

# HomesFriday

## The Reserve in St. Charles draws buyers from Chicago

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Sponsored by Meritus Homes

The Dunberry, with more than 3,700 square feet of living space, four bedrooms and a unique three-car split-bay garage, is an ideal family home. Just ask Robert and Pana Bertolini, who purchased this model at The Reserve in St. Charles.

“In Meritus Homes’ Dunberry, we found a layout that fit our lifestyle,” said Robert Bertolini. After visiting the St. Charles community, the couple decided to move from Chicago out to the West suburbs almost immediately.

“We signed right away, we were so in love with the neighborhood,” Bertolini said. “I never expected my wife to be so quick to say ‘Let’s do it.’ But she did.”

The Reserve in St. Charles is a stark contrast from the Bertolini’s neighborhood in the city, offering small-town charm and a rural ambience. Growing up in West suburban Carol Stream, Robert was already familiar with the St. Charles area. Then when

looking for a new home, he and his wife instantly fell for the wide-open spaces and relaxing vibe of The Reserve in St. Charles.

“Everyone was so nice, from the homeowners we met to the entire Meritus Homes staff,” Bertolini said. “We knew this would be a great place to raise our family.”

A bonus: The community falls within the boundaries of highly rated St. Charles Unit School District 303. But unlike other more secluded areas of the Fox Valley, The Reserve in St. Charles is close to the city’s quaint downtown and the Randall Road corridor, so everyday conveniences are nearby.

Right within their own neighborhood, the Bertolinis can enjoy natural and recreational amenities such as ponds, bike trails and a park. They can walk with their children to the park to play outdoors, and the big yards

provide a great place for the kids to run around.

At The Reserve in St. Charles, Meritus Homes is building a limited number of semicustom single-family homes ... and 75% are already sold. The Dunberry is one of five floor plans, which include ranch and two-story designs with 2,491 to 3,716 square feet of living space, three or four bedrooms, two to 3½ baths, and two- or three-car garages. Current base prices range from \$524,900 to \$574,900.

A Dunberry is ready for quick move-in at 1025 Reserve Drive. Priced at \$624,900, it includes 10-foot first-floor ceilings, 8-foot doors, a wood staircase and luxury owner’s bath. A fireplace adds a cozy feel to the family room. Dual zone heating and air conditioning provide consistent comfort throughout the home. A 10-by-18-foot deck extends living areas outside. A deep-pour lookout basement will make it easy for the new owners to finish the lower level.

Although the Dunberry quick move-in home is loaded with amenities, buyers who purchase now still have time to choose finishing touches, appliances, cabinets, plumbing fixtures, counters and lighting.

“When we purchased our home, we were excited to make all our own selections so that everything would look exactly how we wanted it to,” Bertolini said.

One of the changes the Bertolinis made to their new home was converting the living room into a more



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MERITUS HOMES

Robert and Pana Bertolini chose the Dunberry model at The Reserve in St. Charles because it suited their lifestyle. One is ready for quick move-in now.

functional space.

“When I was growing up, the only time anyone used the living room was for formal entertaining, otherwise it was off limits,” Bertolini said. “We thought — why have a room we don’t use? So we added French doors to create an office so I can get work done from home. And we decorated it so that it can also serve as a cozy area to sit down and talk and unwind.”

The living room flanks the grand foyer inside the Tudor-inspired Dunberry, with the dining room on the other side. A dual staircase leads upstairs from both the foyer and the kitchen.

The back of the home is where everyday living happens for the Bertolinis. The open kitchen adjoins the breakfast area, which is separated from the family room by a decorative half wall. Tucked off the main living space for privacy is a den and powder

room. A full basement also comes standard.

On the second floor, one of the bedrooms has its own bath and walk-in closet while the two additional bedrooms share a hall bath. The master suite has his-and-her walk-in closets plus a deluxe bath of its own. In fact, the master bath is a favorite feature for Robert and Pana, especially because it offers views that include St. Charles landmarks.

“One morning, my son came into the room and we saw the sunrise — it was a vivid orange. Just incredible,” he said.

One of the biggest reasons Robert and Pana chose The Dunberry plan was because of its double garages. On one side of the home is a side-load, two-car garage while on the other side is an additional one-car garage, perfect for storage.

“With this layout, we can keep the children’s bicycles,

sports equipment and even our outdoor tools safely away from the cars,” said Robert.

Home shoppers who are looking build their own new home this fall can see the stylish designs and feel Meritus Homes’ superior level of construction first hand at The Reserve in St. Charles, where a decorated model is available to tour.

The model and sales office are open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday through Wednesday (closed Thursday and Friday). A Dunberry quick move-in home also is available to walk through.

The Reserve in St. Charles is located on the west side of Route 31 between Red Gate and Silver Glen roads. To visit, take Route 31 and turn west onto Reserve Drive and proceed to the model and sales office at 775 Reserve Drive.

For more information, call (224) 634-4054 or visit [www.MeritusHomebuilders.com](http://www.MeritusHomebuilders.com).



Meritus Homes offers on-trend designs at The Reserve in St. Charles.

70% SOLD

### The Reserve

IN ST. CHARLES

RANCH AND 2-STORY HOMES

BRAND-NEW HOME

READY FOR QUICK MOVE-IN!

Minutes from charming downtown St. Charles, a peaceful setting and preserved open space set the backdrop for the gorgeous new homes at The Reserve in St. Charles. Located within top rated schools in District #303.

*New homes from the low \$500s*



### THE DUNBERRY

READY FOR MOVE-IN WITHIN 90 DAYS

STILL TIME TO MAKE INTERIOR SELECTIONS

1025 RESERVE DRIVE

- 2-story
- 4 bedrooms, 3-1/2 baths
- 3-car split-bay garage
- Deep pour lookout basement
- 10-foot first-floor ceilings
- Fireplace & 10 x 18 deck

**\$624,900** Current price before upgrades

**TOUR TODAY!**

THE RESERVE IN ST. CHARLES IS LOCATED ON THE WEST SIDE OF RT. 31 BETWEEN RED GATE AND SILVER GLEN ROADS. Model open Saturday – Wednesday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. (Closed Thursday and Friday)