North Carolina couple pays \$3.5M for La Casa Burt estate on Lake Sheen

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By Tiffani Sherman



The six-bedroom house on Point Cypress overlooks a resort like pool with fountains and waterfalls. It has a private boathouse on Lake Sheen that can accommodate a boat and two jet skis. (Julian Properties)

Only six months after closing on an Isleworth home, a couple that splits time between North Carolina and Orlando decided they needed a bit more room to stretch out.

They found exactly what they were looking for at an 8,460-square-foot home on Point Cypress Drive and bought it for \$3.535 million.

"We went through and looked at a whole bunch of listings and it was really interesting because this one stuck out to them the very first moment," said buyer's agent Shane Croft, who is with Coldwell Banker Realty-Winter Park.

"The second they walked in, it just resonated with them. It's one of a kind. It's not like other homes [because of] all the elaborate painting and artwork and detail. The second they walked in, they said this is the house we want." According to public records, the buyers are Martin and Yuki Gallan, who own a medical supply business. Michael "Bo" Julian with Julian Properties represented sellers Richard and Thanh Burt.

The Burts built the home back in 1997 with builder Rial Jones of Jones Clayton Construction and named it La Casa Burt. It has six bedrooms, six full bathrooms, and two half bathrooms and sits on 1.1 acres of waterfront land on Lake Sheen, part of the Butler Chain of Lakes.

"It's very unique when you go in. The ceilings are painted like the Sistine Chapel. They brought in artists and had all the entire ceilings painted with this just incredible detailed art," Croft explained.

There are metal staircases and railings, floor mosaics, dark wood, and opulent accents all throughout the house.

"[The buyers] do not like modern. That is not their thing," Croft told GrowthSpotter, "A lot of people would come in and say, 'oh we're going to do this million dollar renovation.' We have clients do that all the time, but they like the Mediterranean feel and they like the darker colors. That's very attractive to them."

The kitchen has a huge island with a space to eat and look outside at the pool. There's also a large aquarium.

Near the kitchen is an elaborate wooden bar and wine cellar dubbed La Fiesta Bar. For more entertainment, there is a theater room with a connected kitchenette.

For guests, there is a separate guest house with its own kitchen and living space overlooking the pool.

Then there is the outdoor space which includes an outdoor kitchen.

"It feels like a resort when you go out there with an extremely large pool with fountains and waterfalls," Croft said. "It looks very Caribbean resort-like. The huge fountain blows water up and then you have a huge waterfall back in the corner."

The spa is also heated and nearby is the sauna and steam room.

A bridge leads from the pool area to the lake.

"It has this beautiful dock with a tile roof and has one boat lift and two jetski lifts, built into the dock," Croft explains. There's also a covered sitting area and places for relaxing.

Croft said the luxury market is heating up as more people move to Florida, where prices seem reasonable compared to where they're coming from.

"People are not price-conscious. They look at a home like this one and they say \$3.5 million, wow that's cheap. Where I live, that would be \$7 million or some sort of comment like that."

Croft sold the Gallans' previous home which was about 2,000 square feet smaller than their new abode.

"It was for \$400,000 more than they bought it for six months ago which was great for them in this kind of crazy market that is happening."

He said he hears the Gallans love their new home and will probably make it their primary residence someday.

"They have some younger kids who love the water. They went wakeboarding for the first time and they've got this boat now. It is a whole new lifestyle that they're getting to participate in, and they love it."