



# Lake House Luxe

Sleek style sets the tone for this Lake Norman getaway.

by PIPER ANDERSON • photos by JIM SCHMID PHOTOGRAPHY

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A contemporary lake house sits at the edge of an expansive stretch of water, nestled within a forest of leafy trees. While the interior is finished in stone and steel and washed in cool greys, the expansive windows and light wood ceilings give the home a beachy feel.

Lake Norman Hideaway serves as a vacation rental for people who want to experience lake life luxuriously. There are sunny bedrooms with stick wood walls, delicate pendant lights strung from ceilings, and breezy living rooms that open to panoramic lake views. A few steps from the main residence, a bright and airy boat house that was turned into a studio apartment is so close to the water you could go from cooking in the kitchen to diving in the lake in a single breath.

Lawrie Lawrence, the owner of Lawrie Lawrence Real Estate, owns this vacation rental. He saw the potential in a scrappy lake lot with an old boat house and turned it into a beautiful getaway.

With well over 200 vacation homes in the area, there has been a rise in rentals over the past few years, Lawrence says—and Lake Norman Hideaway is yet another gem added to







## **DIY** *design it yourself*

How can you emulate this industrial-loft-meets-beach-house look in your own home? Here are a few tips and tricks:

### **Keep the palette simple and neutral.**

This doesn't just mean old-school whites and beiges. Neutrals such as olive, grey, taupe, caramel, navy, cream, and gold are colors that blend in with other colors and act as a base.

### **Don't over-design.**

Spend your money on a few statement pieces. In Lake Norman Hideaway, features that really make an impact are the brick veneer and stick wood walls that gave the bedrooms texture, as well as the pendant lights that hung from the ceilings.

### **Streamline your space.**

Choose pieces with clean lines to create a home that has modern elegance. Avoid anything that is particularly embellished or elaborate.

### **Soften things up.**

A house that imitates a big-city loft can become harsh. Brighten up your home and allow it to breathe by letting in a touch of the sea. Beach it up with woven textures, weathered wood, and light linen fabrics.

### **Add some bling.**

Accessories are crucial to the look of your home. Use them to bring in pops of color and add flavor to your home—just don't create clutter by buying too many.





the list. Lawrence envisioned an industrial modern lake house from the beginning, and he hired interior designer Laurie Anderson to help achieve this look.

“With any good design, it’s a collaboration of a lot of people and trades to bring it all together,” Anderson says. “The biggest challenge was getting the various trades to build to our specifications within our tight timeline, because clients had already been booked for the rental.”

Lawrence kept the original part of the

house but expanded upon it by adding two bedrooms and a great room. The boat-house is particularly special because it was grandfathered in: it couldn’t be built today because of its proximity to the water, but since it was already there Lawrence was allowed to enhance it. He and Anderson made the boat house beachier and more casual, with a vibe that is lighter and airier than the main house. A vacation rental goes through a lot of wear and tear, so they made sure to choose heavy-duty finishes—now one

of Lawrence’s favorite parts of the house.

“I love the use of some of the newest urban, textured interior finishes and tones, as well as the open concept with strong emphasis on indoor outdoor flow,” Lawrence says.

When picking everything from countertops and faucets to furniture and vanities, Anderson struck a balance between industrial and comfort. For instance, when she picked cabinets she wanted the grain to show through the stain, and the styles and





rails on the cabinets to be extra wide. This creates a more modern feel without going too contemporary like the flat cabinet doors you often see in European homes.

“The overall thing to keep in mind was clean, simple lines,” says Anderson. “Nothing too fussy or delicate; all the materials have a texture or a grain. Lawrie didn’t want anything too pretty, so I went with pieces that were more masculine with a streamlined industrial feel.”

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To balance out this strong look she chose linen fabrics for the furniture, sisal area rugs, and nautical accessories like diving weights. She kept the color palette neutral with soft greys that melt into blues and creams. Bold coral and buttery-yellow accents pepper the interior with pops of fun color, while the floor-to-ceiling glass gives the home sparkling sunlight and sapphire water views.

“Industrial modern is not new in the design world—it’s been very popular in larger cities like L.A. and New York,” Anderson says. “It lends itself to the old industrial loft feel you get in downtown areas. But it is fairly new for Charlotte and especially Mooresville.”

Staying in a house so gorgeous and sumptuous might tempt vacationers to remain tucked inside its artfully accessorized walls. But with windows so grand it’s hard to ignore the water a few steps away. Luckily, a visiting family can be secure in the knowledge that a luxe lake house awaits after a long day in the sun. *Book the property at [www.vrbo.com/760226](http://www.vrbo.com/760226).* **LNM**







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