

LF Ruffer Absolute Return Fund

Positive absolute returns with low volatility

During June the fund price declined by 1.9%. This compared with a rise of 0.2% in the FTSE All-Share Index, and a rise of 0.7% in the FTSE Govt All Stocks Index (all figures are total returns in sterling).

The June meeting of the US Federal Reserve was always going to be closely watched. With the US economy continuing to re-open, US employment levels recovering, and inflationary pressures rising, investors were on the lookout for any change from the Fed's hitherto very accommodative stance. Market action in response to the meeting confirmed investors' faith in the omnipotence and omniscience of central banks remains undimmed. The Fed's commentary fully acknowledged recent surging inflation prints, nascent wage growth and increasing bottlenecks. This prompted short-term bond yields to rise, confirming US interest rates might begin to rise slightly sooner than originally thought. The fact long bond yields actually fell after the meeting, suggests markets have totally bought the Fed view the present inflationary pressures will be merely transitory, and only the slightest tap of the brakes should be necessary to bring everything back under control.

These dynamics were undeniably unhelpful for the portfolio in the later part of June. The decline in long bond yields took the wind out of the sails of the portfolio's cyclical and financial equities. The rising US dollar, reflecting the slight change in interest rate expectations, hobbled gold, while the feeling all would be 'right on the inflation night' caused breakevens to fall.

We continue to believe growth expectations in the eurozone are underpriced, and less exuberant growth in the US can thus be compensated elsewhere. We are also sceptical of the view of inflation as transitory. Our reasons for this view have been well rehearsed on prior occasions, but recovering wage growth, eye-watering government spending the world over, fractured supply chains and the fact not all capacity will return post-pandemic are only a few. However we are not bullet-headed. We have always said the road to the inflationary end game would encompass many diversions, and have its bumpy moments when our views might look well offside. To protect against such discomforts, we have increased the portfolio's US dollar exposure on a tactical basis and trimmed the gold bullion position. If there is one indicator the reflation trade is intact it is that the US dollar should be declining. Thus as we watch the economic data in the coming months, a higher exposure to the US currency, even if only on a short-term basis, seems to us an entirely appropriate way of expressing our long-held aspiration to be approximately right rather than exactly wrong.

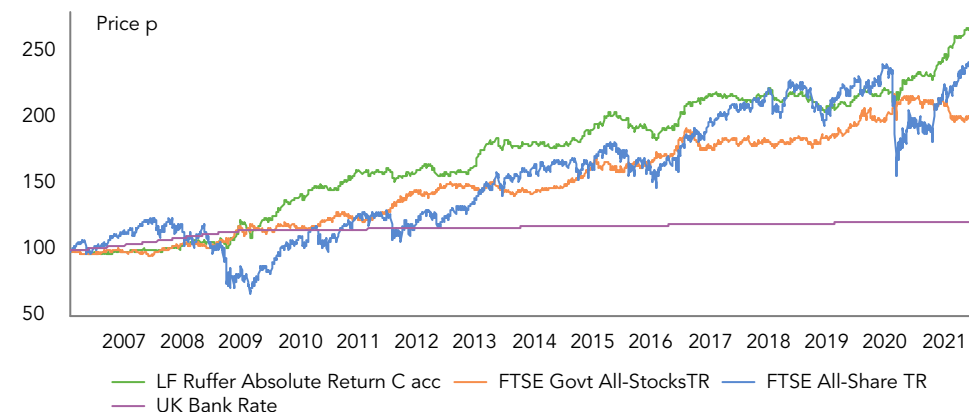
Ruffer performance is shown after deduction of all fees and management charges, and on the basis of income being reinvested. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. The value of the shares and the income from them can go down as well as up and you may not get back the full amount originally invested. The value of overseas investments will be influenced by the rate of exchange.



Investment objective

The fund aims to achieve low volatility and positive returns in all market conditions from an actively managed portfolio of equities or equity related securities (including convertibles), corporate and government bonds and currencies. Capital invested is at risk and there is no guarantee that a positive return will be delivered over any one or a number of twelve-month periods. The fund may also invest in collective investment schemes, cash, money market instruments and derivatives and forward transactions. Pervading this objective is a fundamental philosophy of capital preservation. In selecting investments the fund will adopt a stock picking approach and will not adopt any investment weightings by reference to any benchmark.

Performance since fund launch on 31 January 2006



C accumulation shares	Performance %	Share price as at 30 June 2021	p
June 2021	-1.9	O accumulation	251.03
Year to date	7.9	O income	189.41
1 year	13.8	C accumulation	262.53
3 years	20.5	C income	198.36
5 years	31.9		
10 years	63.4		

12 month performance to June %	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
LF Ruffer Absolute Return C acc	8.1	1.2	-1.6	7.7	13.8
FTSE Govt All-StocksTR	-0.9	1.9	4.9	11.2	-6.2
FTSE All-Share TR	18.1	9.0	0.6	-13.0	21.5
UK Bank Rate	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.6	0.1

Source: Ruffer LLP, FTSE International (FTSE) †

LF Ruffer Absolute Return Fund as at 30 Jun 2021

Asset allocation



Asset allocation %

Non-UK index-linked	15.6
Long-dated index-linked gilts	13.1
Short-dated bonds	11.0
Cash	8.2
Gold and gold equities	6.5
Illiquid strategies and options	5.3
Index-linked gilts	1.7
UK equities	16.7
Japan equities	7.2
North America equities	6.9
Europe equities	3.6
Asia ex-Japan equities	3.3
Other equities	1.0

Currency allocation



Sterling	79.1
US dollar	8.8
Gold	6.6
Yen	0.9
Other	4.6

Currency allocation

10 largest equity holdings*

Stock	% of fund
Lloyds Banking Group	3.0
NatWest Group	1.9
BP	1.6
Royal Dutch Shell	1.6
Centene	1.4
Cigna	1.3
Countryside Properties	1.3
Wheaton Precious Metals	1.2
Bristol-Myers Squibb	1.1
Barclays	1.0

5 largest bond holdings

Stock	% of fund
UK Treasury index-linked 0.125% 2068	5.5
UK Treasury index-linked 0.125% 2065	4.8
UK Treasury 0.125% 2023	4.8
UK Treasury 4.0% 2022	3.9
US Treasury 0.125% TIPS 2022	3.1

*Excludes holdings in pooled funds

Source: Ruffer LLP.

Pie chart totals may not equal 100 due to rounding.

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The fund data displayed is designed only to provide summary information and the report does not explain the risks involved in investing in the fund. Any decision to invest must be based solely on the information contained in the Prospectus, Key Investor Information Document and the latest report and accounts.

The fund's prospectus and key investor information documents are provided in English and available on request or from ruffer.co.uk. Please note that LF Ruffer Absolute Return Fund is a UK UCITS and is not registered for distribution in any country other than the UK. In line with the Prospectus, it is possible that at any one time the LF Ruffer Absolute Return Fund may invest more than 35% of its assets in transferable securities issued or guaranteed by an EEA state, one or more local authorities, a third country or a public international body to which one or more EEA States belong. The only aforementioned securities where Ruffer would currently consider holding more than 35% would be UK or US government issued transferable securities.

Fund size £5,243.8m

Fund information

%	O class	C class
Ongoing Charges Figure	1.52	1.22
Annual management charge	1.50	1.20
Maximum initial charge	7.5	7.5
Yield	0.78	0.78
Minimum investment	£1,000,000	
Ex dividend dates	15 Mar, 15 Sep	
Pay dates	15 May, 15 Nov	
Dealing	Weekly forward, every Wednesday where this is a business day Plus the last business day of the month	
Cut off	10am on Wednesday (where it is a business day) and the last business day of the month	

	O class	C class
ISIN	GB00B0XP1H53 (acc) GB00B0XP1869 (inc)	GB00B0XP2X86 (acc) GB00B0XP1T75 (inc)
SEDOL	B0XP1H5 (acc) B0XP186 (inc)	B0XP2X8 (acc) B0XP1T7 (inc)

Investment adviser	Ruffer LLP
ACD	Link Fund Solutions Limited
Depository	The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Limited
Auditors	Ernst & Young LLP
Structure	Sub-fund of Asperior Investment Funds (OEIC) UK domiciled UCITS Eligible for ISAs

Dealing line

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Fund Managers

Steve Russell

INVESTMENT DIRECTOR

Graduated from Oxford in PPE and started work as an equity analyst at Confederation Life in 1987, progressing to Head of Equities. In 1999 he moved to HSBC Investment Bank as Head of UK and European Equity Strategy, before joining Ruffer in 2003.



David Ballance

INVESTMENT DIRECTOR

Previously International Equities Head at Rothschild Private Management, he graduated from Oxford and was a Senior Investment Manager at Allied Dunbar, before moving to Threadneedle as Head of European Equities. He joined Ruffer in 2006.



Jos North

INVESTMENT DIRECTOR

Joined Ruffer in 2012, having graduated from Edinburgh University with an MA Honours in French and Spanish. He became a member of the Chartered Institute of Securities & Investment following completion of the CISI Diploma, receiving the highest mark in that year. He manages portfolios predominantly for institutional clients.



Ruffer LLP

Ruffer LLP manages investments on a discretionary basis for private clients, trusts, charities and pension funds. As at 31 May 2021, assets managed by the Ruffer Group exceeded £22.9bn.

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