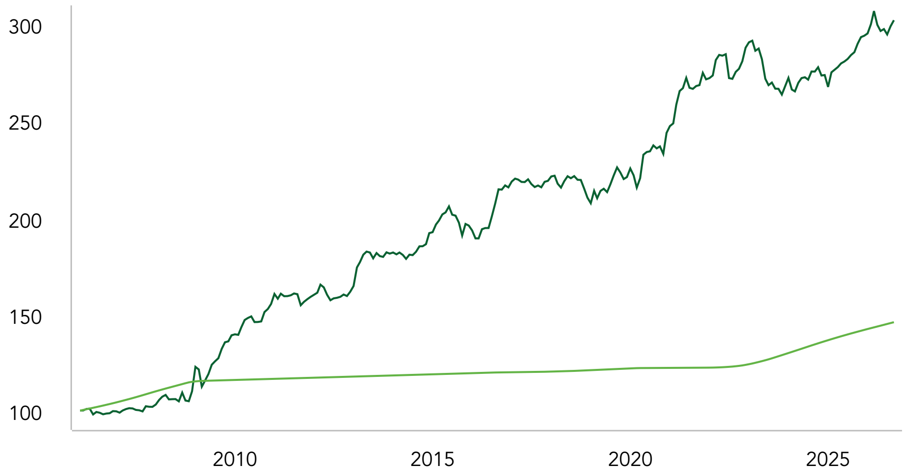
WS Ruffer Absolute Return Fund

SHARE PRICE PERFORMANCE SINCE LAUNCH ON 31 JANUARY 2006



The fund delivered positive performance in August, thanks to a strong balance between growth and protection assets. August can often be a volatile period for markets, due to lower liquidity and reduced trading volumes, but it proved relatively subdued this year.

One of the more dynamic areas of the market was gold, which regained momentum after its six-month decline from the January peak. The precious metal appreciated by nearly 10%, while gold-mining equities exhibited their usual high-beta response. As a result, our gold mining exposure was a key contributor to returns, with the reduced position size still capable of contributing almost 1% to performance in August. Elsewhere in commodities, the continued escalation between Russia and Ukraine supported further rises in agricultural commodity prices, providing another source of return for the portfolio.

Equity markets were resilient in the face of geopolitical risks. The earnings season was broadly supportive, and market leadership broadened during the month, demonstrating that equities can continue to reach new highs even as the most popular segments – particularly semiconductors and memory stocks – pause for breath. Notable contributors to performance included the allocation to the Japanese corporate reform theme and the software exposure, which continued to recover even as technology hardware names stabilised after July's sharp losses.

Bond yields completed a round trip over the month and were not a significant contributor to returns. Nevertheless, fixed income remained a major focus for investors as markets weighed the direction of US policy. The US Treasury unexpectedly announced an increase in bond buybacks, a potentially dovish development that likely signals the administration's discomfort with the level of government yields. At the same time, Federal Reserve (Fed) Chair Kevin Warsh adopted a hawkish tone in his first Jackson Hole speech, after the more ambiguous messaging from the Fed's July meeting. As markets digest these and other developments, the emerging consensus points towards a higher-for-longer interest rate environment, placing upward pressure on developed market bond yields.

Our exposure to government bonds remains low relative to historical levels, although we have begun to add selectively on an opportunistic basis. If one believes a key risk facing asset markets is that the AI capital expenditure boom eventually turns to bust, bonds may once again offer an attractive source of diversification in that scenario. The challenge lies in determining how long and painful the journey to that point may be for bondholders, and we do not feel compelled to jump in with both feet.

Finally, the principal detractors from performance were our protective derivative positions and foreign currency exposures outside sterling. The yen resumed its weakening trend despite bilateral intervention in late July. We note that the US Treasury has a strong track record in trading the yen. The market is taking on Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent, and time will tell if that proves courageous or foolish. We maintain a meaningful position in the Japanese currency alongside potent derivative protection to bolster the portfolio in a market shock. We view these instruments as an important source of true diversification, particularly should inflationary pressures re-emerge and a renewed sell-off in bonds lead to contagion across financial markets.

I CLASS AUGUST 2026

Performance I acc %	GBP
August	1.1
Year to date	2.3
1 year	5.8
3 years pa	4.2
5 years pa	2.4
10 years pa	3.5
Since inception pa	5.5

Share price, p		
I GBP acc		302.49
I GBP inc		208.76
Dividend yield		1.80
	Net	Gross
Duration (years)	2.9	2.9
Equity exposure %	30.9	33.5

I acc GBP	Volatility %	Sharpe	Sortino
3 years	4.2	-0.1	-0.1
5 years	5.0	-0.2	-0.3
10 years	5.4	0.3	0.4
Since inception	6.4	0.6	1.0

12 month performance to 30 June 2026

%	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
RARF I acc	1.9	-1.3	1.1	3.9	4.5
UK Bank Rate	0.4	3.2	5.2	4.7	3.9

One to 12 month performance figures are cumulative, all others annualised. Source: Ruffer LLP, Bloomberg. The comparator benchmark shown in this document is as stated in the fund's prospectus. I class performance data calculated prior to the inception date, 8 Aug 2012, is based upon a simulated/extended track record, using the track record of WS Ruffer Absolute Return Fund C acc. 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

To achieve positive returns in all market conditions over any 12 month period, after all costs and charges have been taken. Underlying this objective is a fundamental philosophy of capital preservation. Capital invested is at risk and there is no guarantee that a positive return will be delivered over any 12 month period.

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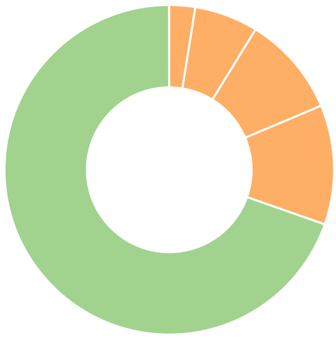
ASSET ALLOCATION

Inflation	%
Long-dated non-UK inflation-linked bonds	14.5
Short-dated non-UK inflation-linked bonds	4.9
Gold and precious metals exposure	4.0
Protection	
Short-dated nominal bonds	19.0
Long-dated nominal bonds	17.7
Cash	3.5
Credit and derivative strategies	0.6
Growth	
Consumer discretionary equities	7.9
Industrials equities	5.5
Financials equities	4.2
Energy equities	4.1
Other equities	11.8
Commodity exposure	2.2

CURRENCY ALLOCATION



Currency allocation	%
Sterling	69.6
US dollar	11.7
Yen	9.9
Other	6.2
Euro	2.6

Geographical equity allocation	
UK equities	10.8
North America equities	10.8
Europe equities	6.0
Asia ex-Japan equities	3.0
Japan equities	3.0

5 LARGEST EQUITY HOLDINGS

Stock	% of fund
BP	1.4
Microsoft	1.0
Amazon	0.7
Prosus	0.6
LVMH	0.6

The credit and derivatives strategies allocation is calculated using market value. In some cases, this allocation might be negative due to the nature of how the instruments, in particular credit default swaps, are priced. Largest equity holdings exclude Ruffer funds | Source: Ruffer LLP | Totals may not equal 100 due to rounding

RUFFER LLP

Ruffer LLP manages investments on a discretionary basis for private clients, trusts, charities and pension funds. As at 31 July 2026, assets managed by the Ruffer Group exceeded £18.0bn.

FUND SIZE £1,810.6M

FUND INFORMATION

Annual management charge %	1.0
Minimum investment (or equivalent in other currency)	£25m
Ongoing Charges Figure %	1.02
Cut offs	10am on Wednesday (where it is a business day) and the last business day of the month
Dealing frequency	Weekly forward, every Wednesday where this is a business day, plus the last business day of the month
Pay dates	15 May, 15 Nov
Record dates	15 Mar, 15 Sep
Investment adviser	Ruffer LLP
Depositary	The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Limited
Authorised Corporate Director	Waystone Management (UK) Limited
Auditors	Ernst & Young LLP
Structure	Sub-fund of Asperior Investment Funds (OEIC) UK domiciled UCITS Eligible for ISAs

Share class	ISIN	SEDOL
I GBP acc	GB00B81SXL02	B81SXL0
I GBP inc	GB00B83HRZ70	B83HRZ7

ENQUIRIES

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PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT TEAM

Ruffer has a single investment strategy and asset allocation. A team of portfolio managers are collectively responsible for implementing this strategy across all our core funds.

LEAD PORTFOLIO MANAGERS

WS RUFFER ABSOLUTE RETURN FUND

Matt Smith
Alexander Chartres

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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/rarf WS 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 at any one time the WS 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.