# Ruffer Total Return International

## Positive returns with low volatility

During February, the fund price rose by 4.0%. This compared with a rise of 2.0% in the FTSE All-Share index and a fall of 5.7% in the FTSE Govt All Stocks index (all figures total returns in sterling).

We always expected the journey to a post-covid world would be a bumpy ride, especially after the fireworks in stock markets last year, so we positioned the portfolio accordingly. With bond yields ending 2020 at extraordinarily low levels, it was only a matter of time before investors started to fret about a stronger than anticipated economic recovery in the coming months. February duly delivered the first of what may be several jolts to asset prices as bond yields rose sharply, gold sold off and equities fell back from all time highs touched in mid-February.

We have long been aware of the risk to portfolio performance from a rise in bond yields. Accordingly, we accumulated small, but powerful, holdings in interest rate options at bargain prices last year to protect against the damage exactly such a move could do to our long-dated inflation-linked bonds. These interest rate options rose sharply in February, ensuring we made a good return despite falls in gold and inflation-linked bonds. In technical terms, the interest rate options reduced the overall duration of the portfolio to close to zero, eliminating the downside risk from rising bond yields, despite the fact we continue to hold about 15% of the fund in the longest duration inflation-linked bonds available in both the UK and US. At the same time, we continue to avoid other hidden 'long duration' assets such as the US mega-cap growth stocks.

Freed from the drag of falling bond prices, the fund made a healthy gain in February thanks to strong rises in the recovery-biased equities in the portfolio. Previously 'out of favour' holdings such as UK banks (Lloyds, Natwest and Barclays) rose by around 20%, the oil majors gained approximately 10% and Japanese banks had a moment in the sun with rises of up to 15%. The small amount of exposure to cryptocurrency held via the Ruffer Illiquid Multi Strategies Fund also contributed positively.

Viewed from 10,000 feet, however, the big picture remains the same. Our conviction of an inflationary end to these events is unshaken, but at some point markets were going to test central bankers' resolve to keep interest rates nailed to the floor once economies showed signs of recovery. There may well be more such tests to come, hence the fund consists of essentially three 'legs'. First, inflation-linked bonds, gold and cryptocurrency protect against higher inflation and financial repression. In fact, we have used the recent sell-off to add to inflation-linked bonds. Secondly, unconventional protections such as interest rate options and credit protections enable us to keep to our course through the likely squalls. Finally, recovery-oriented equities profit from the reopening of economies around the world.

Over the last 12 months, this all-weather approach delivered a return of 22.4% with a low level of volatility while stock and bond markets fluctuated wildly, and we believe it remains well positioned for an uncertain future.

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.



I class February 2021 Issue 116

#### Investment objective

The investment objective of Ruffer Total Return International ('the fund') is to achieve positive returns with low volatility from an actively managed portfolio. The fund may have exposure to the following asset classes: cash, debt securities of any type (including government and corporate debt), equities and equity related securities and commodities (including precious metals). Pervading this objective is a fundamental philosophy of capital preservation.

### Performance since fund launch on 14 July 2011



13.2

16.8

10 1

I GBP capitalisation snares	Performance %
February 2021	4.0
Year to date	3.7
1 year	22.4
3 years	20.8
5 years	40.4

I GRP capitalisation share

# Share price as at 28 February 2021 I EUR capitalisation

0.2

13.1

1.8

14.5	1.2	-6.3	8.3	13.3
2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
I GBP	capitalisation			168.55
I AUD	capitalisation	124.42		
I SGD	capitalisation	141.13		
I CAD	capitalisation	141.19		
I USD	distribution	171.26		
I SEK	capitalisation	158.24		
I GBP	distribution	164.32		
I USD	capitalisation	174.71		
I CHF	capitalisation	149.53		

-7.4

-9.5

6.8

19.2

69

155.98

12.5

-9.8

8.3

Source: Ruffer LLP, FTSE International (FTSE) †

12 month performance to December %

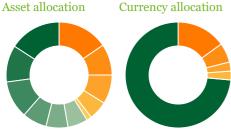
RTRI I cap £

RTRI I cap €

FTSE All-Share TR £

FTSE Govt All-Stocks TR £

### Ruffer Total Return International as at 28 Feb 2021



Asset allocation	%
Non-UK index-linked	15.9
Illiquid strategies and options	11.3
• Cash	11.3
<ul> <li>Long-dated index-linked gilts</li> </ul>	7.6
<ul> <li>Index-linked gilts</li> </ul>	6.6
<ul> <li>Gold and gold equities</li> </ul>	6.0
UK equities	15.4
North America equities	9.5
<ul> <li>Japan equities</li> </ul>	8.8
<ul> <li>Europe equities</li> </ul>	5.8
<ul> <li>Asia ex-Japan equities</li> </ul>	1.7
Currency allocation	%
Sterling	73.4
US dollar	15.0
• Gold	6.1
• Yen	2.5
• Euro	0.2
• Other	2.8

## 10 largest equity holdings\*

Stock	% of fund
iShares Physical Gold	2.5
Lloyds Banking Group	2.4
Barclays	1.9
NatWest Group	1.6
ВР	1.6
Charles Schwab	1.2
Royal Dutch Shell	1.2
Vinci	1.2
ВТ	1.1
Ambev SA	1.1

### 5 largest bond holdings

Stock	% of fund
UK Treasury index-linked 1.875% 2022	6.6
UK Treasury index-linked 0.125% 2068	4.5
US Treasury 0.625% TIPS 2021	3.1
US Treasury 0.875% TIPS 2029	2.8
UK Treasury index-linked 0.375% 2062	2.7
*Excludes holdings in pooled funds	

excludes holdings in pooled funds

Source: Ruffer LLP.

Pie chart totals may not equal 100 due to rounding.

The views expressed in this marketing communication are not intended as an offer or solicitation for the purchase or sale of any investment or financial instrument. The views reflect the views of Ruffer LLP at the date of this document and, whilst the opinions stated are honestly held, they are not guarantees and should not be relied upon and may be subject to change without notice.

The information contained in this document does not constitute investment advice and should not be used as the basis of any investment decision. References to specific securities are included for the purposes of illustration only and should not be construed as a recommendation to buy or sell these securities. Ruffer LLP has not considered the suitability of this fund against any specific investor's needs and/or risk tolerance. If you are in any doubt, please speak to your financial adviser.

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.

Please note that Ruffer SICAV is a Luxembourg UCITS and subject to Luxembourg law. Ruffer SICAV is authorised by and subject to the supervisory authority in Luxembourg, the CSSF, and is a scheme recognised by the UK's Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). Ruffer Total Return International (RTRI) is not registered for distribution in any country other than Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy (qualified investors only), Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Singapore (institutional and accredited investors only), Spain, Sweden, Switzerland (qualified investors only) and the UK. The fund's prospectus is provided in English and French; Key Investor Information Documents are provided in Dutch, English, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish and Swedish and are available on request or from ruffer.co.uk. Ruffer LLP is not able to market RTRI in other countries, except under certain exemptions. In line with the Prospectus, it is possible that at any one time Ruffer Total Return International 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 £2,564.2m

#### Fund information

				%
Ongoing (	Charges	Figure		0.95
Maximum manageme		(I class)		1.0
Maximum	subscri	ption fee	е	5.0
Minimum i (or equival			rency)	£25m
Record da	te		Third Monda	y of November
Ex dividen	d dates	Nex	t NAV following t	he record date
Payment				business days dividend date
Dealing		day	ery Wednesday (if , on the following first business day	business day)
Cut off		uation d	embourg time on lay (so typically Tu nate business day	uesday and the
ISIN and SEDOL	EUR CHF USD GBP SEK USD CAD SGD AUD GBP	I cap I cap I dis I cap I dis I cap I dis I cap I cap I cap I cap I cap	LU0638558394 LU0638558477 LU0638558550 LU0779209195 LU0923103534 LU0955560437 LU1296766634 LU1400661093 LU1534125882 LU0638558121	B4QLM86 B4L04N7 B8BHYH0 B94R6P6 BCDYZK7 BYSW6J6 BD2YGL3 BDRKVG6 B4WP6Q8
Structure		sub-tunc	d of Ruffer SICAV, domicile	a Luxembourg d UCITS SICAV
Manageme administra and transfe domiciliary	tive age er agen	ent, regi	strar	rtner Solutions (Europe) S.A.
Investmen	t mana	ger		Ruffer LLP
Depositary	bank		Pictet & Ci	e (Europe) S.A.
Α Ι'ι				. 0 \/

The base currency of the fund is GBP. Share classes denominated in other currencies are hedged to reduce the impact on your investment of movements in the exchange rate between the base currency of the fund (GBP) and the currency of the share class. † © FTSE 2021. 'FTSE®' is a trade mark of London Stock Exchange Group companies and is used by FTSE under licence. All rights in the FTSE Data vest in FTSE and/or its licensors. Neither FTSE nor its licensors accept any liability in relation to the FTSE Data data. No further distribution of FTSE Data is permitted without FTSE's express written consent.

Ernst & Young S.A.

Auditors

### **Fund Managers**

#### Jacques Hirsch

INVESTMENT DIRECTOR

Joined Ruffer in 2011, previous work included fund management and macro research at Goldman Sachs, GLG Partners and Fulcrum Asset Management. Graduated



from École Centrale Paris in 1999, and holds an MSc in Mathematics from Oxford University.

#### Alex Lennard

INVESTMENT DIRECTOR

Joined Ruffer in 2006 after graduating from Exeter University with an honours degree in economics and finance; he is a member of the Chartered Institute for Securities & Investment.



#### Ruffer LLP

Ruffer LLP manages investments on a discretionary basis for private clients, trusts, charities and pension funds. As at 31 January 2021, assets managed by the Ruffer Group exceeded £21.0bn.

#### **Enquiries**

Ruffer LLP +44 (0)20 7963 8254 80 Victoria Street rif@ruffer.co.uk London SW1E 5JL www.ruffer.co.uk

Notice for Investors in Switzerland: Ruffer SICAV has not been and will not be registered with the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority (FINMA). Any offering materials relating to Ruffer SICAV may be made available in Switzerland solely to Qualified Investors as defined in the Swiss Collective Investment Schemes Act of 23 June 2006, as amended, Ruffer SICAV's prospectus, KIIDs. articles of association and the annual and semi-annual reports are available free of charge at the office of the Swiss representative: FundPartner Solutions (Suisse) S.A., Route des Acacias 60 CH - 1211 Geneva 73. Ruffer SICAV's paying agent in Switzerland is Banque Pictet & Cie S.A. of the same address. Issued by Ruffer LLP, 80 Victoria Street, London SW1E 5JL. Ruffer LLP is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. © Ruffer LLP 2021