



**Investment Objective**

The objective of the Fairtree Invest Strategic Factor Prescient Fund is to provide maximum long-term capital growth. To pursue its objective, the fund invests in a diversified blend of worldwide assets and strategies. The portfolio is constructed in a diversified manner and aims to provide competitive after inflation annualized returns measured in rand over a 5 year period.

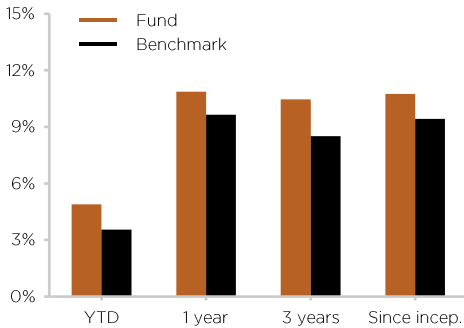
**Investment Policy**

The fund will aim to deliver moderate to high growth above inflation over time. The fund will invest in a diversified mix of worldwide assets including, but not limited to, equities, bonds, property, preference shares, money markets and other instruments, including listed and unlisted financial instruments as determined by legislation from time to time. The fund will apply a strategic multi factor approach across these multiple asset classes and may include key factors such as: Active Stock Selection (Equities), Quality (Equity), Momentum (Equity), Value (Equity), Investment (Equity), Volatility (Equity), Foreign Credit, Global Property and Local Bonds. The fund may include and utilize passive style systemic solutions. The systematic multi factor approach entails efficient transformation of information into investment decisions, based on a well researched, transparent and consistent set of theoretically and empirically verified factors that constitute a stock's intrinsic characteristics such as quality, value, momentum, investment and volatility. The portfolio has a long term focus and invests predominately in domestic securities. The fund may invest a maximum net foreign exposure of 45% (excl. South Africa).

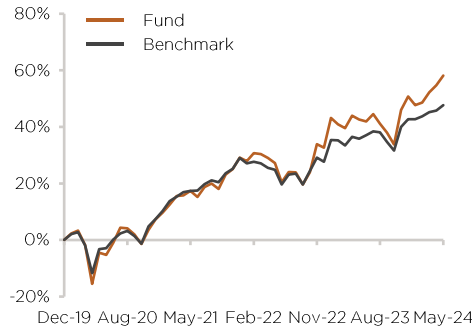
**RISK INDICATOR**



**ANNUALISED PERFORMANCE (%)**



**CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE**



**ANNUALISED PERFORMANCE (%)**

	Fund	Benchmark
1 year	<b>10.86</b>	9.65
3 years	<b>10.46</b>	8.51
Since incep.	<b>10.74</b>	9.42
Highest rolling 1 year	<b>36.72</b>	30.65
Lowest rolling 1 year	<b>0.69</b>	-0.17

All performance figures are net of fees.

**RISK AND FUND STATS**

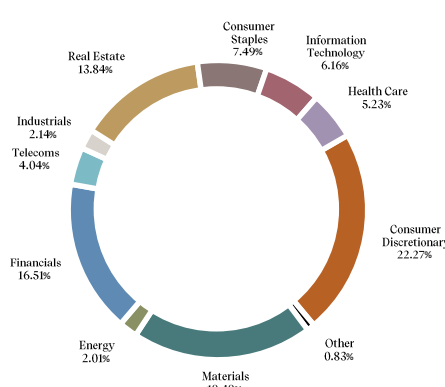
Since inception (p.a.)	Fund	Benchmark
Alpha	<b>1.32%</b>	
Sharpe Ratio	<b>0.38</b>	0.36
Sortino Ratio	<b>0.63</b>	
Information Ratio	<b>0.37</b>	
Standard Deviation	<b>13.91%</b>	10.30%
Max Drawdown	<b>-18.23%</b>	-14.12%
Max Gain	<b>13.04%</b>	9.60%
% Positive Months	<b>55.56%</b>	64.81%

Benchmark risk statistics for funds with intra-month inceptions dates are calculated using the monthly return series.

**ASSET ALLOCATION (%)**

	S.A	Foreign	Total
Cash	3.52	1.97	<b>5.49</b>
Bonds	4.74	6.70	<b>11.44</b>
Equity	45.11	26.81	<b>71.91</b>
Property	1.24	9.79	<b>11.02</b>
Other	0.00	0.14	<b>0.14</b>
Total	54.60	45.40	<b>100.00</b>

**EQUITY SECTOR EXPOSURE**



**FUND INFORMATION**

**Fund Manager:**

Fairtree Asset Management (Pty) Ltd

**Fund Classification:**

South African - Multi Asset - High Equity

**Benchmark:**

South African - Multi Asset - High Equity Category Average

**JSE Code:**

FISPA1

**ISIN Number:**

ZAE000281846

**Regulation 28 Compliant:**

Yes

**Fund Size:**

R251.9 m

**No of Units:**

174,238,976

**Unit Price:**

144.57

**Inception Date:**

December 2019

**Minimum Investment:**

R50 000 lump-sum  
R1 000 per month

**Initial Fee:**

0.00%

**Annual Management Fee:**

0.75% (excl. VAT)

**Performance Fee:**

N/A

**Fee Class:**

A1

**Fee Breakdown:**

Management Fee	0.75%
Performance Fees	N/A
Other Fees*	0.29%

**Total Expense Ratio**

1.04%

**Transaction Costs**

0.24%

**Total Investment Charge**

1.28%

\*Other fees includes underlying fee (where applicable): Audit Fees, Custody Fees, Trustee Fees and VAT

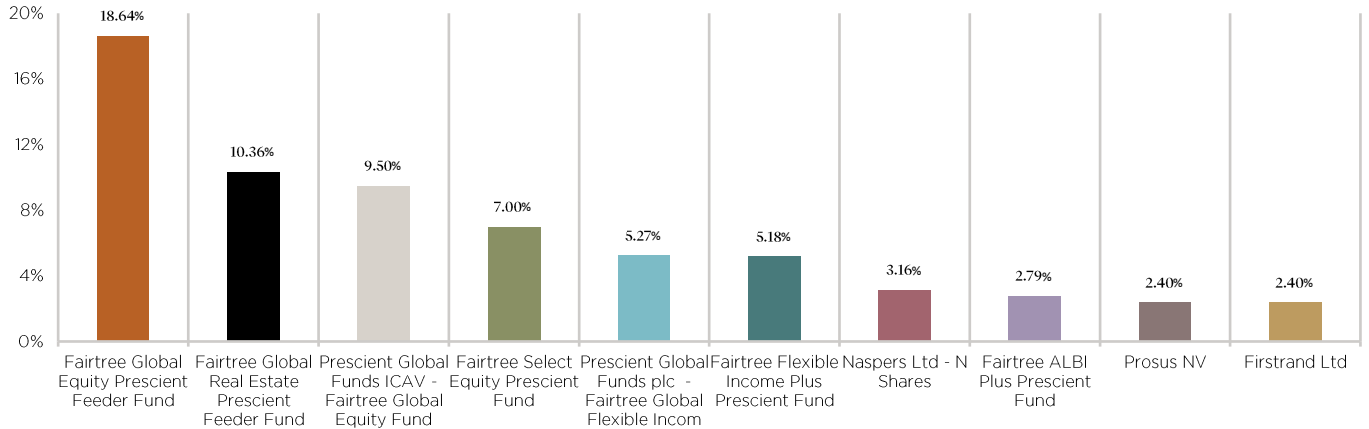
\*TIC Fees are calculated in respect of 12 months ending before 31 March 2024

**Income Distribution:**

31 March 2024 - 2.73 cpu



TOP 10 HOLDINGS



FUND MONTHLY RETURNS

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	YTD
2019												2.32%	2.32%
2020	1.00%	-4.95%	-13.97%	13.04%	-0.83%	4.59%	5.31%	-0.20%	-2.05%	-3.30%	5.04%	3.61%	4.91%
2021	2.13%	2.63%	2.68%	0.27%	1.30%	-1.84%	3.09%	1.04%	-1.61%	4.30%	1.57%	3.22%	20.26%
2022	-0.89%	2.14%	-0.26%	-1.04%	-1.41%	-5.27%	2.99%	-0.08%	-3.48%	3.63%	7.99%	-0.94%	2.74%
2023	7.96%	-1.60%	-0.94%	3.17%	-0.92%	-0.49%	1.82%	-2.33%	-2.29%	-3.06%	9.19%	3.26%	13.68%
2024	-2.01%	0.59%	2.46%	1.63%	2.21%								4.90%

MARKET COMMENTARY

In the realm of global investing, the adage “sell in May and go away” proved misguided last month, as global stock markets surged once again. Global equities rose approximately 4.5%, marking a near 10% increase year-to-date. This rally was spearheaded by US equities, which have climbed 11% year-to-date, and buoyed by a recent upturn in Chinese stocks, which have risen nearly 9% over the past two months.

The bullish momentum persists, driven by indications that the US economy may experience a very soft or even no landing. Economic data has softened slightly, and inflation rates have moderated, following a few sticky prints earlier in the year. The Federal Reserve has signalled potential rate cuts later this year, though it remains cautious as growth remains robust.

US Treasury yields fell by around 20 basis points over the month. While the first US rate cut is anticipated in September, several other major central banks—including those in Canada, Sweden, Switzerland, and the European Central Bank—have already commenced rate reductions. We predict a more substantial slowdown in the US economy and labour market later this year, whereas Europe and China may continue to show signs of recovery. This dynamic is likely to exert downward pressure on the US dollar, potentially benefiting emerging markets.

Domestically, asset volatility has been pronounced, influenced by election-related news. The ruling ANC party faced a significant setback, securing only 40% of the vote, necessitating efforts to form a functional government. The trajectory of stability, policy certainty, and the reform agenda over the next few years will largely depend on these developments. South African assets, currently trading at low valuations, are poised for a potential upswing, given positive catalysts. We remain optimistic that the worst of the electricity load shedding is over and that the South African Reserve Bank (SARB) may be able to reduce rates later this year.

Commodity prices have shown mixed performance. Copper and gold both extended their rallies for a third consecutive month, while oil prices declined due to projections of increased OPEC+ supply over the next 18 months. Platinum also saw gains, catching up with gold's recent rise.

**Equities:** US financial conditions remain tight, with increasing signs that growth may be slowing. Corporates are finding it harder to pass on higher prices to consumers, adding pressure to profit margins. Valuations and earnings expectations remain elevated. Outside the US, valuations seem fairer with emerging markets trading at attractive valuations. We prefer South Africa and emerging market equities with better valuations, less exposure to inflation risks, more exposure to a China recovery, and the potential for policy easing. We favour exposure to global defensive sectors and securities. We like resources and non-resource rand hedge exposures. We see value in local stocks with potential positive catalysts on the horizon.

**Fixed income:** Local bond yields are attractive. Local core inflation remains contained but upside risks are high. Headline inflation has peaked, and we expect the SARB to cut rates later this year. The sovereign credit premium remains elevated. Global developed market bonds remain attractive given the outlook for softer growth.

**Currency:** We expect the US dollar upside to be limited and should see a weakening bias over coming quarters given its over-valuation status, weak twin deficit fundamentals and expected rate cuts by the Fed.



## Glossary

**Annualised Performance:** Annualised performance shows longer term performance rescaled to a 1 year period. Annualised performance is the average return per year over the period. Actual annual figures are available to the investor on request.

**Highest & Lowest Performance:** The highest and lowest performance for any 1 year over the period since inception have been shown.

**NAV:** The net asset value represents the assets of a Fund less its liabilities.

**Current Yield:** Annual income (interest or dividends) divided by the current price of the security.

**Alpha:** Denotes the outperformance of the fund over the benchmark.

**Sharpe Ratio:** The Sharpe ratio is used to indicate the excess return the portfolio delivers over the risk free rate per unit of risk adopted by the fund.

**Sortino Ratio:** A measure of the risk-adjusted return of a portfolio. It is a modification of the Sharpe ratio but only penalises the returns falling below a user specified target, or required rate of return, while the Sharpe ratio penalises both upside and downside volatility equally.

**Standard Deviation:** The deviation of the return stream relative to its own average.

**Max Drawdown:** The maximum peak to trough loss suffered by the Fund since inception.

**Max Gain:** Largest increase in any single month.

**% Positive Month:** The percentage of months since inception where the Fund has delivered positive return.

**High Water Mark:** The highest level of performance achieved over a specified period.

**Total Expense Ratio (TER%):** The Total Expense Ratio (TER) is the percentage of the net asset value of the class of the Financial Product incurred as expenses relating to the administration of the Financial Product.

**Performance fee incl. in TER (%) PF (%):** The Performance Fee is a payment made to the Fund Manager for generating positive returns and is generally calculated as percentage of investment profits, often both realized and unrealized.

**Transaction Costs (TC%):** The Transaction Costs (TC) is the percentage of the net asset value of the Financial Product incurred as costs relating to the buying and selling of the assets underlying the Financial Product.

**Total Investment Charges TIC (%) = TER (%) + TC (%):** The Total Investment Charges (TIC), the TER + the TC, is the percentage of the net asset value of the class of the Financial Product incurred as costs relating to the investment of the Financial Product. It should be noted that a TIC is the sum of two calculated ratios (TER+TC).

## Specific Risk

**Default Risk:** The risk that the issuers of fixed income instruments may not be able to meet interest payments nor repay the money they have borrowed. The issuers credit quality is vital. The worse the credit quality, the greater the risk of default and therefore investment loss.

**Derivatives Risk:** The use of derivatives could increase overall risk by magnifying the effect of both gains and losses in a Fund. As such, large changes in value and potentially large financial losses could result.

**Developing Market (excluding SA) Risk:** Some of the countries invested in may have less developed legal, political, economic and/or other systems. These markets carry a higher risk of financial loss than those in countries generally regarded as being more developed.

**Foreign Investment Risk:** Foreign securities investments may be subject to risks pertaining to overseas jurisdictions and markets, including (but not limited to) local liquidity, macroeconomic, political, tax, settlement risks and currency fluctuations.

**Interest Rate Risk:** The value of fixed income investments (e.g. bonds) tends to be inversely related to interest and inflation rates. Hence their value decreases when interest rates and/or inflation rises.

**% Property Risk:** Investments in real estate securities can carry the same risks as investing directly in real estate itself. Real estate prices move in response to a variety of factors, including local, regional and national economic and political conditions, interest rates and tax considerations.

**Currency Exchange Risk:** Changes in the relative values of individual currencies may adversely affect the value of investments and any related income.

**Geographic / Sector Risk:** For investments primarily concentrated in specific countries, geographical regions and/or industry sectors, their resulting value may decrease whilst portfolios more broadly invested might grow.

**Derivative Counterparty Risk:** A counterparty to a derivative transaction may experience a breakdown in meeting its obligations thereby leading to financial loss.

**Liquidity Risk:** If there are insufficient buyers or sellers of particular investments, the result may lead to delays in trading and being able to make settlements, and/or large fluctuations in value. This may lead to larger financial losses than expected.

**Equity Investment Risk:** Value of equities (e.g. shares) and equity-related investments may vary according to company profits and future prospects as well as general market factors. In the event of a company default (e.g. bankruptcy), the owners of their equity rank last in terms of any financial payment from that company.

## Disclosure

The portfolio has adhered to its object and there were no material changes to the composition of the portfolio during the quarter.

## Risk Indicator Definition

The fund is suitable for investors looking for moderate to high capital growth in excess of inflation with moderate to aggressive risk appetite. It suits investors with an investment horizon of more than 7 years and who prefer to have the asset allocation decision made for them. The fund complies with Regulation 28 and is therefore suitable for retirement savings.

## Disclaimer

Collective Investment Schemes in Securities (CIS) should be considered as medium to long term investments. The value may go up as well as down and past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. CIS's are traded at the ruling price and can engage in scrip lending and borrowing. The collective investment scheme may borrow up to 10% of the market value of the portfolio to bridge insufficient liquidity. A schedule of fees, charges and maximum commissions is available on request from the Manager. There is no guarantee in respect of capital or returns in a portfolio. A CIS may be closed to new investors in order for it to be managed more efficiently in accordance with its mandate.

CIS prices are calculated on a net asset basis, which is the total value of all the assets in the portfolio including any income accruals and less any permissible deductions (brokerage, STT, VAT, auditor's fees, bank charges, trustee and custodian fees and the annual management fee) from the portfolio divided by the number of participatory interests (units) in issue. Forward pricing is used. The Fund's Total Expense Ratio (TER) reflects the percentage of the average Net Asset Value (NAV) of the portfolio that was incurred as charges, levies and fees related to the management of the portfolio. A higher TER does not necessarily imply a poor return, nor does a low TER imply a good return. The current TER cannot be regarded as an indication of future TER's. During the phase in period TER's do not include information gathered over a full year. Transaction Costs (TC) is the percentage of the value of the Fund incurred as costs relating to the buying and selling of the Fund's underlying assets. Transaction costs are a necessary cost in administering the Fund and impacts Fund returns. It should not be considered in isolation as returns may be impacted by many other factors over time including market returns, the type of Fund, investment decisions of the investment manager and the TER.

The Manager retains full legal responsibility for any third party named portfolio. Where foreign securities are included in a portfolio there may be potential constraints on liquidity and the repatriation of funds, macro economic risks, political risks, foreign exchange risks, tax risks, settlement risks; and potential limitations on the availability of market information. The investor acknowledges the inherent risk associated with the selected investments and that there are no guarantees. Please note that all documents, notifications of deposit, investment, redemption and switch applications must be received by Prescient by or before 13:00 (SA), to be transacted at the net asset value price for that day. Where all required documentation is not received before the stated cut off time Prescient shall not be obliged to transact at the net asset value price as agreed to. Funds are priced at either 3pm or 5pm depending on the nature of the Fund. Prices are published daily and are available on the Prescient website.

This portfolio operates as a white label fund under the Prescient Unit Trust Scheme, which is governed by the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act.

Performance has been calculated using net NAV to NAV numbers with income reinvested. The performance for each period shown reflects the return for investors who have been fully invested for that period. Individual investor performance may differ as a result of initial fees, the actual investment date, the date of reinvestments and dividend withholding tax. Full performance calculations are available from the manager on request.

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**Trustee:** Nedbank Investor Services, **Physical address:** 2nd Floor, 16 Constantia Boulevard, Constantia Kloof, Roodepoort, 1709 **Telephone number:** +27 11 534 6557 **Website:** www.nedbank.co.za

The Management Company and Trustee are registered and approved under the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act (No.45 of 2002). Prescient is a member of the Association for Savings and Investments SA.

**Investment Manager:** Fairtree Asset Management (Pty) Ltd, **Registration number:** 2004/033269/07 is an authorised Financial Services Provider (25917) under the Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services Act (No.37 of 2002), to act in the capacity as investment manager. This information is not advice, as defined in the Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services Act (No.37 of 2002). Please be advised that there may be representatives acting under supervision. **Physical address:** Willowbridge Place, Cnr. Carl Cronje and Old Oak Road, Bellville, 7530 **Postal address:** PO Box 4124, Tygervalley, 7536 **Telephone number:** +27 86 176 0760 **Website:** [www.fairtree.com](http://www.fairtree.com)