



DECEMBER 31, 2025

## Co-President's Letter



In November, we hosted our 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Baron Investment Conference. It is a unique day, mixing investment insights with more than a touch of entertainment. The entire premise of the Conference has always been to showcase the consistency of and to provide transparency into our investment process. It is meant to build trust more than revenue. These are words you don't often hear on Wall Street.

Others look for an “edge,” something discreet, something they do not want to share. They look for an opportunity to exploit. They want to make money NOW, as much as possible and as quickly as possible, and then TRY something else. We are different. We do not (as Gen Z would call it) “gatekeep” our edge.

Our investment philosophy is simple, understandable, repeatable. But most do not have the foresight or the patience to implement it. Our edge is “time,” and that will remain constant.

But we do recognize the industry is continuously evolving, and we are excited to expand along with it. It is an expansion that builds and improves Baron Capital while maintaining what makes us unique. These are improvements we believe will benefit clients both directly and indirectly.

### A Strong Foundation in Mutual Funds

Over nearly 44 years, Baron Capital has become known as one of the preeminent growth equity mutual fund firms. As *Kiplinger's* stated in an article: “Baron Funds: The Masters of Growth Investing.”

The mutual fund is a fabulous structure offering many benefits. It transacts at net asset value, provides seamless access to less liquid securities, and allows for dividend reinvestment programs, to name just a few. And our Baron Mutual Funds have delivered for clients. Since their respective inceptions as mutual funds, 14 funds, representing 96% of Baron Funds' AUM, rank in the top quartile of their respective Morningstar categories. In addition, 15 funds have delivered more than 1% of annualized alpha, including 6 funds with annualized alpha greater than 3%. Given our long-term success and the democratization of investing for more than four decades, which we helped advance, it is no wonder some refer to Baron Capital as a “mutual fund company.”

But we are a lot more than a single structure. If we can deliver an investment strategy in a manner that is more suitable for a client, we will do it. Our goal is to meet clients' needs. That is how we “Change Lives,” the mission of our business.

### Launching Active ETFs the Right Way

At the 2024 Conference, I was asked if Baron Capital would offer an active ETF. My answer back then was, “We are studying it.” And over the subsequent year, we did exactly that. We repeatedly met with legal and operational experts, spoke with clients and prospects, and exchanged ideas with respected competitors. We understood the structure's attributes, but we wanted to confirm we could achieve our investment goals without unintended consequences. It took time.

We never rush important decisions that impact clients. For us, it is never a race to see who can be first. Rather, it is a challenge to see who can do it right. We never experiment with client capital. Whether it is a new investment strategy or a new investment structure, we want to do it right the first time.

After all that studying, researching, and debating, I am thrilled that in December we launched five actively managed ETFs. They consist of three new strategies and two conversions from existing mutual funds. These are strategies that are quintessential Baron Capital.

**Baron First Principles ETF<sup>®</sup>** is a concentrated, all-cap growth portfolio. After attaining considerable success in the concentrated Baron Partners and Baron Focused Growth Funds, we are now bringing a similar mindset to an ETF. This ETF will invest across market caps in a balanced portfolio while investing in select, thoroughly researched businesses emphasizing their formidable competitive advantages.

**Baron SMID Cap ETF<sup>®</sup>** reflects the heritage of our Firm. **Over half** of our assets under management are in small- and mid-cap companies. We have a unique and proven ability to identify, purchase, and hold small- and mid-cap companies as they grow significantly larger over time. However, we have never offered a SMID portfolio that is able to invest across both market caps to balance exciting growth opportunities with thoughtful risk assessment.

**Baron Global Durable Advantage ETF®** extends our distinctive U.S. Durable Advantage strategies into global markets. Investments focus on large-cap compounders that tend to earn high returns on investment capital and generate excess free cash flow. It is an area that has recently been disregarded due to emphasis placed on the mega-cap companies.

**Baron Technology ETF®** and **Baron Financials ETF®** were converted from established Baron Mutual Funds, and target investments in sectors that we believe have long-term, enduring growth. These ETFs can complement core and other tactical positions, rounding out a client's portfolio.

### ETFs Should Be Built for Investors, Not Trends

ETFs have gained fanfare based on perceived benefits: ease of use, intraday liquidity, holdings transparency, operational savings, and tax efficiency. It is a long list. In my opinion, some of these advantages are impactful, some are more trivial, and some only apply to a few. But nothing is free. These benefits come with the cost of portfolio creation. And we will be judging our ETF success, not by assets raised in the initial months, but rather by how effectively we manage transaction costs over time.

We have made new hires, trained our professionals, and engaged third party experts to help maintain tight spreads; not only those quoted by market makers, but more importantly, the spreads investors receive when purchasing our ETFs... To me, that means going slow.

The industry has a mentality that ETFs are sold rather than bought. It is a mentality that you must get big and do it quickly. Products are designed to appeal to the masses. I disagree with this mindset.

ETFs are more than marketing campaigns, catchy slogans, and exotic features. We have an incredibly deep, talented, and growing distribution team. Katya Rosenblatt, our Global Head of Distribution and Business Development, has reorganized the group. They are eager to have thoughtful conversations about investment strategies, structure, attributes, and limitations. We want to understand clients' unique objectives and challenges and help find the right solution and right point of access.

But there is no doubt that ETFs are hot. Firms are flooding the market with new strategies attempting to gain a piece of the growing pie. There are now more ETFs on the market than publicly traded companies. How is that even possible? And does the market really need another ETF?

I believe the answer is yes. But not just another ETF, there is a need for a different kind.

The current ETF lineup often provides access to two extremes. On one end: low-cost index hugging exposure. Low risk (as measured by dispersion from the market), but limited ability to uniquely shape investor outcomes. And on the other end: high-cost beta. Indulgent bets like triple leverage single stock securities or ultra

short cryptocurrency plays. These "portfolios" provide traders with quick exposure to things they could not achieve on their own (and probably for good reason). And they charge handsomely for access to what feels like a casino.

Our approach will be different. All our investment strategies and products are designed to meet long-term goals, rather than short-term tactical impulses. This philosophy applies equally to our ETFs. These ETFs are not trading vehicles or structured products. They are foundational investment strategies and building-block tools to offset or amplify important factors. They represent investment categories that are synonymous with Baron Capital. Most firms are not taking this approach, and I am extremely confident in our potential to benefit clients in this distinct and durable manner.

### Expanding Access Across Structures Without Changing Who We Are

While ETFs may get the headlines, we are also expanding in other areas.

I have worked at Baron Capital since 2004 and have been trained (or some say "indoctrinated") by my dad on the business and our investment philosophy since birth. Over that time, I do not believe we have ever been busier. Just as we studied ETFs, we have also evaluated a variety of additional structures, and we are now positioned to deliver them. Separately managed accounts, model delivery, Collective Investment Trusts, UCITS, sub-advised, special purpose vehicles, and interval funds have all been launched or evaluated.

This is not product proliferation. Each structure has unique attributes that appeal to certain investors and help them achieve their specific desired outcomes. CITs for retirement plans. Model Delivery separately managed accounts for tax alpha. UCITS for non-U.S. investors. We have been thoughtful about the strategies to offer in various markets and formats.

Over the past year, I have traveled extensively, both domestically and internationally, including Europe, the Middle East, Asia, and South America. With a young family at home, my wife Genna is convinced I take these international flights to catch up on quality sleep. Clients and prospects that range from sovereigns, institutions, banks, insurers, family offices are all eager to have face-to-face conversations focused on their objectives and how they can access our investment expertise to change the lives of their constituents. That is the backbone for this expansion.

An expanding Baron Capital is also beneficial for existing clients. Greater segmentation by structure should reduce unnecessary transaction costs. It will allow us to go deeper with our research and provide additional investment strategies and solutions that will meet clients' long-term goals.

I do want to be clear: we are building, not replacing. Our entire lineup will not shift to any one structure. We will keep what we have established, what has served our clients, and build upon it.

While our structures are expanding, our DNA is not. Our investment philosophy, process, and mission to **Change Lives** remain constant. We will not alter what got us here.

I like being a boutique asset manager, specialists who have been consistent for more than 40 years. And we will remain a boutique regardless of the pressures around us. A boutique asset manager with some of the best-performing mutual funds and one that now feels confident bringing our investment process to new strategies and products.



Michael Baron  
Co-President  
Portfolio Manager



## Baron Capital Investment Capabilities

Growth Equity Style	Strategy	Available Vehicles								
		Mutual Fund	ETF	Separate Account <sup>2</sup>	Sub-Advised	UCITS	Offshore	Model Delivery	CIT	
	Baron Discovery Strategy	•		•	•					•
Small Cap	Baron Growth Strategy	•		•	•					•
	Baron Small Cap Strategy	•		•	•	•			•	•
Small-Mid Cap	Baron Focused Growth Strategy	•								
	Baron SMID Cap Strategy		•	•	•			•		•
Mid Cap	Baron Asset Strategy	•		•	•			•		•
Large Cap	Baron Durable Advantage Strategy	•		•	•			•		
	Baron Fifth Avenue Growth Strategy	•		•	•			•		•
All Cap	Baron All Cap Focused Growth Strategy			•	•			•		
	Baron All Cap Focused Growth Plus Strategy						•			
	Baron First Principles Strategy		•							
	Baron Opportunity Strategy	•		•	•	•		•		
Non-U.S./ Global	Baron Partners Strategy	•						•		
	Baron Emerging Markets Strategy	•		•	•		•			•
	Baron Global Durable Advantage Strategy		•	•	•	•				
	Baron Global Opportunity Strategy	•		•	•	•		•		•
Sector	Baron India Strategy	•		•	•					
	Baron International Growth Strategy	•		•	•					
	Baron Financials Strategy <sup>1</sup>		•	•	•					
	Baron Health Care Strategy	•		•	•					
Equity Allocation	Baron Real Estate Strategy	•		•	•	•		•		•
	Baron Real Estate Income Strategy	•		•	•					
	Baron Technology Strategy		•	•	•					
Equity Allocation	Baron WealthBuilder Fund	•								

As of 12/31/2025.

<sup>1</sup> Effective December 12, 2025, Baron FinTech Strategy has changed its name to Baron Financials Strategy.

<sup>2</sup> Institutional separate account minimums begin at \$10 million.

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*Investors should consider the investment objectives, risks, and charges and expenses of the investment carefully before investing. The prospectus and summary prospectuses contain this and other information about the Funds. You may obtain them from the Funds' distributor, Baron Capital, Inc., by calling 1-800-99-BARON or visiting [BaronCapitalGroup.com](http://BaronCapitalGroup.com). Please read them carefully before investing.*

*The performance data quoted represents past performance. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. The investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate; an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. The Adviser waives and/or reimburses or may waive or reimburse certain Funds expenses pursuant to a contract expiring on August 29, 2036, unless renewed for another 11-year term and the Funds' transfer agency expenses may be reduced by expense offsets from an unaffiliated transfer agent, without which performance would have been lower. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. For performance information current to the most recent month end, visit [BaronCapitalGroup.com](http://BaronCapitalGroup.com) or call 1-800-99-BARON.*

**Risks:** Equity securities are subject to price fluctuations in the stock market. Non-U.S. investments may involve additional risks to those inherent in U.S. investments, including exchange-rate fluctuations, political or economic instability, the imposition of exchange controls, expropriation, limited disclosure and illiquid markets, resulting in greater share price volatility. Securities of small and medium-sized companies may be thinly traded and more difficult to sell. Single issuer risk is the possibility that factors specific to an issuer to which the Fund is exposed will affect the market prices of the issuer's securities and therefore the net asset value of the Fund. Specific risks associated with leverage include increased volatility of the Fund's returns and exposure of the Fund to greater risk of loss in any given period. FinTech companies may be adversely impacted by government regulations, economic conditions and deterioration in credit markets. Technology companies, including internet-related and information technology companies, as well as companies propelled by new technologies, may present the risk of rapid change and product obsolescence, and their successes may be difficult to predict for the long term.

**Investors generally incur the cost of the spread between the prices at which shares are bought and sold. Buying and selling shares may result in brokerage commissions which will reduce returns.**

Prior to trading in the secondary market, shares of the fund are "created" at NAV by market makers, large investors, and institutions only in block-size Creation Units. Each "creator" or "Authorized Participant" enters into an authorized participant agreement with Baron Capital, Inc. Only an Authorized Participant may create or redeem Creation Units directly with the fund.

**Investors buy and sell shares of ETFs at market price (not NAV) in the secondary market throughout the trading day. These shares are not individually available for purchase or redemption directly from the ETF. Baron Capital, Inc. serves as the distributor of the Creation Units for the ETFs on an agency basis. Baron Capital does not maintain a secondary market in Fund's shares.**

**Alpha** measures the difference between a fund's actual returns and its expected performance, given its level of risk as measured by beta.

BAMCO, Inc. is an investment adviser registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Baron Capital, Inc. is a broker-dealer registered with the SEC and member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. (FINRA).

Ranking information provided is calculated for the Institutional Share Class and is as of 12/31/2025. Does not include the three new ETFs launched on December 12, 2025. The number of share classes in each category may vary depending on the date that Baron downloaded information from Morningstar Direct. Morningstar calculates its category average performance and rankings using its Fractional Weighting methodology. Morningstar rankings are based on total returns and do not include sales charges. Total returns account for management, administrative, and 12b-1 fees and other costs automatically deducted from fund assets. The **Morningstar Large Growth Category** consisted of 1080, 936, and 755, share classes for the 1-, 5-, and 10-year periods. Morningstar ranked **Baron Opportunity Fund** in the 22<sup>nd</sup>, 70<sup>th</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> percentiles for the 1-, 5-, 10-year, and since inception periods, respectively. The Fund launched 2/29/2000, and the category consisted of 540 share classes. Morningstar ranked **Baron Partners Fund** in the 7<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup>, and 1<sup>st</sup> percentiles for the 1-, 5-, 10-year, and since inception periods, respectively. The Fund converted into a mutual fund 4/30/2003, and the category consisted of 666 share classes. The **Morningstar Mid Cap Growth Category** consisted of 490, 446, and 371, share classes for the 1-, 5-, and 10-year periods. Morningstar ranked **Baron Asset Fund** in the 40<sup>th</sup>, 56<sup>th</sup>, 33<sup>rd</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> percentiles for the 1-, 5-, 10-year, and since inception periods, respectively. The Fund launched 6/12/1987, and the category consisted of 63 share classes. Morningstar ranked **Baron Growth Fund** in the 100<sup>th</sup>, 90<sup>th</sup>, 80<sup>th</sup>, and 15<sup>th</sup> percentiles for the 1-, 5-, 10-year, and since inception periods, respectively. The Fund launched 12/31/1994, and the category consisted of 154 share classes. Morningstar ranked **Baron Focused Growth Fund** in the 7<sup>th</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup>, and 1<sup>st</sup> percentiles for the 1-, 5-, 10-year, and since inception periods, respectively. The Fund converted into a mutual fund 6/30/2008, and the category consisted of 378 share classes. The **Morningstar Small Cap Growth Category** consisted of 531, 496, and 389, share classes for the 1-, 5-, and 10-year periods. Morningstar ranked **Baron Small Cap Fund** in the 85<sup>th</sup>, 53<sup>rd</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> percentiles for the 1-, 5-, 10-year, and since inception periods, respectively. The Fund launched 9/30/1997, and the category consisted of 212 share classes. Morningstar ranked **Baron Discovery Fund** in the 34<sup>th</sup>, 65<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> percentiles for the 1-, 5-, 10-year, and since inception periods, respectively. The Fund launched 9/30/2013, and the category consisted of 453 share classes. The **Morningstar Real Estate Category** consisted of 215, 196, and 153, share classes for the 1-, 5-, and 10-year periods. Morningstar ranked **Baron Real Estate Fund** in the 8<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup>, and 1<sup>st</sup> percentiles for the 1-, 5-, 10-year, and since inception periods, respectively. The Fund launched 12/30/2009, and the category consisted of 156 share classes. Morningstar ranked **Baron Real Estate Income Fund** in the 15<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, and 2<sup>nd</sup> percentiles for the 1-, 5-year, and since inception periods, respectively. The Fund launched 12/29/2017, and the category consisted of 188 share classes. The **Morningstar Foreign Large Growth Category** consisted of 395, 343, 224, share classes for the 1-, 5-, and 10-year periods. Morningstar ranked **Baron International Growth Fund** in the 42<sup>nd</sup>, 70<sup>th</sup>, 48<sup>th</sup>, and 24<sup>th</sup> percentiles for the 1-, 5-, 10-year, and since inception periods, respectively. The Fund launched 12/31/2008, and the category consisted of 227 share classes. The **Morningstar Diversified Emerging Markets Category** consisted of 751, 620, and 460, share classes for the 1-, 5-, and 10-year periods. Morningstar ranked **Baron Emerging Markets Fund** in the 58<sup>th</sup>, 81<sup>st</sup>, 79<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> percentiles for the 1-, 5-, 10-year, and since inception periods, respectively. The Fund launched 12/31/2010, and the category consisted of 331 share classes. The **Morningstar Health Category** consisted of 172 and 152 share classes for the 1- and 5-year periods. Morningstar ranked **Baron Health Care Fund** in the 82<sup>nd</sup>, 64<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> percentiles for the 1-, 5-year, and since inception periods, respectively. The Fund launched 04/30/2018, and the category consisted of 134 share classes. The **Morningstar Aggressive Allocation Category** consisted of 88 and 87 share classes for the 1- and 5-year periods. Morningstar ranked **Baron WealthBuilder Fund** in the 81<sup>st</sup>, 94<sup>th</sup>, and 1<sup>st</sup> percentiles for the 1-, 5-year, and since inception periods, respectively. The Fund launched 12/29/2017, and the category consisted of 86 share classes. The **Morningstar Global Large-Stock Growth Category** consisted of 313, 271, and 187, share classes for the 1-, 5-, and 10-year periods. Morningstar ranked **Baron Global Opportunity Fund** in the 5<sup>th</sup>, 96<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 17<sup>th</sup> percentiles for the 1-, 5-, 10-year, and since inception periods, respectively. The Fund launched 12/29/2017, and the category consisted of 198 share classes. The **Morningstar Technology Category** consisted of 251 share classes for the 1-year period. Morningstar ranked **Baron Technology ETF** in the 71<sup>st</sup>, and 33<sup>rd</sup> percentiles for the 1-year, and since inception periods, respectively. The Fund launched 12/31/2021, and the category consisted of 222 share classes. © 2025 Morningstar. All Rights Reserved. The Morningstar information contained herein: (1) is proprietary to Morningstar and/or its content providers; (2) may not be copied or distributed; and (3) is not warranted to be accurate, complete or timely. Neither Morningstar nor its content providers are responsible for any damages or losses arising from any use of this information. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. MORNINGSTAR IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY DELETION, DAMAGE, LOSS OR FAILURE TO STORE ANY PRODUCT OUTPUT, COMPANY CONTENT OR OTHER CONTENT. 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## Baron Funds (Institutional Shares) and Benchmark Performance 12/31/2025

Fund/Benchmark	Inception Date	Annualized Returns (%)					Annual Expense Ratio (%)	Net Assets
		1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years	Since Inception		
<b>Small Cap</b>								
Baron Discovery Fund®	9/30/2013	10.96	16.51	1.48	14.20	12.61	1.05 <sup>(6)</sup>	\$1.89 billion
Russell 2000 Growth Index		13.01	15.59	3.18	9.57	8.80		
Baron Growth Fund®	12/31/1994	(14.18)	1.19	(0.69)	9.06	11.62	1.08 <sup>(6/7)</sup>	\$3.90 billion
Russell 2000 Growth Index		13.01	15.59	3.18	9.57	8.08		
Baron Small Cap Fund®	9/30/1997	(0.66)	12.80	2.77	11.00	9.89	1.05 <sup>(6)</sup>	\$3.47 billion
Russell 2000 Growth Index		13.01	15.59	3.18	9.57	6.67		
<b>Small/Mid Cap</b>								
Baron Focused Growth Fund® <sup>1</sup>	5/31/1996	22.26	26.59	11.68	20.97	14.16	1.05 <sup>(8)</sup>	\$3.42 billion
Russell 2500 Growth Index		10.31	14.32	2.98	10.55	8.31		
<b>Mid Cap</b>								
Baron Asset Fund®	6/12/1987	8.20	12.04	3.56	11.44	11.27	1.04 <sup>(6)</sup>	\$3.78 billion
Russell Midcap Growth Index <sup>2</sup>		8.66	18.64	6.65	12.49	10.45		
<b>Large Cap</b>								
Baron Durable Advantage Fund®	12/29/2017	16.56	29.20	16.47		16.42	0.77/0.70 <sup>(6/10)</sup>	\$527.29 million
S&P 500 Index		17.88	23.01	14.42		14.33		
Baron Fifth Avenue Growth Fund®	4/30/2004	18.15	36.88	7.15	14.91	10.77	0.76/0.75 <sup>(6/11)</sup>	\$790.13 million
Russell 1000 Growth Index		18.56	31.15	15.32	18.13	12.76		
<b>All Cap</b>								
Baron Opportunity Fund®	2/29/2000	19.73	36.05	10.08	20.15	10.60	1.05 <sup>(6)</sup>	\$1.80 billion
Russell 3000 Growth Index		18.15	30.25	14.59	17.59	8.07		
Baron Partners Fund® <sup>3,4</sup>	1/31/1992	24.86	33.59	12.58	24.37	15.93	1.99 <sup>(8/12)</sup>	\$9.69 billion
Russell Midcap Growth Index		8.66	18.64	6.65	12.49	10.22		
<b>Non-U.S./Global</b>								
Baron Emerging Markets Fund®	12/31/2010	30.14	14.99	1.16	6.86	5.10	1.11 <sup>(8)</sup>	\$3.54 billion
MSCI Emerging Markets Index		33.57	16.40	4.20	8.42	3.82		
MSCI Emerging Markets IMI Growth Index		32.03	16.02	2.36	8.53	4.58		
Baron Global Opportunity Fund® <sup>†</sup>	4/30/2012	27.53	26.50	(0.22)	13.95	12.81	0.96/0.91 <sup>(8/13)</sup>	\$737.17 million
MSCI ACWI Index		22.34	20.65	11.19	11.72	10.62		
MSCI ACWI Growth Index		22.44	26.54	11.12	13.99	12.59		
Baron India Fund®	7/30/2021	(0.34)	7.47			(1.81)	6.86/1.20 <sup>(8/14)</sup>	\$25.38 million
MSCI AC Asia ex Japan/India Linked Index		2.62	3.24			(3.47)		
MSCI India Index		2.62	11.30			8.15		
MSCI Emerging Markets Index		33.57	16.40			4.71		
Baron International Growth Fund®	12/31/2008	21.16	10.81	1.68	7.74	9.35	1.04/0.96 <sup>(8/15)</sup>	\$326.92 million
MSCI ACWI ex USA Index		32.39	17.33	7.91	8.41	8.03		
MSCI ACWI ex USA IMI Growth Index		25.74	14.55	4.03	7.86	8.32		
<b>Sector</b>								
Baron Financials ETF™ <sup>19</sup>	12/31/2019	0.91	16.52	4.01		10.21	0.80 <sup>(9)</sup>	\$56.61 million
MSCI USA Financials Index		15.23	19.82	15.17		11.97		
Baron Health Care Fund®	4/30/2018	10.28	6.03	2.77		10.75	0.87/0.85 <sup>(8/16)</sup>	\$143.99 million
Russell 3000 Health Care Index		14.56	6.84	6.31		9.99		
Baron Real Estate Fund®	12/31/2009	5.19	13.94	5.65	10.69	13.13	1.05 <sup>(8)</sup>	\$2.33 billion
MSCI USA IMI Extended Real Estate Index		4.88	13.32	8.64	8.88	10.77		
Baron Real Estate Income Fund®	12/29/2017	3.74	12.04	5.74		8.80	0.90/0.80 <sup>(8/17)</sup>	\$258.83 million
MSCI US REIT Index		1.68	7.06	5.35		4.18		
Baron Technology ETF™ <sup>19</sup>	12/31/2021	17.34	41.50			12.08	0.75 <sup>(9)</sup>	\$149.14 million
MSCI ACWI Information Technology Index		26.37	35.93			14.70		
<b>Equity Allocation</b>								
Baron WealthBuilder Fund®	12/29/2017	10.20	18.05	5.29		13.18	1.21/1.18 <sup>(8/18)</sup>	\$559.09 million
S&P 500 Index		17.88	23.01	14.42		14.33		
<b>Broad-Based Benchmarks<sup>5</sup></b>								
Russell 3000 Index		17.15	22.25	13.15	14.29			
S&P 500 Index		17.88	23.01	14.42	14.82			
MSCI ACWI Index		22.34	20.65	11.19	11.72			
MSCI ACWI ex USA Index		32.39	17.33	7.91	8.41			
MSCI Emerging Markets Index		33.57	16.40	4.20	8.42			

<sup>1</sup> Performance reflects the actual fees and expenses that were charged when the Fund was a partnership. The predecessor partnership charged a 15% performance fee through 2003 after reaching a certain performance benchmark. If the annual returns for the Fund did not reflect the performance fee for the years the predecessor partnership charged a performance fee, returns would be higher. The Fund's shareholders will not be charged a performance fee. The predecessor partnership's performance is only for periods before the Fund's registration statement was effective, which was June 30, 2008. During those periods, the predecessor partnership

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was not registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 and was not subject to its requirements or the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code relating to registered investment companies, which, if it were, might have adversely impacted its performance.

<sup>2</sup> The since inception date for Russell Midcap Growth Index is 6/30/1987.

<sup>3</sup> Performance reflects the actual fees and expenses that were charged when the Fund was a partnership. The predecessor partnership charged a 20% performance after reaching a certain performance benchmark. If the annual returns for the Fund did not reflect the performance fee for the years the predecessor partnership charged a performance fee, returns would be higher. The Fund's shareholders will not be charged a performance fee. The predecessor partnership's performance is only for periods before the Fund's registration statement was effective, which was April 30, 2003. During those periods, the predecessor partnership was not registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 and was not subject to its requirements or the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code relating to registered investment companies, which, if it were, might have adversely impacted its performance.

<sup>4</sup> While the Fund may invest in securities of any market capitalization, 39.5% of the Fund's long holdings were invested in SMID, Mid and Mid/Large-Cap securities (as defined by Russell, Inc.) as of 12/31/2025 (SMID represents 11.2% of the portfolio and has market capitalizations between \$5.4 – \$16.8 billion; Mid represents 23.0% and has market capitalizations between \$16.8 – \$55.7 billion; Mid /Large represents 5.2% and has market capitalizations between \$55.7 – \$206.2 billion).

<sup>5</sup> The Broad-Based Benchmark for Baron Discovery Fund, Baron Growth Fund, Baron Small Cap Fund, Baron Focused Growth Fund, Baron Asset Fund, Baron Partners Fund, and Baron Health Care Fund is Russell 3000 Index. The Broad-Based Benchmark for Baron Durable Advantage Fund, Baron Fifth Avenue Growth Fund, Baron Opportunity Fund, Baron FinTech Fund, Baron Real Estate Fund, Baron Real Estate Income Fund, Baron Technology Fund, and Baron WealthBuilder Fund is S&P 500 Index. The Broad- Based Benchmark for Baron Emerging Markets Fund is MSCI Emerging Markets Index. The Broad-Based Benchmark for Baron International Growth Fund is MSCI ACWI ex USA Index. The Broad-Based Benchmark for Baron Global Opportunity Fund, Baron FinTech Fund, Baron Technology Fund, and Baron WealthBuilder Fund is MSCI ACWI Index.

<sup>6</sup> As of 1/28/2025.

<sup>7</sup> Comprised of operating expenses of 1.03% and interest expense of 0.05%.

<sup>8</sup> As of 4/30/2025.

<sup>9</sup> As of 12/5/2025.

<sup>10</sup> Gross annual expense ratio was 0.77%, but the net annual expense ratio was 0.70% (net of Adviser's fee waivers).

<sup>11</sup> Gross annual expense ratio was 0.76%, but the net annual expense ratio was 0.75% (net of Adviser's fee waivers).

<sup>12</sup> Comprised of operating expenses of 1.05% and interest expense of 0.94%.

<sup>13</sup> Gross annual expense ratio was 0.96%, but the net annual expense ratio was 0.91% (net of Adviser's fee waivers, including interest expense of 0.01%).

<sup>14</sup> Gross annual expense ratio was 6.86%, but the net annual expense ratio was 1.20% (net of Adviser's fee waivers and expense reimbursements).

<sup>15</sup> Gross annual expense ratio was 1.04%, but the net annual expense ratio was 0.96% (net of Adviser's fee waivers).

<sup>16</sup> Gross annual expense ratio was 0.87%, but the net annual expense ratio was 0.85% (net of Adviser's fee waivers).

<sup>17</sup> Gross annual expense ratio was 0.90%, but the net annual expense ratio was 0.80% (net of Adviser's fee waivers).

<sup>18</sup> Gross annual expense ratio was 1.21%, but the net annual expense ratio was 1.18% (includes acquired fund fees and expenses, net of the expense reimbursements).

<sup>19</sup> On December 12, 2025, Baron FinTech Fund<sup>®</sup> and Baron Technology Fund<sup>®</sup> were converted from mutual funds into exchange-traded funds, Baron Financials ETF<sup>™</sup> and Baron Technology ETF<sup>™</sup>, respectively. For additional information please refer to the prospectus. NAV and Market Price returns include returns of the Institutional Shares of the predecessor mutual fund prior to the ETF's commencement of operations. Prior to the ETFs listing on 12/15/2025 the NAV returns of the Institutional Shares of the predecessor mutual fund are used as proxy market price returns. If the predecessor mutual fund had been structured as an ETF, its performance may have differed.

If a Fund's historical performance was impacted by gains from IPOs there is no guarantee that these results can be repeated or that the Funds' level of participation in IPOs will be the same in the future.

<sup>†</sup> Formerly, Baron Global Advantage Fund