

↑ 0.87%

# Tosca Micro Cap UCITS Fund

## UK Micro Cap

December 2021

### Performance Returns

The Tosca Micro Cap UCITS Fund returned 0.87% in December (GBP Institutional share class).

### Investment Objective & Strategy

The Tosca Micro Cap UCITS Fund is a fundamental, value-orientated strategy, applied to the opportunity rich UK micro cap segment. The fund will invest primarily in “micro cap” companies with a market capitalisation of up to £250m that are listed in the UK, and which are or are expected to become constituents of the FTSE Small Cap or the FTSE AIM All Share Index. The Fund is managed by Matt Siebert who, together with Daniel Cane and Jamie Taylor, support Martin Hughes in the management of the Toscafund mid-cap strategy. As such, the Fund represents an extension of the same investment philosophy employed in the award winning Tosca Opportunity and Tosca Mid Cap funds. The Fund targets an annualised return in excess of 15% (net of fees).

### Manager Commentary

A game of two halves.....a limp end to 2021 for the fund, though overall it was pleasing to be able to record a +19.7% net return for the year.

The market drivers experienced in December perfectly reflected the broader themes experienced over the last 18 months. Covid, via the Omicron strain, impacted consumer confidence and with it retail and leisure sectors, while inflationary trends continued apace (energy, salaries). For the most part, we found ourselves on the right side of these drivers. Our largest holding is Kistos (+31 bps), the North Sea gas producer. It has benefited from soaring gas futures pricing (see here) which remain well ahead of analyst forecasts for the current and future periods. At the same time management confirmed media speculation that they were one of a number of companies looking at Total’s West of Shetland gas assets. Knowing Andrew Austen’s history while at Rockrose, he is a canny buyer. Added to that, as a 17% shareholder we trust him not to over pay nor aggressively dilute existing shareholders on any

deal.

It is perhaps unsurprising that stocks with strong insider ownership continue to outperform the market. A simple analysis of our current portfolio finds that stocks with a management/founder holding of 15%+ rose by 35% in FY21 (using a simple unweighted average). This as you can imagine, remains a key screen for us when considering stocks for investment. An example of this, which contributed well during the month, was Kape Technologies (+33bps). This buy and build B2C cybersecurity (VPN, anti-malware software) business confirmed that it would hit the top end of market consensus for both revenues and Ebitda. We suspect that synergies from the ExpressVPN transaction will drive upgrades through 2022. The founder of this business (Teddy Sagi) has continued to buy more shares and he now holds >60% of the equity. As with his other past investments (e.g. Playtech), his involvement has often helped drive ongoing strong performance.

The main hit in the month came from Actual Experience (-37 bps). Given earlier comments on December reflecting the themes of 2021, it is perhaps unsurprising that this stock was also the worst performer in the year. This company provides software that allows large enterprises to assess the quality of their digital assets (networks, datacentres, software) and alert them ahead of time where problems could arise impacting their employees, service and brand efficacy. The principles of the product and the qualification of the tool are both sound. The problem has been getting their blue chip distribution partners (Verizon, Vodafone, Accenture, Dell, Thomson Reuters) to sell the product. While we still believe that this will happen, the pace of the uptake has been hugely disappointing. That said, the recent share price correction does provide opportunities.

As we enter a New Year (our 6th while managing this fund), we would like to thank you for your continued support and wish you all the best for 2022

### The Manager

# TOSCAFUND

### Fund Facts

Structure	UCITS Fund
Domicile	Ireland
Liquidity	Weekly
Fund AUM	\$70.1m
Inception	1st October 2010
Relaunch	8th April 2016

Share Class	Institutional/Institutional Pooled
Currency	EUR/GBP/CHF/USD
Mgt. Fee	1.00%
Perf. Fee	15%
Min Init. Sub.	100,000
ISIN Codes	EUR: IE00B3QLJ113/IE00BD2MF541 USD: IE00B3QZNH75/IE00BD2MF764 CHF: IE00B3MBJQ07/IE00BD2MF657 GBP: IE00B68Z1V62/IE00B3RTD232

Share Class	Retail/Retail Pooled
Currency	EUR/GBP/CHF/USD
Mgt. Fee	1.5%
Perf. Fee	15%
Min Init. Sub.	1,000
ISIN Codes	EUR: IE00B3N9LL24/ N/A USD: IE00B3SGTD66/ N/A CHF: IE00B3SLGP29/ N/A GBP: IE00B3YLLZ14/IE00B4M22536

**Matthew Siebert** joined Toscafund in 2008. He started his career at Hoare Govett in 1991 in a sector research team covering utilities. By 2005 he was responsible for much of the technology research at ABN Amro. He then ran sales and research at Quantmetriks before joining Tosca. Matthew graduated in Political Science from Birmingham University.

**Daniel Cane** joined Toscafund in 2008. From 2004 he worked with Quantmetriks. He analysed the retail sector at HSBC and ABN AMRO (2000-03). Prior to that he was a paper & packaging analyst at ABN AMRO (ranked 2nd in Extel surveys). Daniel graduated in Industrial Economics from Nottingham University in 1987.

**Jamie Taylor** joined Toscafund in 2015. Prior to this he was an analyst for seven years with Clareville Capital LLP, a UK L/S Equity fund based in London. Jamie graduated from the University of Edinburgh in 2008 with a MA (Hons) in Law & Business Studies, and is a CFA charterholder.

### Tosca Micro Cap UCITS Fund Performance

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Y-T-D
2021	3.67%	5.98%	4.90%	5.09%	1.23%	-1.03%	0.57%	2.08%	-2.40%	1.22%	-3.61%	0.87%	19.65%
2020	5.90%	-11.45%	-24.95%	12.34%	7.39%	1.63%	9.30%	8.62%	0.86%	1.75%	7.02%	15.33%	29.79%
2019	-0.55%	-3.90%	2.40%	3.10%	0.10%	-4.41%	0.46%	-5.23%	-2.32%	-0.98%	2.58%	5.01%	-4.24%
2018	-1.15%	0.18%	-2.89%	1.79%	0.61%	3.36%	2.49%	1.46%	-2.23%	-12.55%	-5.35%	-3.99%	-17.76%
2017	4.86%	0.20%	2.04%	4.42%	3.97%	-2.28%	-1.59%	3.54%	-0.68%	1.24%	-0.66%	2.15%	18.25%
2016	-	-	-	1.15%	3.94%	-3.84%	8.76%	5.23%	2.80%	0.73%	1.60%	3.60%	26.10%

The performance figures quoted above represent the performance of the Tosca Micro Cap UCITS Fund (GBP Institutional Class) since relaunch on 8th April 2016. These performance figures refer to the past and past performance is not a reliable guide to future performance.

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# Tosca Micro Cap UCITS Fund

## UK Micro Cap

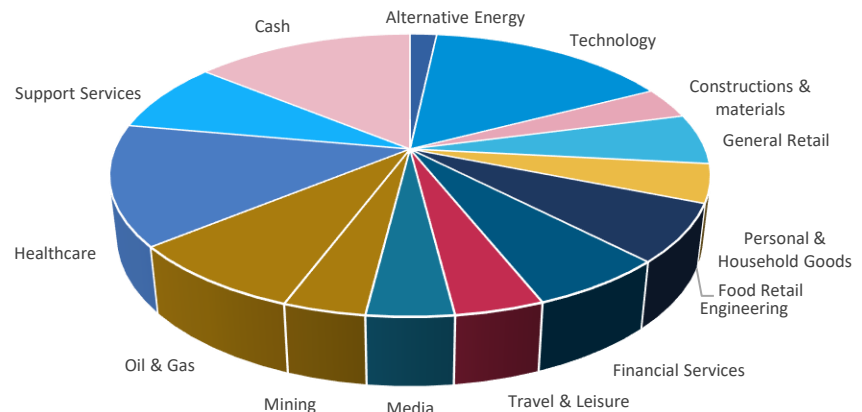
December 2021

### COMPOSITION OF FUND (Data as at 31 December 2021)

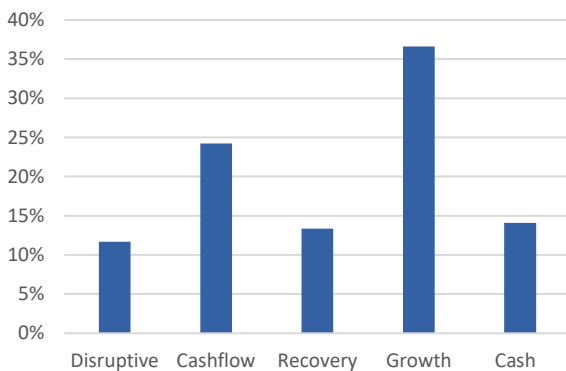
#### Portfolio Summary

Gross exposure	85.9%
Average mkt cap (£m)	280
No. of positions	54

#### Portfolio By Sector



#### Portfolio By Theme



#### Top 5 exposures (% of NAV)

Kistos	4.8
Synairgen	3.5
Maxcyte	2.9
Sureserve	2.9
Kape	2.7

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### Disclaimer

**RISK WARNING:** Following a restructuring and rebranding on the 8th April 2016, the Pegasus UCITS Fund became the Tosca Micro Cap UCITS Fund. Returns between the inception of the Fund 1st October 2010 and up to and including the 8th April 2016 relate to the Pegasus UCITS Fund. Information on the returns for this period is available on the Key Investor Information Documents. Returns from the close of business on the 8th April 2016 to date relate to the Tosca Micro Cap UCITS Fund. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results, prices of investments and the returns from them may fall as well as rise. Investments in equities are subject to market risk. Changes in exchange rates may have an adverse effect on the value price or income of the product. The Tosca Micro Cap UCITS Fund (the "Fund") may use higher leverage and financial derivative instruments as part of the investment process. The distribution of this report does not constitute an offer or solicitation and this notice shall not be construed as an offer of sale in any other fund managed or advised by Toscafund Asset Management LLP or Waystone Fund Management (IE) Ltd ("Waystone"). Any investment in the Fund should be based on the full details contained in the Fund's Supplement Prospectus and Key Investor Information Document which together with the MontLake UCITS Platform ICAV Prospectus may be downloaded from the Waystone website ([www.montlakeucits.com/funds/tosca-micro-cap-ucits-fund](http://www.montlakeucits.com/funds/tosca-micro-cap-ucits-fund)). Information given in this document has been obtained from, or based upon, sources believed by us to be reliable and accurate although neither Waystone nor Toscafund Asset Management LLP accepts liability for the accuracy of the contents. The state of origin of the Fund is the Republic of Ireland. The Representative in Switzerland is Waystone Fund Services (Switzerland) SA, Avenue Villamont 17, 1005 Lausanne, Switzerland, whilst the Paying Agent is NPB Neue Privat Bank AG, Limmatquai 1/am Bellevue, P.O. Box, CH-8024 Zurich. In respect of the units distributed from Switzerland, the place of performance and jurisdiction is at the registered office of the Swiss representative. The basic documents of the Fund as well as the annual report may be obtained free of charge at the registered office of the Swiss Representative. The current document is intended for information purposes only and shall not be used as an offer to buy and/or sell shares. Past performance is no indication of current or future performance. The performance data do not take account of the commissions and costs incurred on the issue and redemption of units. Waystone does not offer investment advice or make recommendations regarding investments. The Manager of the Fund is Waystone Fund Management (IE) Ltd, a company regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland. The Investment Manager for the fund, Toscafund Asset Management LLP is authorised and regulated by the U.K. Financial Conduct Authority. The MontLake UCITS Platform ICAV is registered and regulated as an open-ended Irish collective asset-management vehicle with segregated liability between sub-Funds formed in Ireland under the Irish Collective Asset management Vehicles Act 2015 and authorised by the Central Bank as a UCITS pursuant to the UCITS Regulations. This notice shall not be construed as an offer of sale in the Fund. The state of the origin of the Fund is the Republic of Ireland. The performance data do not take account of the commissions and costs incurred on the issue and redemption of units. Authorised and Regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland. The Management Company may decide to terminate the arrangements made for the marketing of the Fund in accordance with Article 93a of Directive 2009/65/EC. To view the Summary of Investor Rights, please visit the following [link](#). This is a marketing communication.

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