

# GuardCap Global Equity Fund

Class: I (acc) GBP



Morningstar Analyst Rating™



Morningstar Sustainability Rating™

## Investment Objective

The investment objective of the Fund is to seek long-term growth of capital with lower than market volatility by investing primarily in equity and similar securities issued by high quality companies listed on recognised markets in countries, which are members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development ("OECD").

## Investment Approach

Philosophy: growth drives returns; quality protects against downside; valuation matters.

- Concentrated, long-only strategy with 20-25 high quality, sustainably growing companies
- Focused "total immersion", bottom-up analysis of selected high-confidence stocks
- Benchmark agnostic, unconstrained portfolio construction; high active share
- Genuine long-term investing with low portfolio turnover
- Large / Mid-cap focus

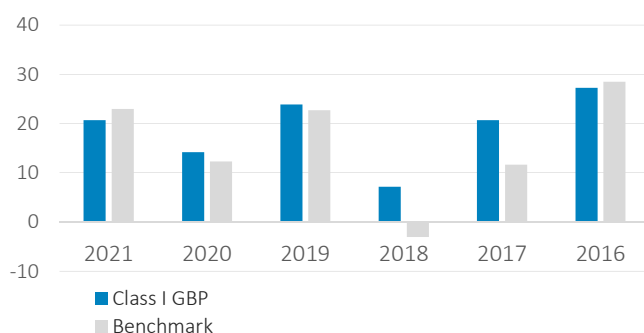
## Investment Team

	Joined GuardCap	Years of experience
Michael Boyd	2014	32
Giles Warren	2014	25
Bojana Bidovec	2016	17
Orlaith O'Connor	2015	11

## Fund Performance - annualised, net of fees\* (%)

	1 M	3 M	YTD	1 YR	Annualised		
					3 YR	5 YR	Inception
Class I GBP	-2.30	-4.42	-9.09	11.14	13.82	13.45	16.07
Benchmark	-2.54	-5.09	-6.81	15.40	14.11	10.35	12.80
Relative return	0.24	0.67	-2.28	-4.24	-0.29	3.10	3.27

## Fund Calendar Year Performance - net of fees\* (%)



	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Class I GBP	20.69	14.24	23.86	7.15	20.68	27.28
Benchmark	22.94	12.32	22.74	-3.06	11.65	28.50
Relative return	-2.25	1.92	1.12	10.21	9.03	-1.22

\*Past performance results are no indication of future results

## Fund Facts

Legal Status	UCITS
Fund Launch date	10 December 2014
Class Inception	3 July 2015
Benchmark	MSCI World Index (Net) GBP
Fund Size	USD 3.05 billion
Strategy AUM <sup>1</sup>	USD 11.84 billion
Strategy AUA <sup>1</sup>	USD 1.25 billion
ISIN	IE00BVSS1C10
Bloomberg	GCGLEIG

<sup>1</sup>AUM = Assets under management, AUA = Assets under advice; based on estimates and is not official

## Charges & Subscriptions

Annual management fee	0.80%
Ongoing charges <sup>2</sup>	0.86%
Minimum investment	USD 500,000

<sup>2</sup>As at 31 December 2021; including Annual management fee

## Portfolio Characteristics

Number of stocks	25
Active share	91.9%
Net exposure	98.6%

## Risk\*\*

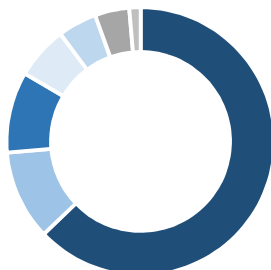
	Fund	Index
Tracking error	5.03	
Standard deviation	13.25	14.33
Information ratio	0.81	
Sharpe ratio <sup>3</sup>	0.98	0.62
Upside market capture	101.87	100.00
Downside market capture	81.19	100.00
Batting average	0.63	

\*\*USD I Share Class

<sup>3</sup>Sharpe ratio calculated using Bloomberg US Generic Govt. 3 Month Yield

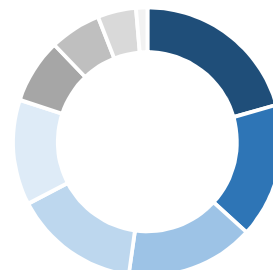
### Geographic Allocation (%)

United States	62.84
Denmark	10.83
France	9.77
United Kingdom	6.36
Japan	4.71
Switzerland	4.13
Cash	1.36



### Sector Allocation (%)

Consumer Discretionary	20.57
Information Technology	16.21
Health Care	15.43
Consumer Staples	15.17
Financials	12.67
Industrials	7.78
Communication Services	6.17
Materials	4.64
Cash	1.36



### Top 5 Holdings

	% of assets
CME Group	8.03
EssilorLuxottica	6.52
Alphabet	6.17
Booking Holdings	5.77
UnitedHealth	5.60

### Monthly Contributors / Detractors

	Contribution to return
+ MarketAxess	0.45
+ Yum China	0.30
+ CME Group	0.23
- Booking Holdings	-0.76
- EssilorLuxottica	-0.41
- Accenture	-0.37

### YTD Contributors / Detractors

	Contribution to return
+ CME Group	0.34
+ Yum China	0.21
+ Mastercard	0.07
- EssilorLuxottica	-1.20
- Accenture	-0.87
- Nike	-0.77

### Manager Commentary

The top contributors to performance year to date were **CME**, **Yum China** and **Mastercard**.

**CME** benefited from increased volatility in the derivatives markets in January and February. Average daily volumes increased 23% with a very strong performance in its equities and interest rates product lines. Increased geo-political risk and the end of the pandemic are catalysts for increased risk management activity using derivatives. **Yum China** has suffered from the ongoing strict lockdowns in China but the prospect of those rules being relaxed during 2022 has provided support for its shares so far this year. **Mastercard** reported stronger than expected Q4 earnings as consumer spending trends continued to improve. Net revenue increased 28% with cross-border spending exceeding pre-pandemic levels. Although the recovery in cross-border travel is likely to be dampened by the conflict in Ukraine, the stock has held up well.

The top detractors year to date were **EssilorLuxottica**, **Accenture** and **Nike**.

**EssilorLuxottica** is the global leader in the design, manufacture and distribution of ophthalmic lenses, frames and sunglasses. Its shares have weakened as investors worry about the impact of the Ukrainian situation on consumer spending in Europe (~30% of sales). Ageing demographics, premiumisation and youth lifestyles are strong long-term drivers of growth. **Accenture** continues to report strong growth driven by the digital transformation of its customers. Revenue grew 27% in the latest quarter and FY guidance for revenue growth was raised from 12-15% to 19-22%. After a strong performance in 2021, the stock has weakened on concerns about the sustainability of corporate customer demand in the current geo-political environment. **Nike's** sales growth has been held back by supply chain issues. Sales in China, the worst impacted region, were down 24% in the latest quarter. The supply issues are largely rectified and it expects to deliver mid-single digit growth for the current fiscal year. Investors are nevertheless concerned about the potential impact of recent events on discretionary consumer spending.

### Share Class Ratings

Morningstar Analyst Rating™



Overall Morningstar Rating™



Sauren Fondsmanager Rating™



# ESG Reporting\*

## Fund ESG Ratings

Morningstar Sustainability Rating™  
 Morningstar Low Carbon Designation™



## Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR)

Classification: Article 8

## ESG Integration

All investee companies must meet the team's ten Confidence Criteria, including strong "Foundations for Sustainable Growth" (FSG), which ensures that a company's ESG practices align with its potential for long-term sustainable growth. The Fund's concentrated approach (20-25 stocks) enables a thorough understanding of the sustainability risks and opportunities relevant to each company and an analysis of a company's ESG issues forms a key part of every investment decision.

## Active Ownership

Active ownership is deeply embedded in our investment philosophy and we vote on every resolution and corporate action proposed by our companies. If a company is engaged in a practice that concerns us, we will engage with the company on the issue, seek to learn more about it and encourage positive change.

## Exclusion Policy

The Fund excludes direct investment in corporate issuers that are involved in the manufacture or production<sup>1</sup> of:



Controversial weapons<sup>2</sup>



Extraction of fossil fuels and/or generation of power from them



Firearms or small arms ammunition

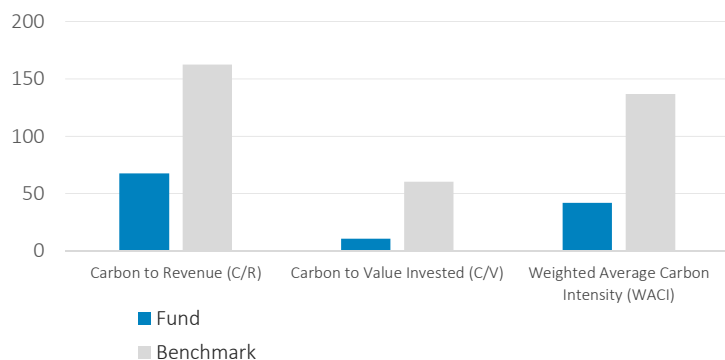


Tobacco products

<sup>1</sup>Subject to a specific revenue threshold of 5%, based on a company's annual report

<sup>2</sup>Includes anti-personnel landmines, cluster munitions, biological weapons and chemical weapons

## Carbon Intensity

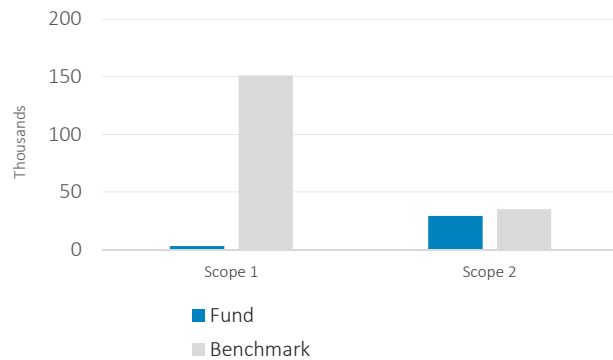


	Fund	Benchmark
Carbon to Revenue (C/R)	67.67	162.75
Carbon to Value Invested (C/V)	10.53	60.37
Weighted Average Carbon Intensity (WACI)	41.94	136.89

Source: S&P Trucost Limited © Trucost 2022; as at 31 December 2021. Carbon Intensity calculated in TCO2E/USD M. The lower the score the lower the intensity. Includes Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions.

The Carbon to Revenue (C/R) metric shows the intensity of the portfolio and benchmark using the absolute apportioned carbon emissions and apportioned revenues, calculated on an ownership basis (value of holdings divided by chosen apportioning metric), as at the analysis date. The Carbon to Value (C/V) Invested metric takes the carbon emissions (apportioned using either market capitalisation or enterprise value) divided by the value of holdings in a portfolio or benchmark. The Weighted Average Carbon Intensity (WACI) metric takes the carbon intensity (total carbon emissions divided by total revenue) of each holding and multiplies it by its investment weight (the current value of the holding relative to the current value of the whole portfolio).

## Carbon Apportioned by Scope



	Fund	Benchmark
Scope 1	3,325	151,314
Scope 2	29,431	35,062

Source: S&P Trucost Limited © Trucost 2022, as at 31 December 2021. Calculated in TCO2E. The lower the score the lower the emissions. Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Protocol methodology.

This represents the absolute quantity of portfolio or benchmark emissions attributed from their underlying constituents on an ownership basis, as at the analysis date, based on the defined GHG methodology. Absolute carbon emissions are apportioned from a company to a portfolio based on equity ownership (market capitalisation) or share of financing (enterprise value). Scope 1 emissions are from directly emitting sources that are owned or controlled by a company. Scope 2 emissions are from the consumption of purchased electricity, steam, or other sources of energy generated upstream from a company's direct operations. Reference: GHG Protocol.

\*The decision to invest in the promoted fund should take into account all the characteristics or objectives of the promoted fund as described in its prospectus.

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