

## y Facts

#### SUMMARY OF APPROACH

Alliance Trust aims to be a core equity holding for investors that delivers a real return over the long term through a combination of capital growth and a rising dividend. The Company invests primarily in global equities across a wide range of industries and sectors to achieve its objective.

The Company's investment manager, Willis Towers Watson, has appointed a number of stock pickers with different

styles, who each ignore the benchmark and only buy a small number of stocks in which they have strong conviction. Investors therefore get the benefit of both highly focused stock picking to increase potential outperformance versus the benchmark and manager diversification to reduce risk and volatility. The Company's diversified but highly active multi-manager portfolio is competitively priced.

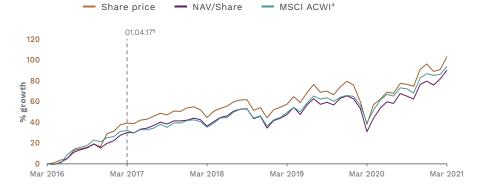
#### KEY STATISTICS

Net Asset Value (NAV) per Share

985.6p

(5.7%)

#### INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE ABSOLUTE PERFORMANCE (TOTAL RETURN IN STERLING)



#### **CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE (%)**

To 31 March 2021	5 Years	Since 01.04.17 <sup>5</sup>	3 Years	1 Year	YTD	Month
Total shareholder return	103.3	45.9	40.4	47.2	3.5	6.5
NAV total return	90.3	46.1	39.5	45.2	5.9	4.6
MSCI ACWI total return <sup>4</sup>	93.7	46.5	43.2	38.9	3.6	4.0

The NAV total return reflects the impact of owning investments other than global equities prior to 30 June 2019, which had a drag on the return. Between 1 April 2017 and 31 March 2021, the performance of the equity portfolio before fees (a good approximation of the NAV total return after costs had these legacy investments not been included), was 48.4% versus the return on the MSCI ACWI Index4 of 46.5%

#### DISCRETE PERFORMANCE (%)

From To	31-Mar-20 31-Mar-21	31-Mar-19 31-Mar-20	31-Mar-18 31-Mar-19	31-Mar-17 31-Mar-18	31-Mar-16 31-Mar-17
Total shareholder return	47.2	-12.3	8.8	3.9	39.3
NAV total return	45.2	-11.2	8.2	4.7	30.2
MSCI ACWI total return <sup>4</sup>	38.9	-6.7	10.5	2.3	32.2

For an explanation of how we measure performance, please refer to our website.

#### **Risk warnings**

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future returns. The value of shares and the income from them can rise and fall, so investors may not get back the amount originally invested. Net Asset Value ("NAV") performance is not the same as share price performance and investors may not realise returns in line with NAV performance. Exchange rate changes may cause the value of overseas investments to go down as well as up and can impact on both the level of income received and capital value of your investment. Investment trusts may borrow to finance further investment (gearing). The use of gearing is likely to lead to volatility in the NAV, meaning that a relatively small movement, down or up, in the value of an investment trust's assets will result in a magnified movement, in the same direction, of that NAV. This may mean that you could get back less than you invested or nothing at all.

# KEY FACTS 1,925,000 shares at a cost of £17.5M (0.61% of the issued share



#### CHARGES 0.65% Charges Ratio (OCR)<sup>6</sup> OR Less

0.64%

Notes: All data is provided as at 31 March 2021 unless otherwise stated. All figures may be subject to rounding errors. Sources: Investment Performance data is provided by The Bank of New York Mellon Performance & Risk Analytics Europe Limited, Morningstar and MSCI Inc; Key Statistics, Key Facts and Charges data is provided by The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Ltd. NAV and NAV total return is based on NAV including income with debt at fair value, after all manager fees (including Willis Towers Watson's fees) and allows for any tax reclaims when they are achieved. The NAV total return shown in factsheets up to May 2018 was based on NAV excluding income with debt valued at par

- 1. Total borrowings at par value divided by net assets.
- Foctsheet reissued to restate the net gearing level which was incorrectly reported with total borrowings calculated at fair value rather than calculated as stated as total borrowings at par value minus total cash and equivalents, divided by net assets with debt at par.
- 3. Annual dividend per share divided by share price.

- 4. MSCI All Country World Index Net Dividends Reinvested. 5.1 April 2017 was the date that Willis Towers Watson was appointed investment manager. 6. The OCR target of 0.65% is based on NAV reported as at 31 December 2017.
- 7. The OCR for year to 31 December 2020 was calculated in line with the industry standard using the average of net asset values at each NAV calculation date.

#### TOP 20 HOLDINGS

Name	£m	%
Alphabet	142.7	4.1
Microsoft	106.3	3.1
Amazon	95.2	2.7
Facebook	90.4	2.6
salesforce.com	67.3	1.9
Mastercard	63.9	1.8
Visa	62.7	1.8
Alibaba	60.5	1.7
UnitedHealth Group	57.3	1.7
Novo-Nordisk	53.4	1.5
Transdigm	46.2	1.3
Nvidia	42.8	1.2
KKR	40.9	1.2
Baidu - ADR	38.9	1.1
Vale	37.1	1.1
Convatec Group	36.0	1.0
Charter Communications	34.8	1.0
IHS Markit	34.1	1.0
AstraZeneca	33.7	1.0
United Rentals	33.2	1.0

#### Top 10 holdings 22.9% Top 20 holdings 33.8%

The 20 largest stock positions, given as a percentage of the total assets.

A full breakdown of the portfolio can be viewed at: alliancetrust.co.uk

#### ACTIVE SHARE

77%

Active Share is a measure of how actively a portfolio is managed; is the percentage of the portfolio that differs from its comparative index.

#### CONTACT

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#### SIGN UP

If you wish to sign up to the Alliance Trust factsheet, please visit alliancetrust.co.uk/signup

### Investment Commentary

For the month of March, the Company's Total Shareholder Return and NAV Total Return were 6.5% and 4.6% respectively, with the MSCI All Country World Index (ACWI) benchmark returning 4.0%.

Over the month, the Company's outperformance was led by Facebook, delivering an absolute return of 16.0%. as the global vaccine rollout led to a positive outlook for increased advertising spending on its platform by large consumer-facing firms. Volkswagen was also a top contributor to returns over the month, posting an absolute return of 36.1%. The rise followed the company's announcement of 2020 operating profit, which significantly exceeded analyst expectations. Volkswagen also revealed its plans to expand its fast charging network and to set up six Gigafactories by the end of this decade to accelerate the company's production of electric vehicles. Its strong product offering across its group brands is increasingly leading industry analysts to view the company as the best-placed "traditional" auto manufacturer to take on Tesla in the European electric vehicle market.

Within the Company's portfolio, there was an increase in the position in consumer staples conglomerate Unilever. Since unifying its structure, Unilever is well positioned to refocus the business to higher growth areas, likely including selling or listing its tea business and increasing its market presence in plant-based products in China, India and the US. The company aims to be a global leader in sustainability and its management is proactively addressing supply chain and climate-related risks. The Company's position in FTI consulting, an independent global business advisory firm, was sold following a sharp increase in the share price after the company announced a better than expected Q4-2020, strong guidance for FY2021, and a significant stock buyback. This was a small position in the Company's portfolio that was only recently initiated; the recent price increase prompted the Company's manager to capitalize on short term gains and wait for a more attractive entry point to build out a full position in the company.

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future returns. The mention of any specific shares should not be taken as a recommendation to deal.

#### STOCK PICKERS % OF PORTFOLIO MANAGED



Veritas

— Asset Management







14% SGA
George Fraise, Gordon
Marchand, Rob Rohn



MATCHAND, KOD KONN

NOTE: "JUPITER" and JUPITER are the trade marks of Jupiter Investment Management Group Ltd and registered in the UK and as Community Trade Marks and elsewhere.



#### Important Information

Alliance Trust is an investment company with investment trust status. Alliance Trust invests primarily in equities and aims to generate capital growth and a progressively rising dividend from its portfolio of investments. Alliance Trust currently conducts its affairs so that its shares can be recommended by Independent Financial Advisers (IFAs) to ordinary retail investors in accordance with the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) rules in relation to non-mainstream investment products and intends to continue to do so for the foreseeable future. The shares are excluded from the FCA's restrictions which apply to non-mainstream investment products because they are shares in an investment trust. The shares in the Company may also be suitable for institutional investors who seek a combination of capital and income return. Private investors should consider consulting an Independent Financial Adviser who specialises in advising on the acquisition of shares and other securities before acquiring shares. Investors should be capable of evaluating the risks and merits of such an investment and should have sufficient resources to bear any loss that may result. The views, information and data in this publication should not be deemed as a financial promotion or recommendation. Alliance Trust is not authorised to give financial advice.

For security and compliance monitoring purposes, telephone calls may be recorded.

The Alliance Trust Board has appointed Towers Watson Investment Management Limited (TWIM) as its Alternative Investment Fund Manager (AIFM). TWIM is part of Willis Towers Watson. Issued by Towers Watson Investment Management Limited. Towers Watson Investment Management Limited, registered office Watson House, London Road, Reigate, Surrey RH2 9PQ is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority, firm reference number 446740.

Notes: All data is provided as at 31 March 2021 unless otherwise stated. All figures may be subject to rounding errors. Sources: Top 20 Holdings, % of Equity Portfolio Managed and Total Trust Assets data is provided by The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Ltd; Equity Portfolio Allocation and Active Share is provided by The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Ltd and MSCI Inc.