

MODERN LUXURY

DECADE OF DESIGN

2025

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A DECADE *of*

DESIGN &
REAL ESTATE

SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY EDITION

REAL ESTATE

PHOTOGRAPHY BY PATRICK HEAGNEY
ART DIRECTION BY NELL RAINER

From left: Shanna Bradley, Bonneau Ansley, DeAnn Golden, Riezl Baker, Travis Reed, Lori Lane and Jenni Bonura



EXPERTS.



FROM HIGH-RISES TO CELEBRITY ESTATES, ATLANTA'S REAL ESTATE ELITE DRIVE THE CITY'S MOST EXCLUSIVE DEALS.



Riezl Baker

REALTOR®, FOUNDING PRINCIPAL | LUXURY LAKE OCONEE
REAL ESTATE GROUP

For over two decades, Riezl Baker has been a trusted real estate advisor in Lake Oconee, becoming synonymous with the growth and success of its thriving market. Since co-founding Luxury Lake Oconee Real Estate Group with her husband, Baker has seen a significant shift in how Atlanta buyers approach second-home ownership, with Lake Oconee emerging as a top destination.

“As the city has grown and daily life has become more fast-paced, many Atlantans are seeking a retreat that blends convenience with luxury,” she explains. “Just an hour from the city, Lake Oconee offers the perfect balance of world-class amenities, a welcoming community, and a slower pace that complements the energy of urban life. What was once considered primarily a vacation destination has now evolved into a highly sought-after extension of home for Atlanta families and professionals.”

She noticed priorities had shifted after the pandemic, as families became more focused on quality time, wellness, and being involved in their communities. “Lake Oconee has always had the charm of a small town, and even as it grows, that endearing quality remains,” she says. “People

value multigenerational living, healthy lifestyles, and amenities that bring families together.”

Baker, who has been in real estate for 24 years, understands the cyclical nature of interior design. So what trend has struck her the most in the past decade? The evolution to integrate outdoor spaces and family-focused amenities. “We’ve seen homes designed with expansive porches, outdoor kitchens, resort-style pools, wellness spaces and multi-generational layouts,” she says. “The trend is no longer just about aesthetics, but it’s how a home supports lifestyle and connection.”

Baker is looking forward to seeing the Southeast market continue to thrive throughout the next decade. “Families are leaving large cities for communities that offer better weather, outdoor amenities, and a slower pace,” she says. “In our Lake Oconee area, the proximity to Atlanta’s major airport, the lifestyle amenities, and the natural beauty will keep attracting families. I believe the demand for properties here will remain strong and values will continue to rise.”

“LAKE OCONEE PROVIDES THE PERFECT BALANCE OF WORLD-CLASS AMENITIES, A STRONG SENSE OF COMMUNITY, AND A SLOWER PACE THAT COMPLEMENTS THE ENERGY OF ATLANTA.”



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