# PRODUCT KEY FACTS Barings Europe Select Trust



April 2024

# **Baring Fund Managers Limited**

- This statement provides you with key information about Barings Europe Select Trust (the "Trust").
- This statement is a part of the Prospectus.
- You should not invest in the Trust based on this statement alone.

QUICK FACTS				
Fund Manager	Baring Fund Managers Limited (the "Manager")			
Investment Manager	Baring Asset Management Limited (internal delegation, in the United Kingdom)			
Trustee	NatWest Trustee and Depositary Services Limited			
Ongoing charges over a year:	Distribution Unit Classes (Inc) Accu		mulation Unit Classes (Acc)	
	Class A GBP Inc: 1.56%# Class A EUR Inc: 1.56%# Class I GBP Inc: 0.81%# Class I EUR Inc: 0.81%#	Class Class Class Class	A EUR Acc: I EUR Acc: I USD Acc: A USD Acc: I CHF Hedged Acc: A CHF Hedged Acc:	1.56%# 0.81%# 0.81%^ 1.56%# 0.81%^ 1.56%^
	# The ongoing charges figure is based on the ongoing expenses chargeable to the respective unit class for the 12-month period ended 31 August 2023 expressed as a percentage of the average net asset value of the respective unit class for the same period and is based on the information in the latest annual financial statements. This figure may vary from year to year.			
	^ The ongoing charges figures for these unlaunched unit classes are estimates only and are based on the ongoing charges figures for a reference unit class which has a similar fee structure. The actual figures may be different upon actual operation of the unit classes and the figures may vary from year to year.			
Dealing frequency	Daily			
Base currency	GBP			
Dividend policy	Distribution Unit Classes (Inc): Dividend, if declared, will be paid. Accumulation Unit Classes (Acc): No dividend will be paid.			
Financial year end	31 August			
Min. investment:	Distribution Unit Classes (Inc)	Initial min. investment:	Subsequent min	. investment:
	Class A GBP Inc Class A EUR Inc Class I GBP Inc Class I EUR Inc	GBP1,000 EUR5,000 GBP10,000,000 EUR10,000,000	GBP500 EUR1,000 GBP500 EUR1,000	
	Accumulation Unit Classes (Ac	c)		

#### WHAT IS THIS PRODUCT?

Barings Europe Select Trust is constituted in the form of a unit trust. It is domiciled in the United Kingdom and its home regulator is the Financial Conduct Authority.

#### **OBJECTIVES AND INVESTMENT STRATEGY**

#### **Objectives**

To provide a total return, including both capital growth and dividend income (after fees have been deducted), in excess of the MSCI Europe ex UK Small Cap (Total Net Return) Index over a rolling five year period by investing in equity and equity related securities in Europe excluding the United Kingdom.\*

\* There is however no guarantee that this objective will be achieved over any time period. The Trust is not constrained by the benchmark and can make investments in securities that are not included in the benchmark.

#### Strategy

The Trust will seek to achieve its investment objective by investing at least 75% of its total assets directly and indirectly in equities and equity-related securities of smaller companies incorporated in, or exercising the predominant part of their economic activity in Europe excluding the United Kingdom or quoted or traded on the stock exchanges in Europe excluding the United Kingdom.

Smaller European companies can be defined as those companies which are constituents of the bottom 30% of total market capitalisation of Europe's listed companies (this excludes companies in the United Kingdom).

The Trust will invest at least 50% of the Trust's total assets in equities of companies that exhibit positive or improving environmental, social and governance (ESG) characteristics. Such companies are selected through the use of proprietary research supported with the use of third party data. This analysis is also an important driver behind the Investment Manager's policy of active company engagement in which the Investment Manager seeks to influence (or identify the need to influence) ESG practices and to improve disclosure.

The Trust may invest up to 25% of its total assets directly and indirectly in equities and equity-related securities outside of Europe (including in the United Kingdom), as well as in larger companies, and in fixed income and cash. Furthermore, it may also invest up to 50% of its total assets in equities and equity related securities of companies that exhibit less positive ESG characteristics.

In order to implement the investment policy the Trust may gain indirect exposure through American depositary receipts, global depositary receipts and other equity related securities including participation notes, structured notes, equity-linked notes and debt securities convertible into equities. The Trust may also obtain indirect exposure through investments in collective investment schemes (including collective investment schemes managed by the Manager or an associate of the Manager) and other transferable securities.

From time to time and in particular during periods of uncertain or volatile markets, the Manager may choose to hold a substantial proportion of the property of a Trust in money-market instruments and/or cash deposits.

The Trust adheres to the investment restrictions required to qualify as "equity fund" pursuant to section 2 paragraph 6 German Investment Tax Act (GITA) and continuously invests more than 50% of its net asset value in equity participations within the meaning of section 2 paragraph 8 GITA.

Subject to the above, the Trust may invest in any country and in securities issued by companies of any market size, of any industry or sector (as the case may be) in such proportions as the Investment Manager deems appropriate.

The Trust may also use derivatives including futures, options, swaps, warrants and forward contracts for efficient portfolio management (including hedging).

### **USE OF DERIVATIVES / INVESTMENT IN DERIVATIVES**

The Trust's net derivative exposure may be up to 50% of the Trust's Net Asset Value.

## WHAT ARE THE KEY RISKS?

Investment involves risks. Please refer to the Prospectus for details including the risk factors.

#### 1. Investment risk

• The Trust's investment portfolio may fall in value due to any of the key risk factors below and therefore your investment in the Trust may suffer losses. There is no guarantee of the repayment of principal.

#### 2. Risks of investment in equities

- The Trust's investment in equity securities is subject to general market risks, whose value may fluctuate due to various factors, such as changes in investment sentiment, political and economic conditions and issuer-specific factors. When the equity markets are extremely volatile the Trust's net asset value may fluctuate substantially.
- Securities exchanges typically have the right to suspend or limit trading in any instrument traded on that exchange. The governments or the regulators may also implement policies that may affect the financial markets. A suspension could render it impossible for the Investment Manager or an underlying fund manager to liquidate positions and thereby expose the Trust to losses and may have a negative impact on the Trust.

# 3. Risks of investment in equity-related securities

The Trust may invest in equity-related securities. These are usually issued by a broker, an investment bank or a company and are therefore subject to the risk of insolvency or default of the issuer. If there is no active market in these instruments, this may lead to liquidity risk. Further, investment in equity-linked securities may lead to dilution of performance of the Trust when compared to the other funds which invest directly in similar underlying assets due to fees embedded in the notes. The aforesaid circumstances may adversely affect the net asset value per unit of the Trust.

#### 4. Risks of investment in small-capitalisation/mid-capitalisation companies

The stock of small-capitalisation and mid-capitalisation companies may have lower liquidity and their prices are more volatile to adverse economic developments than those of larger capitalisation companies in general. Risks include economic risks, such as lack of product depth, limited geographical diversification, increased sensitivity to the business cycle and organisational risk, such as concentration of management and shareholders and key-person dependence. Shares in smaller companies can be more difficult to buy and sell, resulting in less flexibility, and sometimes higher costs, in implementing investment decisions.

#### 5. Risks associated with investment in emerging markets

- The Trust which invests in emerging markets may be subject to increased risks and special considerations not typically associated with investment in more developed markets, such as liquidity risks, currency risks/control, political and economic uncertainties, legal and taxation risks, settlement risks, custody risk and the likelihood of a high degree of volatility. Currency conversion and repatriation of investment income, capital and proceeds of sale by the Trust may be limited or require governmental consents. The Trust could be adversely affected by delays in, or refusal to grant, any such approval for the repatriation of funds or by any official intervention affecting the process of settlement of transactions. Stock exchanges and other such clearing infrastructure may lack liquidity and robust procedures and may be susceptible to interference.
- High market volatility and potential settlement difficulties in the markets may also result in significant fluctuations in the prices of the securities traded on such markets and thereby may adversely affect the value of the Trust.

# 6. Risks associated with investment in specific regions

- The Trust's investments may be concentrated in European markets. The value of the Trust may be more volatile than that of a fund having a more diverse portfolio of investments. The value of the Trust may be more susceptible to adverse economic, political, policy, foreign exchange, liquidity, tax, legal or regulatory event affecting a market in the European market.
- In light of ongoing concerns on the sovereign debt risk of certain countries within the Eurozone, the Trust's investments in the region may be subject to higher volatility, liquidity, currency and default risks. Any adverse events, such as credit downgrade of a sovereign or exit of EU members from the Eurozone, may have a negative impact on the value of the Trust.

## 7. Risks of ESG integration and promotion of ESG characteristics

- The Investment Manager integrates ESG information into the investment process. In addition to ESG integration, the Trust also promotes ESG factors or characteristics within their investment policies. The use of ESG information may affect the Trust's investment performance and, as such, may perform differently compared to similar collective investment schemes.
- The Investment Manager may use third-party resources that provide ESG information. In evaluating an investment, the Investment Manager is dependent upon such information and data, which may be incomplete, inaccurate or unavailable. There is no guarantee that such ESG information or the way in which it is implemented is fair, correct, accurate, reasonable or complete.
- Investor and societal sentiment towards ESG concepts and topics may change over time, which may affect the demand for ESG-based investments and may also affect their (and, in turn, the Trust's) performance.

#### 8. Liquidity risks

Liquidity risk exists when a particular security or instrument is difficult to purchase or sell. If the amount of a transaction is particularly large or if the relevant market is illiquid (as is the case with many privately negotiated derivatives, structured products, etc), it may not be possible to initiate a transaction or liquidate a position at an advantageous time or price.

## 9. Risks of investing in convertible bonds

Convertible bonds are a hybrid between debt and equity, permitting holders to convert into shares in the company issuing the bond at a specified future date. As such, convertibles will be exposed to equity movement and greater volatility than straight bond investments. Investments in convertible bonds are subject to the same interest rate risk, credit risk, liquidity risk and prepayment risk associated with comparable straight bond investments.

#### 10. Currency risks

• The underlying investments of the Trust may be denominated in currencies other than the base currency of the Trust. Also, a class of units of the Trust may be designated in a currency other than the base currency of the Trust. The net asset value of the Trust may be affected unfavourably by fluctuations in the exchange rates between these currencies and the base currency and by changes in exchange rate controls.

## 11. Risks associated with derivatives

• In adverse situations, the Trust's use of derivatives for hedging and/or efficient portfolio management may become ineffective and the Trust may suffer significant losses. Risks associated with financial derivative instruments include counterparty/credit risk, liquidity risk, valuation risk, volatility risk and over-the-counter transaction risk. The leverage element/component of a financial derivative instrument can result in a loss significantly greater than the amount invested in the financial derivative instrument by the Trust. Exposure to financial derivative instruments may lead to a high risk of significant loss by the Trust.

#### **HOW HAS THE TRUST PERFORMED?**



Source: Barings

- Past performance information is not indicative of future performance. Investors may not get back the full amount invested.
- The computation basis of the performance is based on the calendar year end, NAV-To-NAV, with dividend reinvested.
- These figures show by how much the Class A GBP Inc increased or decreased in value during the calendar year being shown. Performance data has been calculated in GBP, including taking into account charges and excluding subscription fee and redemption fee you might have to pay.
- Class A GBP Inc is selected as representative unit class as it is a unit class offered to the public in Hong Kong and is denominated in the Trust's base currency.
- \* The Trust formally adopted EMIX Smaller European Companies Ex UK (Total Gross Return) Index as the benchmark (performance comparator) with effect from 5 August 2019. With effect from 31

August 2020, the benchmark of the Trust is changed to EMIX Smaller European Companies Ex UK (Total Net Return) Index as it is considered that a benchmark which is net of tax from dividends is more suitable due to general tax reclamation arranagements and is considered to be more aligned with the industry standard and practice. With effect from 18 July 2022, the Trust is actively managed and targets outperformance of the benchmark over a rolling five year period. With effect from 31 July 2023, the target benchmark of the Trust is changed to the MSCI Europe ex UK Small Cap (Total Net Return) Index due to the discontinuance of the former target benchmark adopted by the Trust. The benchmark constituents are not required to exhibit positive/improving ESG characteristics.

- Since the benchmark has been adopted for less than a full calendar year in 2019, the past performance of the benchmark prior to and including 2019 is not provided.
- Trust launch date: 31 August 1984
- Class A GBP Inc launch date: 31 August 1984

#### IS THERE ANY GUARANTEE?

The Trust does not have any guarantees. You may not get back the full amount of money you invest.

## WHAT ARE THE FEES AND CHARGES?

#### Charges which may be payable by you

You may have to pay the following fees when dealing in the units of the Trust.

Fee	What you pay
Subscription fee (Preliminary charge)	Class A Units: Up to 5% of the Dealing Price Class I Units: Nil
Switching fee	Up to 3% commission payable to your agent on the purchase of the Trust
Redemption fee (Redemption charge)	Not applicable

# Ongoing fees payable by the Trust

The following expenses will be paid out of the Trust. They affect you because they reduce the return you get on your investments.

	Annual rate (as a % of the Trust's net asset value ("NAV")), unless otherwise specified	
Management fee	Class A Units: 1.50% of the Trust's NAV attributable to the Class* Class I Units: 0.75% of the Trust's NAV attributable to the Class*	
Trustee fee	The fee is calculated at the following rate:  NAV below £200 Million: 0.0175%**  NAV between £200 Million and £400 Million: 0.0150%**  NAV between £400 Million and £1,200 Million: 0.0100%**  NAV over £1,200 Million: 0.0050%**	
Performance fee	Not applicable	
Administration fee	Not applicable	
Custody charges The Trust pays custody charges to the Trustee	0.0035% to 1.0800%**, which vary from country to country depending on the markets.	
Transaction charges The Trust pays transaction charges to the Trustee	£8.5 to £110 per transaction**, which vary from country to country depending on the type of transaction involved.	

The fees may be increased up to a maximum level as specified in the Hong Kong offering documents by giving at least

60 days' prior notice to investors. Please refer to the Hong Kong offering documents for further details.

\*\* The fees and charges may be increased up to maximum level as specified in the Hong Kong offering documents by giving at least 1 month's prior notice to investors. Please refer to the Hong Kong offering documents for further details.

#### Other fees

You may have to pay other fees when dealing in the units of the Trust. The Trust will also bear the costs which are directly attributable to it, as set out in the Prospectus

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- You generally subscribe and redeem units at the Trust's next-determined NAV per unit attributable to the relevant unit class after your request is received in good order by Baring Asset Management (Asia) Limited, our Hong Kong Representative by 5 p.m. Hong Kong time on a Hong Kong Business Day¹ which is also a Dealing Day or 12 noon London time on any Dealing Day. Dealing Days are business days on which The London Stock Exchange is open for business (or such other day as the Manager may determine). Before placing your subscription or redemption orders, please check with your distributor for the distributor's internal dealing deadline (which may be earlier than the Trust's dealing deadline).
- The NAV of the Trust is calculated and the prices of unit of the relevant unit classes are published for each Dealing Day, and are available online at www.barings.com<sup>2</sup>.
- You may obtain the past performance information of other unit classes offered to Hong Kong investors from www.barings.com<sup>2</sup>.

#### **IMPORTANT**

If you are in doubt, you should seek professional advice.

The SFC takes no responsibility for the contents of this statement and makes no representation as to its accuracy or completeness.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "Hong Kong Business Day" means a day (other than a Saturday or Sunday) on which banks in Hong Kong are open for normal business, provided that where as a result of a number 8 typhoon signal, black rainstorm warning or other similar event, the period during which banks in Hong Kong are open on any day is reduced, such day shall not be a Hong Kong Business Day unless the Manager and the Trustee determine otherwise or such other day or days as the Manager and the Trustee may determine.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This website has not been reviewed by the SFC and it may contain information of funds which are not authorised by the SFC.