a deposit agreement will be limited to performing duties in good faith and without gross negligence or willful misconduct. Neither Ventas, Inc. nor the depositary will be obligated to prosecute or defend any legal proceeding in respect of any depositary receipts, depositary shares or related shares of preferred stock unless satisfactory indemnity is furnished. Ventas, Inc. and each depositary will be permitted to rely on written advice of counsel or accountants, on information provided by persons presenting shares of preferred stock for deposit, by holders of depositary receipts, or by other persons believed in good faith to be competent to give the information, and on documents believed in good faith to be genuine and signed by a proper party.

If a depositary receives conflicting claims, requests or instructions from any holder of depositary receipts, on the one hand, and Ventas, Inc., on the other hand, the depositary will be entitled to act on the claims, requests or instructions received from us.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF VENTAS, INC. WARRANTS

This section describes the general terms and provisions of warrants of Ventas, Inc. The prospectus supplement relating to an offering of the warrants will describe more specific terms of the warrants being offered, including the number of warrants offered, the initial offering price and the terms of the underlying securities and any general terms outlined in this section that will not apply to those warrants.

The summary set forth below does not purport to be complete and is subject to and qualified in its entirety by reference to the applicable warrant agreement (including the warrant certificate), the form of which is or will be filed or incorporated by reference as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part and incorporated by reference herein. You should read the form of warrant agreement (including the warrant certificate) for additional information before you buy any Ventas, Inc. warrants.

Ventas, Inc. may issue, together with any other securities being offered or separately, warrants entitling the holder to purchase from or sell to Ventas, Inc., or to receive from Ventas, Inc., the cash value of the right to purchase or