

# Summary Prospectus

January 26, 2018

## Baron Small Cap Fund

*Retail Shares : BSCFX*

*Institutional Shares : BSFIX*

*R6 Shares : BSCUX*

Baron Investment Funds Trust



Before you invest, you may want to review the Fund's prospectus, which contains more information about the Fund and its risks. You can find the Fund's prospectus and other information about the Fund online at [www.BaronFunds.com/prospectus](http://www.BaronFunds.com/prospectus). You can also get this information at no cost by calling 1-800-99BARON or by sending an email request to [info@BaronFunds.com](mailto:info@BaronFunds.com). The Fund's prospectus and statement of additional information, dated 1/26/18, are incorporated by reference into this summary prospectus.

# Baron Small Cap Fund

## Investment Goal

The investment goal of Baron Small Cap Fund (the "Fund") is capital appreciation through investments primarily in securities of small-sized growth companies.

## Fees and Expenses of the Fund

The table below describes the fees and expenses that you would pay if you bought and held shares of the Fund.

### Annual Fund Operating Expenses

(Expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)

	Management Fee	Distribution (12b-1) Fee	Other Expenses	Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses
BARON SMALL CAP FUND				
Retail Shares	1.00%	0.25%	0.06%	1.31%
Institutional Shares	1.00%	0.00%	0.05%	1.05%
R6 Shares	1.00%	0.00%	0.06%	1.06%

### Example

This example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other mutual funds. The example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

YEAR	1	3	5	10
BARON SMALL CAP FUND				
Retail Shares	\$133	\$415	\$718	\$1,579
Institutional Shares	\$107	\$334	\$579	\$1,283
R6 Shares	\$108	\$337	\$585	\$1,294

# Baron Small Cap Fund

**Portfolio Turnover.** The Fund pays transaction costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities (or “turns over” its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover rate may indicate higher transaction costs and may result in higher taxes for Fund shareholders. These costs, which are not reflected in Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses or in the example, affect the Fund’s performance. During the most recent fiscal year ended September 30, 2017, the Fund’s portfolio turnover rate was 28.95% of the average value of its portfolio.

## Investments, Risks, and Performance

### Principal Investment Strategies of the Fund

The Fund invests 80% of its net assets in equity securities in the form of common stock of U.S. small-sized growth companies. BAMCO, Inc. (“BAMCO” or the “Adviser”) defines small-sized companies as those, at the time of purchase, with market capitalizations up to the largest market cap stock in the Russell 2000 Growth Index at reconstitution, or companies with market capitalizations up to \$2.5 billion, whichever is larger. The Adviser seeks to invest in businesses it believes have significant opportunities for growth, sustainable competitive advantages, exceptional management, and an attractive valuation. Because of its long-term approach, the Fund could have a significant percentage of its assets invested in securities that have appreciated beyond their market capitalizations at the time of the Fund’s investment.

### Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

**General Stock Market.** Investing in the stock market is risky because securities fluctuate in value. These fluctuations may be due to political, economic or general market circumstances. Other factors may affect a single company or industry but not the broader market. Because the values of securities fluctuate, when you sell your investment in the Fund, you may lose money. Current and future portfolio holdings in the Fund are subject to risk.

**Growth Investing.** Growth stocks can react differently to issuer, political, market and economic developments than the market as a whole and other types of stocks. Growth stocks tend to be more expensive relative to their earnings or assets compared to other types of stocks. As a result, growth stocks tend to be sensitive to changes in their earnings and more volatile than other types of stocks.

**Small-Sized Companies.** The Adviser believes there is more potential for capital appreciation in small-sized companies, but there also may be more risk. Securities of small-sized companies may not be well known to most investors, and the securities may be less actively traded than those of large businesses. The securities of

# Baron Small Cap Fund

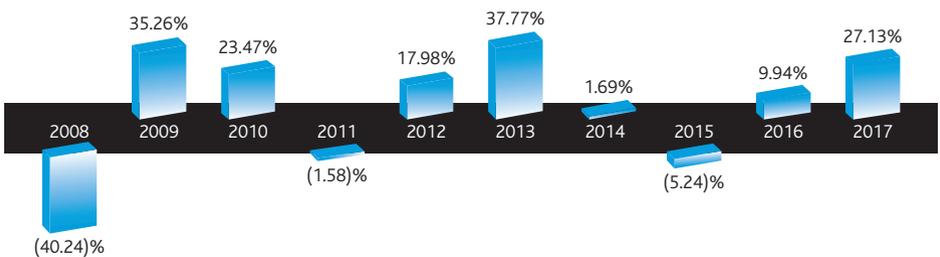
small-sized companies may fluctuate in price more widely than the stock market generally, and they may be more difficult to sell during market downturns. Small-sized companies rely more on the skills of management and on their continued tenure. Investing in small-sized companies requires a long-term outlook and may require shareholders to assume more risk and to have more patience than investing in the securities of larger, more established companies.

**Special Situations.** The Funds may invest in "special situations." A special situation arises when, in the opinion of the Adviser, the securities of a company will be recognized and appreciate in value due to a specific anticipated development at that company. Such developments might include a new product, a management change, an acquisition or a technological advancement. The risk of investing in special situations is that the anticipated development does not occur or its impact is not what the Adviser expected.

## Performance

The following bar chart and table provide some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund (Retail Shares) by showing changes in the Fund's performance from year to year and by showing how the Fund's average annual returns for 1, 5 and 10 years compare with those of a broad measure of market performance. The Fund's past performance (before and after taxes) is not necessarily an indication of how the Fund will perform in the future. Updated performance information is available online at [www.BaronFunds.com/performance](http://www.BaronFunds.com/performance) or by calling 1-800-99BARON (1-800-992-2766).

### Year by Year Total Return (%) as of December 31 of Each Year (Retail Shares)



Best Quarter: 06/30/09: 20.31%

Worst Quarter: 12/31/08: (23.85)%

## Baron Small Cap Fund

### Average Annual Total Returns (for periods ended 12/31/17)

The table below shows the Fund's Retail Shares' annual returns and long-term performance (before and after taxes) and the change in value of broad-based market indexes over various periods ended December 31, 2017. The table also shows the average annual returns of the Fund's Institutional Shares and R6 Shares, but it does not show after-tax returns.

After-tax returns are calculated using the highest individual federal marginal income tax rate in effect at the time of each distribution and assumed sale, but they do not include the impact of state and local taxes.

Your actual after-tax returns depend on your own tax situation and may differ from those shown. After-tax returns reflect past tax effects and are not predictive of future tax effects. After-tax returns are not relevant to investors who hold their Fund's shares in a tax-deferred account (including a 401(k) or IRA or Coverdell account), or to investors that are tax-exempt.

### Average Annual Total Returns for the periods ended December 31, 2017

	1 year	5 years	10 years	Since Inception
<b>BARON SMALL CAP FUND</b>				
<b>Retail Shares</b> (Inception date: 09-30-97)				
Return before taxes	27.13%	13.16%	7.96%	10.05%
Return after taxes on distributions	23.49%	10.43%	6.56%	9.10%
Return after taxes on distributions and sale of Fund shares	18.31%	10.14%	6.28%	8.62%
<b>Institutional Shares*</b> (Inception date: 05-29-09)				
Return before taxes	27.45%	13.45%	8.19%	10.17%
<b>R6 Shares*</b> (Inception date: 01-29-16)				
Return before taxes	27.41%	13.44%	8.19%	10.17%
Russell 2000® Growth Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)	22.17%	15.21%	9.19%	6.19%
S&P 500 Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)	21.83%	15.79%	8.50%	7.25%

\* Performance for the Institutional Shares prior to May 29, 2009 is based on the performance of the Retail Shares. Performance for the R6 Shares prior to January 29, 2016 is based on the performance of the Institutional Shares, and prior to May 29, 2009 is based on the performance of the Retail Shares. The Retail Shares have a distribution fee, but Institutional Shares and R6 Shares do not. If the annual returns for the Institutional Shares and R6 Shares prior to May 29, 2009 did not reflect this fee, the returns would be higher.

The Russell 2000® Growth Index is an unmanaged index of U.S. small-cap growth companies. The S&P 500 Index is an unmanaged index of larger-cap companies.

# Baron Small Cap Fund

## Management

**Investment Adviser.** BAMCO is the investment adviser of the Fund.

**Portfolio Manager.** Cliff Greenberg has been the portfolio manager of the Fund since its inception on September 30, 1997. Mr. Greenberg has worked at the Adviser as an analyst since January of 1997.

## Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares

Shares may be purchased only on days that the New York Stock Exchange is open for trading.

	Minimum Initial Investment	Minimum Subsequent Investment	Maximum Subsequent Investment
<b>Retail Shares</b>	\$2,000	No Minimum	No Maximum
Baron Automatic Investment Plan	\$500 (with subsequent minimum investments of \$50 per month until your investment has reached \$2,000.)	No Minimum	No Maximum
Baron Funds® website purchases	\$2,000	\$10	\$6,500 for retirement accounts and \$250,000 for non-retirement accounts.
<b>Institutional Shares</b>	\$1,000,000 (Employees of the Adviser and its affiliates and Trustees of the Baron Funds® and employer sponsored retirement plans (qualified and nonqualified) are not subject to the eligibility requirements for Institutional Shares.)	No Minimum	No Maximum

## Baron Small Cap Fund

	Minimum Initial Investment	Minimum Subsequent Investment	Maximum Subsequent Investment
Baron Funds® website purchases	You may not make an initial purchase through the Baron Funds® website.	\$10	\$6,500 for retirement accounts and \$250,000 for non-retirement accounts.
<b>R6 Shares</b>	\$5,000,000 (There is no minimum initial investment for qualified retirement plans; however, the shares must be held through plan-level or omnibus accounts held on the books of the Fund.)	No Minimum	No Maximum
Baron Funds® website purchases	You may not make an initial purchase through the Baron Funds® website.	\$10	\$6,500 for retirement accounts and \$250,000 for non-retirement accounts.

### You Can Purchase or Redeem Shares By:

1. Mailing a request to Baron Funds®, P.O. Box 219946, Kansas City, MO 64121-9946 or by overnight mail to: Baron Funds®, 430 West 7th Street, Kansas City, MO 64105-1514;
2. Wire (Purchase Only);
3. Calling 1-800-442-3814;
4. Visiting the Baron Funds® website [www.BaronFunds.com](http://www.BaronFunds.com); or
5. Through a broker, dealer or other financial intermediary that may charge you a fee.

The Fund is not for short-term traders who intend to purchase and then sell their Fund shares within a 90 day period. If the Adviser reasonably believes that a person is not a long-term investor, it will attempt to prohibit that person from making additional investments in the Fund.

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## Tax Information

Distributions of the Fund's net investment income (other than "qualified dividend income") and distributions of net short-term capital gains will be taxable to you as ordinary income. Distributions of the Fund's net capital gains reported as capital gain dividends by the Fund will be taxable to you as long-term capital gains, regardless of the length of time you have held shares of the Fund. If you are investing through a tax-deferred arrangement, such as a 401(k) plan or an individual retirement account, you may be subject to federal income tax on withdrawals from tax-deferred arrangement at a later date.

## Financial Intermediary Compensation

If you purchase Retail or Institutional Shares of the Fund through a broker, dealer or other financial intermediary (such as a bank or financial adviser), the Fund, Baron Capital, Inc., the Fund's distributor, BAMCO or their affiliates may pay the intermediary for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the broker, dealer or other financial intermediary, including your salesperson, to recommend the Fund over another investment. Ask your salesperson or visit your financial intermediary's website for more information.









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