

Ash Park Global Consumer Franchise UCITS Fund

Global Consumer Franchise Equity

July 2020

Fund Overview

The Ash Park Global Consumer Franchise UCITS Fund is managed by a London-based team with extensive experience covering consumer companies. The Ash Park fund pursues a long-only, 'Buy-and-Hold' strategy focused solely on global Food, Beverage, Tobacco and Household & Personal Care companies (together, the 'Consumer Staples' sector). These companies have historically produced higher long-term returns than the market, and with lower volatility, and the sector tends to combine attractive income generation with inflation protection and growth, supported by brands and franchises which have often been built over decades, even centuries.

The Ash Park fund does not measure itself against any benchmark but has the objective of beating inflation consistently, with low risk and low volatility, through the ownership of high-quality Consumer Staples stocks that it believes are capable of growing their earnings and cash flows at attractive rates almost indefinitely. The Ash Park fund seeks to balance its desire to own the best quality stocks with a need to diversify its portfolio risk. However, its holdings will be concentrated (typically c.20 stocks) and it will be aiming for low turnover.

Monthly Portfolio Comment

Class A units in the Ash Park Global Consumer Franchise UCITS Fund in July were down -2.14% in Euros, up +3.03% in USD, down -3.00% in GBP and down -1.08% in CHF. For the year, Class A units are down -8.65% in Euros, -3.77% in USD, -9.60% in CHF, and -2.87% in GBP.

The fund posted negative returns in Euro in July, the first setback since the lows in March, largely due to the strength of the currency. The overall market continues to be driven by growth over value, and for the Ash Park fund this has seen a further de-rating of tobacco stocks, where the perception of the industry is at odds with its very strong cash flows and the ongoing resiliency of the businesses. July saw the beginning of Q2 reporting, where the COVID trends we have been seeing in external data were confirmed in company results. At one extreme Reckitt Benckiser, the largest holding of the fund, reported very strong organic growth of 11% in Q2 with its Home Care brands, including Dettol, growing by almost 20%. The company noted that although this rate of growth wasn't likely to persist, it was using the benefits of the current momentum to invest in areas where consumer changes in hygiene routines are likely to be permanent. At the other extreme, the beauty industry has been particularly hard hit by the collapse in travel as well as the temporary closure of many premium location stores. Industry leader L'Oréal reported a 19% decline in sales for Q2. Portfolio activity focused on using this temporary dislocation to increase our exposure to the Asian Beauty markets, where we see very significant long-term growth opportunities. We added to our existing small position in Shiseido and initiated a new holding which benefits from this same theme. The top 3 contributors in the month were Campari, RB and Fever Tree. The top 3 detractors in the month were BAT, Imperial Brands and Shiseido.

Fund Performance Since Inception (EUR)



Class A, net of fees / expenses. Fund launched on 14th Oct 2014 (=100)
Source: Ash Park

The monthly performance figures quoted above and overleaf represent the performance of the Ash Park Global Consumer Franchise UCITS Fund in the relevant currency class. Euro is the base currency of the fund and is the best indication of fund performance. These performance figures refer to the past and past performance is not a reliable guide to future performance.

The Manager



Geographic Split

At 31st July 2020, By Country of Listing

US	32.3%
UK	29.5%
Netherlands	9.2%
Switzerland	8.5%
Italy	4.7%
Germany	4.3%
Hong Kong	4.3%
Japan	4.0%
Net Cash	3.2%

Sector Split

At 31st July 2020, By Company Listing

Tobacco	24.0%
Beverages	23.0%
Household Care	18.5%
Food Manufacturing	15.9%
Personal Care	15.5%
Net Cash	3.2%

Fund Facts

Structure	UCITS Fund
Domicile	Ireland
Liquidity	Daily
Fund AUM	\$44 million
Strategy AUM	\$233 million
Number of Stocks	20
Inception	14 th October 2014

A Class	
Share Class	
Currency	EUR/CHF/USD/GBP
Mgt. Fee	1.00%
ISIN Codes	EUR: IE00BQQFW266 USD: IE00BQQFW480 CHF: IE00BQQFW597 GBP: IE00BQQFW373

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GBP Class A – launched 14th October 2014

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Y-T-D
2014	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.78%	5.62%	-3.71%	4.53%
2015	6.21%	1.72%	-0.42%	-1.12%	1.56%	-5.59%	5.90%	-4.92%	2.87%	5.57%	1.05%	1.58%	14.48%
2016	3.04%	1.02%	3.14%	-1.16%	0.32%	11.44%	0.48%	0.23%	0.79%	1.68%	-9.04%	2.81%	14.48%
2017	0.43%	7.80%	1.97%	-1.63%	8.00%	-2.82%	-1.68%	1.89%	-4.69%	1.16%	0.43%	3.53%	14.45%
2018	-3.40%	-5.49%	-0.38%	-0.96%	0.79%	3.32%	4.32%	-1.03%	-0.72%	-1.99%	-1.35%	-6.63%	-13.19%
2019	0.62%	3.51%	7.09%	-0.66%	-0.19%	1.90%	3.87%	0.31%	-1.84%	-5.06%	3.46%	0.58%	13.88%
2020	-0.69%	-7.11%	-3.48%	6.50%	4.50%	1.05%	-3.00%						-2.87%

EUR Class A – launched 17th April 2015

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Y-T-D
2015	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-0.36%	-3.30%	-3.64%
2016	-0.44%	-1.16%	1.42%	0.22%	2.55%	2.56%	-0.86%	-0.73%	-0.93%	-2.22%	-3.63%	2.26%	-1.15%
2017	-0.20%	8.44%	1.80%	-0.04%	4.36%	-3.59%	-3.47%	-1.24%	-0.20%	1.61%	0.02%	2.73%	10.05%
2018	-2.11%	-6.47%	0.59%	-1.01%	0.79%	2.49%	3.43%	-1.39%	-0.22%	-1.56%	-1.43%	-7.69%	-14.14%
2019	3.53%	5.46%	6.39%	-0.43%	-2.95%	0.69%	2.22%	0.87%	0.33%	-2.58%	4.64%	1.19%	20.63%
2020	0.09%	-9.19%	-6.20%	8.53%	0.85%	0.03%	-2.14%						-8.65%

USD Class A – launched 19th February 2016

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Y-T-D
2016	-	-1.21%	6.37%	0.73%	-0.32%	2.35%	-0.21%	-1.13%	-0.03%	-4.90%	-6.46%	1.68%	-3.66%
2017	2.26%	6.63%	2.47%	1.77%	7.76%	-2.22%	-0.21%	-0.41%	-0.76%	0.13%	2.37%	3.46%	25.30%
2018	1.55%	-8.42%	1.43%	-2.75%	-2.62%	2.52%	3.65%	-1.94%	-0.39%	-3.97%	-1.50%	-6.80%	-18.27%
2019	3.92%	4.66%	4.91%	-0.62%	-3.50%	2.90%	-0.06%	-0.23%	-0.68%	-0.30%	3.42%	3.01%	18.45%
2020	-1.19%	-9.99%	-6.30%	8.34%	2.42%	1.00%	3.03%						-3.8%

CHF Class A – launched 19th May 2017

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Y-T-D
2017	-	-	-	-	1.41%	-3.22%	0.54%	-0.81%	-0.08%	3.15%	0.84%	2.67%	4.45%
2018	-3.13%	-6.90%	2.77%	0.53%	-3.29%	3.54%	3.34%	-4.21%	0.61%	-1.11%	-2.14%	-8.06%	-17.32%
2019	-0.30%	10.25%	4.88%	1.69%	-4.74%	-0.26%	1.47%	-0.28%	0.10%	-1.34%	4.74%	-0.18%	16.35%
2020	-1.58%	-9.66%	-6.34%	8.07%	1.95%	-0.39%	-1.08%						-9.60%

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