Guinness Greater China

Investment Commentary – February 2026

RISK

This is a marketing communication. Please refer to the prospectus, supplement, KID and KIID for the Fund (available on our website), which contain detailed information on its characteristics and objectives and complete information on the risks, before making any final investment decisions.

The Fund is an equity fund. Investors should be willing and able to assume the risks of equity investing. The value of an investment can fall as well as rise as a result of market and currency movements, and you may not get back the amount originally invested.

Past performance does not predict future returns.

ABOUT THE STRATEGY

Launch	15.12.2015
Index	MSCI Golden Dragon
Sector	IA China & Greater China
Managers	Sharukh Malik CFA Edmund Harriss
EU Domiciled	Guinness Greater China Fund

OBJECTIVE

The Guinness Greater China Fund is designed to provide investors with exposure to economic expansion and demographic trends in China and Taiwan. The Fund is managed for capital growth and invests in profitable companies generating persistently high return on capital over the business cycle. The Fund is actively managed with the MSCI Golden Dragon used as a comparator benchmark only.

CONTENTS

COMMENTARY

In January, the Guinness Greater China Fund (Y class, GBP) rose by 2.5%, while the benchmark, the MSCI Golden Dragon Net Total Return Index (“MSCI Golden Dragon Index”) rose by 5.5%, and the MSCI China Net Total Return Index (“MSCI China Index”) rose by 2.6%. Therefore, the Fund underperformed the MSCI Golden Dragon Index by 3.0 percentage points (pp) and underperformed the MSCI China Index by 0.1pp. As we explain on page 4, we find it useful to consider the performance of the MSCI China Index as well as the MSCI Golden Dragon Index because of its smaller weighting to Taiwan.

Contributors to relative performance were stock selection in the Information Technology and Industrials sectors. Detractors were the underweight to the Materials and Energy sectors, as well as Alibaba. Further drags were stock selection in Consumer Discretionary and Consumer Staples.

Countries continue to improve relations with China as US policymaking becomes more unpredictable and insular. Korean President Lee Jae Myung, Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney and British Prime Minister Keir Starmer met Xi Jinping in China. Lee Jae Myung’s trip to China marked, in his words, a full-scale restoration of ties between the two countries. Numerous cooperation agreements were signed, and Korea maintained respect for the One China Policy.

China and Canada improved relations through a set of trade deals. China agreed to cut tariffs on Canadian rapeseed oil from 84% to 15% and to remove anti-discrimination tariffs on lobsters, crabs, and peas; these were imposed in 2024 following Canada’s tariffs on Chinese electric vehicles (EVs), steel, and aluminium. Canada has agreed to allow imports of up to 49,000 Chinese EVs, with tariffs reduced from 100% to 6%. By 2030, the volume cap will be gradually increased to 70,000 units, subject to a $25,000 per-car price cap. The two countries also announced enhanced cooperation in agriculture, energy, clean technology, finance, and investment. Finally, Canadian visitors to China will be allowed visa-free entry for short trips.

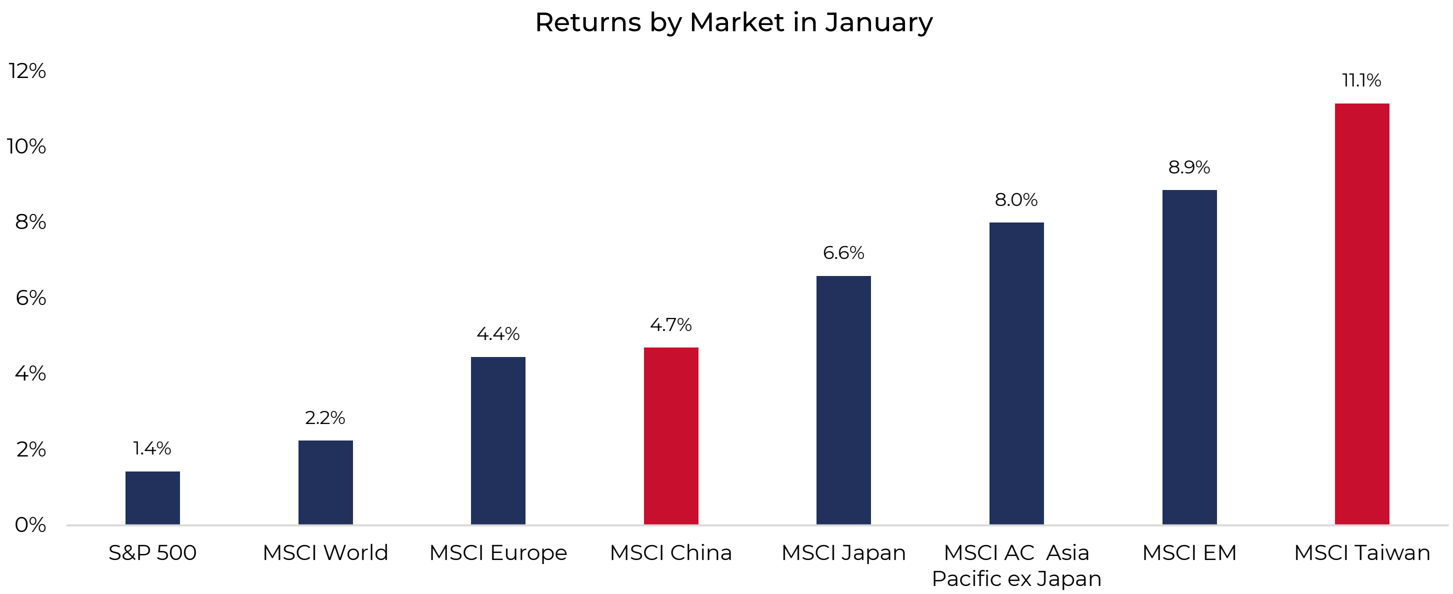
The UK announced £2.2bn in export deals with China following Keir Starmer's trip to Beijing, aimed at improving relations. Both countries agreed to explore regulatory cooperation mechanisms for financial firms, making it easier for British asset managers and insurers to access Chinese markets. British law firms are to be permitted to form joint ventures in the Shanghai Free Trade Zone. British visitors to China are to be granted visa-free travel for shorter trips. Separately, the approval of China's new embassy site in London is likely to lead to approval for the redevelopment of the UK's embassy in Beijing.

The People's Bank of China (PBOC) cut interest rates for relending and rediscount facilities by 0.25 percentage points. The quota for relending programs was increased by CNY 2.1 trillion ($300 billion), and the programme's scope was expanded to a wider range of sectors. The PBOC's communication hinted at further cuts to Required Reserve Ratios (RRR) and policy rates. Our view is that while these measures are likely to release liquidity, they do not address the core problem: demand for credit remains generally weak.

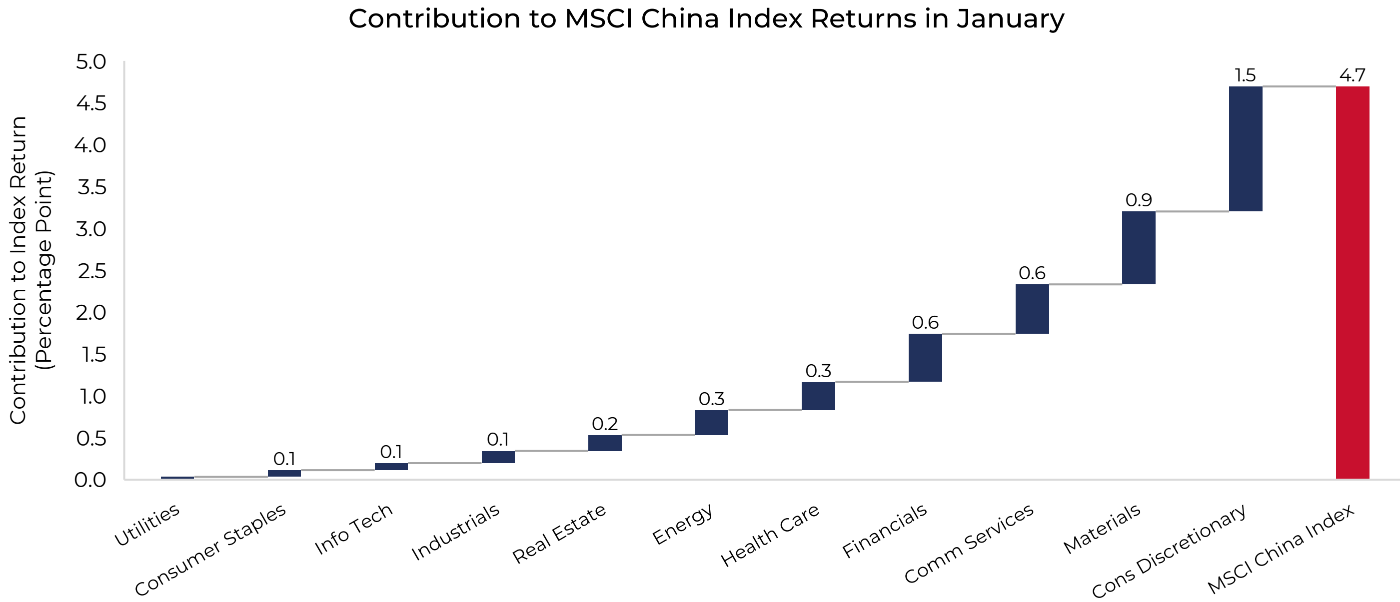
December data showed industrial production growth of 5.2%. Notable areas of growth were robots, chips, and EVs, while weaker areas were solar cells, smartphones, cement, and steel. Retail sales only grew by 0.9% as funds for the household trade-in programme were exhausted, and certain categories also faced a high base effect. In a sign that regulators may be wary of strong onshore equity markets, margin lending requirements were tightened for newly opened leveraged accounts.

MARKET RETURNS

(Performance data in the section in USD terms unless otherwise stated)



Source: Data from 31/12/25 to 31/01/26, returns in USD, source: Bloomberg, Guinness Global Investors calculations



Source: Data from 31/12/25 to 31/01/26, returns in USD, source: Bloomberg, Guinness Global Investors calculations

In January, the MSCI China Index rose by 4.7% and thus outperformed developed markets, which rose by 2.2%, as measured by the MSCI World Index. The largest contributors to China's increase were:

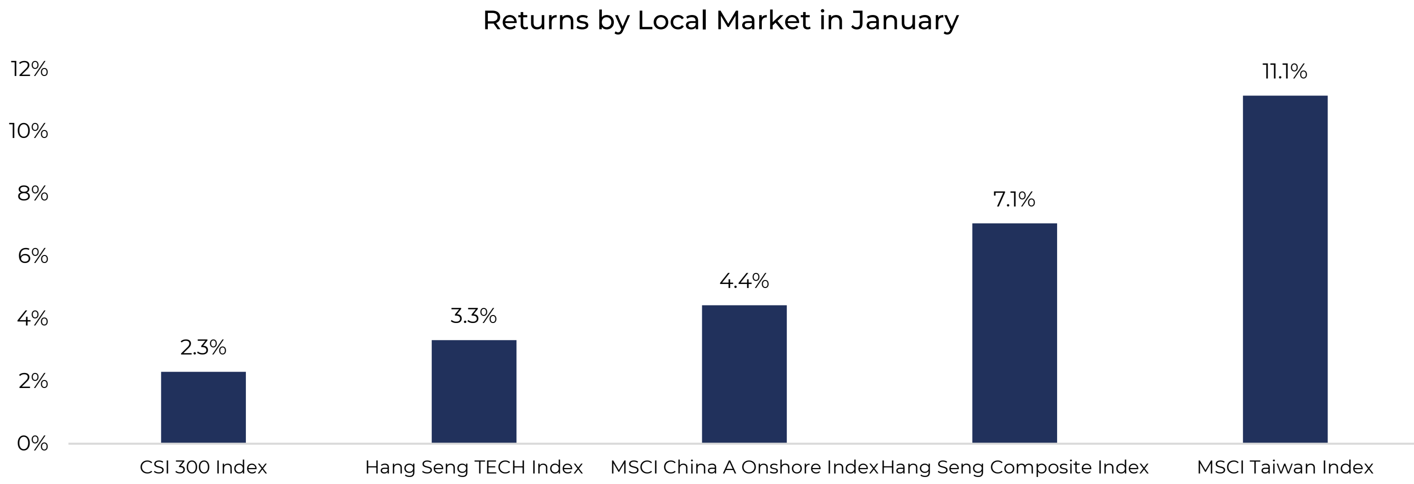
- Consumer Discretionary, led mostly by Alibaba. The company launched several new features on its AI Qwen app, strengthening integration across its ecosystem of services including Taobao (shopping), Amap (maps) and Alipay (payments).

- Materials, led by Zijin Mining Group, Zijin Gold, China Gold International and CMOC Group. The rally in gold, copper and aluminium prices led to strength for these names.

- Communication Services, led by Baidu, Kuaishou and Tencent, which were viewed as beneficiaries of rising AI demand.

- Financials, driven primarily by insurance and, to a lesser extent, banks. China Life and Ping An Insurance reported 70% new premium growth in the first half of January. With bank deposits offering lower rates, higher-yielding insurance products continue to attract consumer interest.

Meanwhile, the MSCI Taiwan Index rose by 11.1%. Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company, by far the largest stock in the index, plans to increase its capital expenditure by 30% in 2026 amid booming AI demand. Given the tight supply in the market and the company's strong pricing power in newer foundries, TSMC also lifted its long-term structural gross margin target. Mediatek and Delta Electronics were also contributors to the market's performance.



Source: Data from 31/12/25 to 31/01/26, returns in USD, source: Bloomberg, Guinness Global Investors calculations

In January, offshore markets outperformed: the Hang Seng Composite Index increased by 7.1% while the MSCI China A Onshore Market increased by 4.4%.

ATTRIBUTION

(Performance data in the section in USD terms unless otherwise stated)

In January, the Guinness Greater China Fund (Y class, USD) rose by 4.6%, while the benchmark, the MSCI Golden Dragon Index, rose by 7.7%, and the MSCI China Index rose by 4.7%. Therefore, the Fund underperformed the MSCI Golden Dragon Index by 3.1pp and underperformed the MSCI China Index by 0.1pp.

The MSCI Golden Dragon Index is a weighted average of the MSCI China, Taiwan and Hong Kong indexes. As of the end of January, Taiwan's weight in the MSCI Golden Dragon Index was c.41%. In the Fund, we hold two positions in Taiwan, which collectively have a neutral weight of c.6.6%. As Taiwan outperformed China in the month, the Fund's underweight to Taiwan was a detractor to relative performance against the benchmark. This primarily came from TSMC, the largest stock in the MSCI Golden Dragon Index, with a 24.2% weight. The Fund is managed on an equally weighted basis, so each position carries a neutral weight of 3.3%. As TSMC outperformed in the month, the structural underweight position cost the Fund in relative terms. We estimate this cost to have been 2.7pp against the MSCI Golden Dragon Index.

In January, relative to the MSCI China Index, areas which helped the Fund's performance were:

- Stock selection in Information Technology, led by Hangzhou First Applied, TSMC, Xiaomi (not held) and Elite Material.
- Stock selection in Industrials, led by Nari Technology, Haitian International and Sany Heavy Industry.

In January, areas which detracted from the Fund's relative performance were:

- Underweight to Materials and Energy, where the Fund has no exposure.
- Structural underweight to Alibaba. The Fund is managed on an equally weighted basis, so each position carries a neutral weight of 3.3%. As Alibaba outperformed in the month, the structural underweight position cost the Fund in relative terms. We estimate this cost to have been 1.3pp.
- Stock selection in Consumer Discretionary, driven by Geely and Pop Mart (not held).
- Stock selection in Consumer Staples, driven by Inner Mongolia Yili.

OUTLOOK

China's economy remains two-speed, with domestic consumption weak but manufacturing and exports strong. Looking ahead, we believe China is approaching a significant transition point. Towards the end of 2026, we expect the new pillar industries to become sufficiently large to offset the drag from real estate, supporting a meaningful and long-lasting improvement in economic growth. But until then, the economy is likely to need further support over the next 12 months. Therefore, it was encouraging to see the Central Economic Work Conference (CEWC), where China's leadership sets economic policy for the year, call for more proactive measures.

The Fund has a large overweight to Industrials, which contributed positively to performance since the fourth quarter of 2025. Our Industrials are benefiting from the AI infrastructure build-out, particularly given the much higher power demand. The Industrials we hold trade at significantly lower valuations than companies viewed as more direct beneficiaries of AI, such as chip component manufacturers.

Within the Fund, we highlight Hongfa Technology and Nari Technology as beneficiaries of the rising power demand. Hongfa is a leading manufacturer of relays, which use a small signal to safely open or close high-power circuits. The higher power demands for AI data centres are requiring a shift away from alternating current (AC) architecture towards 800V direct current (DC) architecture. Hongfa already has expertise in high-voltage relays as it is a leading supplier of these relays for EVs, holding more than 50% of the global market share. Energy storage solution (ESS) relays are likely to be a further contributor to growth.

Nari Technology is a manufacturer of power grid automation equipment. China's State Grid, Nari's controlling shareholder, plans to increase its fixed-asset investment by 40% under the 15th Five-Year Plan (2026-2030). This is likely to drive strong order growth for grid equipment manufacturers such as Nari.

The Fund is also overweight in Consumer Discretionary. While the domestic consumption environment is weak, we argue that this is already reflected in subdued valuations and conservative earnings expectations. For several of our holdings, our analysis suggests the market is assigning little value to expected future cash flows. Even incremental government stimulus for consumption could drive earnings upgrades and multiple expansion. This creates an attractive asymmetric return profile, especially compared with other areas of the market where strong growth expectations are already priced in.

Portfolio Managers

Sharukh Malik
Edmund Harriss

GUINNESS GREATER CHINA FUND - FUND FACTS

Fund size	$13.4m
Fund launch	15.12.2015
OCF	0.77%
Benchmark	MSCI Golden Dragon TR

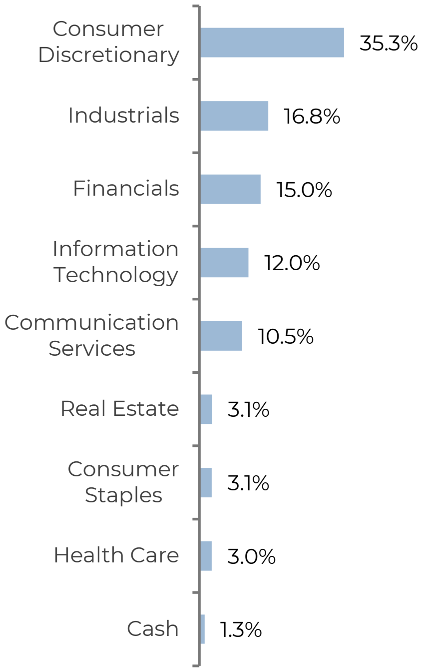
GUINNESS GREATER CHINA FUND - PORTFOLIO

Top 10 holdings

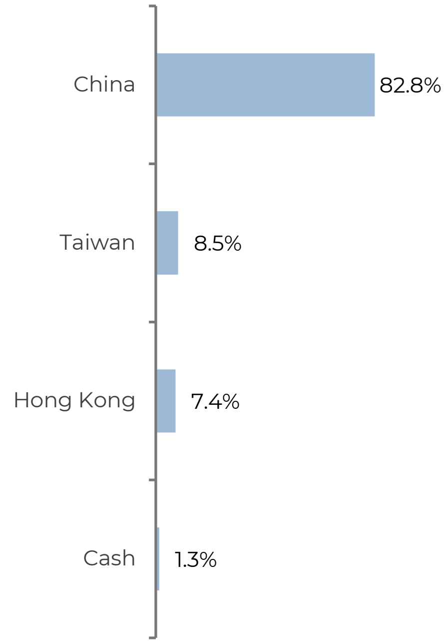
Ping An Insurance	4.3%
Elite Material	4.3%
Taiwan Semiconductor	4.2%
Alibaba Group	4.1%
AIA Group Ltd	4.0%
NARI Technology	3.6%
Suofeiya Home Collection	3.6%
Hangzhou First Applied Materials	3.5%
Tencent Holdings	3.5%
HKEX	3.5%

Top 10 holdings	38.4%
Number of holdings	30

Sector



Country



Past performance does not predict future returns.

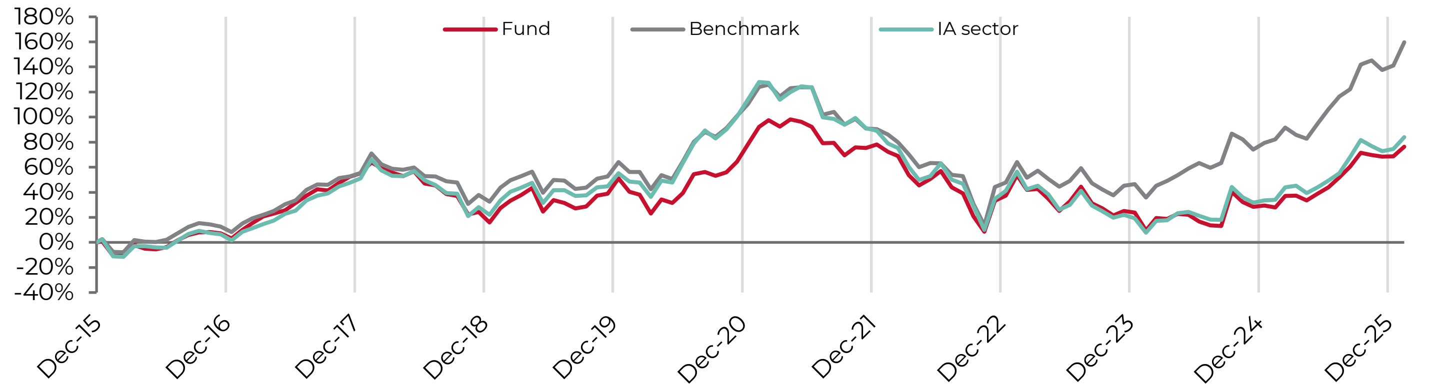
GUINNESS GREATER CHINA FUND - CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE

(GBP)	1 Month	YTD	1 yr	3 yr	5 yr	10 yr
Fund	+2.5%	+2.5%	+24.8%	+2.9%	-8.2%	+104.8%
MSCI Golden Dragon TR	+5.5%	+5.5%	+29.0%	+42.0%	+16.0%	+190.6%
IA China/Greater China TR	+3.4%	+3.4%	+24.8%	+5.7%	-19.2%	+114.4%
(USD)	**1 Month**	**YTD**	**1 yr**	**3 yr**	**5 yr**	**10 yr**
Fund	+4.6%	+4.6%	+37.8%	+14.7%	-8.3%	+97.7%
MSCI Golden Dragon TR	+7.7%	+7.7%	+42.5%	+58.3%	+15.9%	+181.1%
IA China/Greater China TR	+5.5%	+5.5%	+37.9%	+17.8%	-19.2%	+107.4%
(EUR)	**1 Month**	**YTD**	**1 yr**	**3 yr**	**5 yr**	**10 yr**
Fund	+3.2%	+3.2%	+20.4%	+4.7%	-6.3%	+80.2%
MSCI Golden Dragon TR	+6.3%	+6.3%	+24.5%	+44.5%	+18.4%	+155.7%
IA China/Greater China TR	+4.1%	+4.1%	+20.5%	+7.5%	-17.5%	+88.7%

GUINNESS GREATER CHINA FUND - ANNUAL PERFORMANCE

(GBP)	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Fund	+21.4%	+6.4%	-15.0%	-13.3%	+1.0%	+14.2%	+25.3%	-20.7%	+37.6%	+22.1%
MSCI Golden Dragon TR	+25.2%	+24.7%	-6.5%	-12.6%	-8.6%	+24.2%	+19.0%	-9.5%	+31.3%	+25.7%
IA China/Greater China TR	+21.9%	+13.8%	-20.2%	-16.0%	-10.7%	+33.5%	+22.2%	-14.2%	+35.9%	+18.5%
(USD)	**2025**	**2024**	**2023**	**2022**	**2021**	**2020**	**2019**	**2018**	**2017**	**2016**
Fund	+30.4%	+4.5%	-9.9%	-23.0%	+0.1%	+17.9%	+30.4%	-25.3%	+50.4%	+2.3%
MSCI Golden Dragon TR	+34.4%	+22.5%	-0.9%	-22.3%	-9.5%	+28.2%	+23.8%	-14.8%	+43.8%	+5.4%
IA China/Greater China TR	+30.9%	+11.8%	-15.4%	-25.4%	-11.5%	+37.8%	+27.1%	-19.2%	+48.7%	-0.7%
(EUR)	**2025**	**2024**	**2023**	**2022**	**2021**	**2020**	**2019**	**2018**	**2017**	**2016**
Fund	+15.0%	+11.5%	-12.9%	-17.9%	+7.7%	+8.1%	+32.8%	-21.5%	+32.2%	+5.5%
MSCI Golden Dragon TR	+18.5%	+30.7%	-4.3%	-17.2%	-2.6%	+17.6%	+26.1%	-10.5%	+26.3%	+8.6%
IA China/Greater China TR	+15.4%	+19.2%	-18.3%	-20.5%	-4.8%	+26.4%	+29.4%	-15.1%	+30.6%	+2.3%

GUINNESS GREATER CHINA FUND - PERFORMANCE SINCE LAUNCH (USD)



Source: FE fundinfo net of fees to 31.01.26. Investors should note that fees and expenses are charged to the capital of the Fund. This reduces the return on your investment by an amount equivalent to the Ongoing Charges Figure (OCF). The current OCF is 0.77%. Returns for share classes with a different OCF will vary accordingly. Transaction costs also apply and are incurred when a fund buys or sells holdings. The performance returns do not reflect any initial charge; any such charge will also reduce the return.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Issued by Guinness Global Investors, a trading name of Guinness Asset Management Limited, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

This report is designed to inform you about Guinness Greater China Fund. It may provide information about the Fund's portfolio, including recent activity and performance. It contains facts relating to the equity markets and our own interpretation. Any investment decision should take account of the subjectivity of the comments contained in the report. OCFs for all share classes are available on www.guinnessgi.com.

This document is provided for information only and all the information contained in it is believed to be reliable but may be inaccurate or incomplete; any opinions stated are honestly held at the time of writing, but are not guaranteed. The contents of the document should not therefore be relied upon. It should not be taken as a recommendation to make an investment in the Fund or to buy or sell individual securities, nor does it constitute an offer for sale. If you decide to invest, you will be buying shares in the Fund and will not be investing directly in the underlying assets of the Fund.

Documentation
The documentation needed to make an investment, including the Prospectus, Supplement, the Key Investor Document (KID) / Key Investor Information Document (KIID) and the Application Form, is available in English from www.guinnessgi.com or free of charge from:-
• the Manager: Waystone Management Company (IE) Limited (Waystone IE) 2nd Floor 35 Shelbourne Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin D04 A4E0, Ireland: or ,
• the Promoter and Investment Manager: Guinness Asset Management Ltd, 18 Smith Square, London SW1P 3HZ.

Waystone IE is a company incorporated under the laws of Ireland having its registered office at 35 Shelbourne Rd, Ballsbridge, Dublin, D04 A4E0 Ireland, which is authorised by the Central Bank of Ireland, has appointed Guinness Asset Management Ltd as Investment Manager to this fund, and as Manager has the right to terminate the arrangements made for the marketing of funds in accordance with the UCITS Directive.

Investor Rights
A summary of investor rights in English, including collective redress mechanisms, is available here: https://www.waystone.com/waystone-policies/

Residency
In countries where the Fund is not registered for sale or in any other circumstances where its distribution is not authorised or is unlawful, the Fund should not be distributed to resident Retail Clients.
NOTE: THIS INVESTMENT IS NOT FOR SALE TO U.S. PERSONS.

Structure & regulation
The Fund is a sub-fund of Guinness Asset Management Funds PLC (the "Company"), an open-ended umbrella-type investment company, incorporated in Ireland and authorised and supervised by the Central Bank of Ireland, which operates under EU legislation. If you are in any doubt about the suitability of investing in this Fund, please consult your investment or other professional adviser.

Switzerland
This is an advertising document. The prospectus and KID for Switzerland, the articles of association, and the annual and semi-annual reports can be obtained free of charge from the representative in Switzerland, REYL & Cie S.A., Rue du Rhône 4, 1204 Geneva, Switzerland. The paying agent is Banque Cantonale de Genève, 17 Quai de l'Ile, 1204 Geneva, Switzerland.

Singapore
The Fund is not authorised or recognised by the Monetary Authority of Singapore ("MAS") and shares are not allowed to be offered to the retail public. The Fund is registered with the MAS as a Restricted Foreign Scheme. Shares of the Fund may only be offered to institutional and accredited investors (as defined in the Securities and Futures Act (Cap.289)) ('SFA') and this material is limited to the investors in those categories.

Telephone calls will be recorded and monitored.